

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

# OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION September 17, 2019

Closed Session 6:00 p.m./Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**Board Members Present:** Mr. Gary Knackstedt, President; Mr. Joe Nava, Vice President; Mr. Ron Freitas, Clerk; Mr. Ron Heberle; Mrs. Susan Macfarlane; Mr. George Neely; and Mr. Courtney Porter

**Administrative Staff:** Dr. Cathy Washer, Superintendent; Mr. Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel; and Mr. Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer

**Student Representative:** Ms. Trinity Escorpiso, Ronald McNair High School and Mr. Dylan Rogers, Lodi High School

Meeting Recorder: Ms. Lynn Aebi, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

#### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the James Areida Educational Support Center, 1305 East Vine Street, Lodi, CA 95240

#### **Public Comment on Closed Session Items**

No public comment was received prior to Closed Session.

#### **Adjourn to Closed Session**

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

#### **Reconvene Open Session**

The meeting was reconvened at 7:04 p.m. Attendance was recorded and Student Representative Dylan Rogers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

# **Closed Session**

President Knackstedt reported that no action was taken in Closed Session.

# **Public Hearings**

# Lodi Unified School District Contract Re-openers with California School Employees Association (CSEA) for the 2019-20 year

President Knackstedt declared the Public Hearing "Lodi Unified School District Contract Re-openers with California School Employees Association (CSEA) for the 2019-20 year" open. No comments were received from the Board or the public. The hearing was declared closed.

#### **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Washer reported that Bear Creek High School student, Adam Banks has been named as a National Merit Scholarship semi-finalist. She reported that Needham Elementary School received a

silver level of PBIS designation and that Parklane and Washington schools received a Beyond Our Gates \$10,000 foundation award to improve attendance and reading.

Chelsea Vongehr, Public Information Officer, presented an overview of the Sandy Hook Promise Say Something Anonymous Reporting System (SS-ARS). Discussion ensued regarding school site presentations and the SS-ARS program's 24-hour monitoring center.

## **Comments from the Public**

Jennifer Israel Dietrich, citizen, spoke regarding the California Healthy Youth Act (CHYA) expressing that the District has a responsibility to create a safe learning environment for all students. She added that parents should have these related conversations with their children at home and she ended by encouraging the Board to approve the curriculum updates.

Suzanne Ruiz, teacher, asked for greater transparency as to the Quality Rating Improvement System grant funds being received and expended in the Lodi USD preschool program.

Tiffinie Nielsen, citizen, spoke regarding the CHYA curriculum stating she believes there are elements in the curriculum that are not appropriate for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. She also spoke regarding the 1:1 Device program and stated she is thankful that there are safeguards for students not to be able to access certain internet sites.

Robert Schlipp, pastor, spoke regarding the sex education curriculum not being in line with beliefs of the community and urged Board to allow parents to teacher morals at home.

Jamie Howen, citizen, spoke on sex education curriculum, commenting on two curriculums, one of which is being considered by the District.

Karen Minick, teacher, Bear Creek High, asked about increasing the current employee reimbursement rate from \$100 per day to \$250 per day. She also asked for balanced ratios in regard to the number of campus supervisors for the four comprehensive high schools.

Lisa Wilkins, representative, Lodi Education Association, spoke regarding her disappointment with comments from Board regarding school boundaries, specifically interdistrict transfers from Morada to Lodi Middle School.

Tonya and Tony Badano, parents, spoke regarding issues with the agricultural science/Future Farmer's of America barn at Tokay High School, including lack of ventilation, additional fencing, security cameras, etc.

## **Comments from Board Members**

Mr. Knackstedt noted it might be a good time to review the Board policy regarding reimbursement limits. He attended the rededication of Hubbard Field at Tokay High School.

Mr. Nava, along with Mr. Freitas, attended two games at Tokay High. Mr. Nava voiced concerns regarding the need for lighting on both sides of the stadium at Tokay High. He spoke regarding the

comment from Ms. Wilkins, noting that he is quite proud of the north Stockton schools and believes his comments (from a prior Board meeting) were misunderstood.

Mr. Freitas also spoke of the football games and renewed his request to participate in a safety committee to continue to maintain safe campuses.

