



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

August 7, 2018

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

Board Members Present: Mr. George Neely, President; Mr. Gary Knackstedt, Vice President; Mr. Joe Nava, Clerk; Ms. Bonnie Cassel; Mr. Ron Freitas; Mr. Ron Heberle; and Dr. Daryl Talken

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

Student Representative: Mr. Jafari Binder, Bear Creek High School and Ms. Mikayla Lozano, Lodi High School

Meeting Recorder: Ms. Valerie McFee, Executive Assistant to the Board

Call to Order

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

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

No public comments were received prior to Closed Session.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:06 p.m. Attendance was recorded and President Neely led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

President Neely reported the following action taken in Closed Session:

Closed Session Personnel Matters:

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Cassandra Iwamiya as Middle School Principal, Lodi Middle School, effective August 8, 2018.

Closed Session Personnel Matters:

Dr. Talken moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Jeffrey Clanton as Senior Director of Budgets, Budget Department, effective date to be determined.

Spotlight

Transition: From Student to a Proud Lodi Unified School District Employee, as told by PJ Swan, CaPROMISE Job Coach Assistant

PJ Swan, CaPROMISE Job Coach Assistant, shared her journey that started in the Lodi Unified Infant Stimulation Program to become a Lodi Unified School District employee.

Recognition

Presentation of \$2,000 donation by Premier Community Credit Union to Lodi Unified School District to Benefit Classroom Music

Russel Hagan, Chief Executive Officer, Premier Community Credit Union, presented a check in the amount of \$2,000 earmarked for classroom music.

Superintendent and Staff Member Reports

Dr. Washer presented the first Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) executive summary prepared by Chelsea Vongehr, Public Information Officer, and noted that one would be prepared annually. Dr. Washer announced that the District's TPP has been selected for a one-of-a-kind pilot program in collaboration with the California Department of Education and the California Department of Rehabilitation. Jonathan Martin, Administrative Director of Special Services and Liz Zastrow, Program Specialist, are doing great things to provide better services for students to gain employment and independence. She announced that the District's annual College and Career Night is scheduled for Monday, August 27th at McNair High School. Dr. Washer also announced that the GOT Kids Foundation's event "Dancin' on Dynamite" is scheduled for September 8th at E2 Winery in Lodi. Tickets for the event are available on the Eventbrite website. The event will feature a live band, food stations and line dancing. She also reminded everyone that the GOT Kids annual Crab Feed is scheduled for January 12, 2019.

Measure U Status Report

Measure U Report

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer and Rajan Nathaniel, Intern, presented a detailed report using a color coded system to explain the progress of various Measure U-supported projects. This report is available on the District website