Mr. Heberle supported the idea of a Board subcommittee for safety, noting that a large part of minimizing potential problems is prevention. He would also like to be on the committee. Mr. Heberle asked that the barn at Tokay High School be completed and made usable. He asked for follow-up information on extended day kindergarten.

Mr. Neely asked for an action item on the next agenda to form a safety committee and asked that Board look into revising the reimbursement limits. He spoke regarding the 1:1 Device program, noting the goal was to have students learn to use computers to further their education and provide engagement. Mr. Neely noted he is putting together a Board item for a future meeting regarding teachers that are doing innovative things with technology.

Mr. Porter inquired about the current District reimbursement policy. Mr. Kahn fielded the questions. Mr. Porter commented that he is still seeking additional information regarding electric bills between Lodi and Stockton, IDA reports, and a report on high school librarians repairing chromebooks.

#### **Discussion**

#### **California School Boards Association Update**

Steve Reid, Public Affairs Community Engagement Representative, California School Boards Association, spoke regarding current CSBA information.

#### Report

#### Analysis of the Protected Insurance Program for School (PIPS)

Dr. Washer announced that staff would like to pull this report for placement on a future Board agenda.

# **Consent Agenda A, Routine Business**

The following items were pulled from the Consent Agenda: Item A-1; Items A-4 through Item A-8 and Item A-10.

- Item A-2 Warrant Report
- Item A-3 Contracts List
- Item A-9 Resolution 2019-84 "Gann" Appropriations Limit for 2018/2019 and 2019/2020
- Item A-11 Notice of Completion for Public Works Projects under the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA).
- Item A-12 Resolution 2019-86 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work on the Heritage and Victor Elementary Schools' Fire Alarm Project No. 0916-8216 and 0935-8235
- Item A-13 Resolution 2019-88 Authorizing the Filing of the Notice of Completion (NOC) for The Lodi Middle School Relocatable Project No. 0854-8154

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Freitas seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda A, Routine Business, as amended.

# Individual Action on Items Pulled from Consent Agenda A – Routine Business Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget

Mr. Freitas asked if Item A-10 had to be approved prior to Item A-1. Mr. Kahn offered an explanation. Discussion ensued regarding the Protected Insurance Program for Schools (PIPS), funding from Fund 67, past Worker's Compensation claims, budget concerns and the Districts commitment to the program.

The Student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Freitas moved to approve Item A-1 with the exception of #4, Fund 67 transfer, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded and the Board voted as follows:

Ayes:

Freitas; Heberle; Macfarlane; Nava; and Porter

Noes:

**Knackstedt**; Neely

Absent:

None None

Abstain:

**Motion Carried** 

# Item A-4 Approval of Construction Project Change Order Approval #1 for the Lodi Middle School Relocatable Project No. 0854-8154

Lisa Wilkins, representative, Lodi Education Association, pulled this item to ask why the District is putting portables at Lodi Middle School and asked why the District is allowing students to do intradistrict (IDA) transfers.

Dr. Washer noted the District does not put portables on school sites to accommodate IDAs. Mr. Kahn noted that this is a leased portable and will go away after Measure U improvements are completed.

The Student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Freitas moved, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-4 Approval of Construction Project Change Order Approval #1 for the Lodi Middle School Relocatable Project No. 0854-8154.

# Item A-5 Resolution 2019-80 Authorization to Publish a Request for Proposals for District Internet Service Provider Connection

Item A-5 was pulled by Mr. Kahn. This item will return to a future agenda with additional information.

# Item A-6 Resolution 2019-81 Authorization to Publish a Request for Proposals for District K12HSN Connection to SJCOE – Group

Item A-6 was pulled by Mr. Kahn. This item will return to a future agenda with additional information.

# Item A-7 Resolution 2019-82 Authorization to Publish a Request for Proposals for District Wide Area Network (WAN) Connections

Item A-7 was pulled by Mr. Kahn. This item will return to a future agenda with additional information.

# Item A-8 Approval to Submit Application For The Inclusive Early Education and Expansion Program (IEEEP) Grant Which Will Allow LUSD to Expand Preschool Offerings and Provide an Inclusion Program For All Preschool Students

Mr. Heberle pulled this item to ask questions about matching funds and how many slots will be provided for special education and general education students. Denice Mangrum, Coordinator, Special Education, explained the proposed selection process.

The Student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Freitas moved, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-8 Approval to Submit Application For The Inclusive Early Education and Expansion Program (IEEEP) Grant Which Will Allow LUSD to Expand Preschool Offerings and Provide an Inclusion Program For All Preschool Students.

# Item A-10 Certification of 2018/2019 Unaudited Actuals Report

Mr. Kahn pulled Item A-10 so that he and April Juarez, Controller, could present the Unaudited Actuals Financial report. Discussion and a question and answer session ensued.

**Public Comments** 

Lisa Wilkins, representative, Lodi Education Association

The Student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-10 Certification of 2018/2019 Unaudited Actuals Report.

# **Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases**

Item B-1 Suspended Expulsion: Student #19/20-10-01

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda B, Student Discipline Cases, as presented.

## **Communications**

#### **Comments from Student Representatives**

Dylan Rogers, Lodi High School and Trinity Escorpiso, Ronald McNair High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

#### Other Action Items

#### Item OAI-1 Resolution 2019-87 The Hiring of Short-term Classified Employees

Mr. Heberle inquired as to the funding for the short term employees. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-1 Resolution 2019-87 The Hiring of Short-term Classified Employees.

# Item OAI-2 Approval of Resolution 2019-85 Recognition of National Bullying Prevention Month – October, 2019

President Knackstedt read the resolution and spoke about bullying prevention. Mr. Neely commented that the District should move towards more aggressive anti-bullying and behavior modification techniques. Mr. Heberle noted that this is a critical long-term effort.

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-2 Approval of Resolution 2019-85 Recognition of National Bullying Prevention Month — October, 2019.

#### **Item OAI-3 Provisional Internship Permit and Approval**

Mr. McKilligan presented the provisional internship permit for Board consideration.

Mr. Nava moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-3 Provisional Internship Permit and Approval.

#### **Personnel Matters**

Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, presented Personnel Matters for Board consideration.

Public Comments None

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Porter seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Personnel Matters, as presented.

## **Communications**

## **Comments from Employee Group Representatives**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association, spoke of her frustration with items not open for public comment during the evening. She explained that there was a recent change in the reporting process for Worker's Compensation claims and it was not communicated to employee representatives or employees. She noted her appreciation of Denice Mangrum for taking time this week to answer questions from LEA membership. She reported flaws in the system/timelines for report cards, pacing guides and benchmarks. She thanked Mr. Kahn and Ms. Wolverton for conducting the Health Fair on Monday so that teachers could take part. She explained the need to revisit the per day spending limits, as often time it takes a teacher several days (due to the spending limit) to purchase items for events such as a Harvest Fest. She detailed some concerns brought forth by teachers, including training, security issues and the need for more communication.

Dean Blount, President, Lodi Pupil Personnel Association, spoke of reopeners and that LPPA's first general meetings were held earlier in the day. He reported that there are currently two grievances, with one involving the speech language pathologists. He noted that as enrollment grows, the District needs to be sure that the level of support personnel continues to keep pace. Mr. Blount voiced concern that two program specialists retired and were not replaced; instead two coordinator positions were added.

#### **Comments from the Superintendent**

No further comments.

## Reports

# Houston School/Joe Serna, Jr. Charter School Update

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, presented an update of the status of Joe Serna, Jr. Charter School and Houston School campuses. No questions were received.

#### **Update on Bond Measure U Projects**

Mr. Kahn presented an update on projects funded by Measure U. Discussion ensued regarding Lodi High, Needham and Tokay High projects.

# **Proposed Board Policy Submitted by the Business Services Division**

Mr. Kahn presented a draft drone policy. Discussion ensued regarding supervision and if the teacher needs to be certified. Mr. Kahn noted that by this policy, the District would control the airspace over its properties. Mr. Neely and Mr. Heberle noted they would like to see some changes to the policy before it is voted on.

**Public Comments** 

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

#### **Board Discussion**

# **Board Meeting Locations**

Dr. Washer started the discussion about meeting locations. Mr. Nava would like to continue to have meetings in north Stockton. Mr. Heberle has no problem with meeting in Stockton; however, he is concerned about acoustics and the lack of livestreaming which limits the audience. It was decided to look at other sites and gather additional information.

**Public Comments** 

None

# **Board Advisory Committee Reports**

No reports were presented.

The meeting adjourned at 10:17 p.m.

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President of the Board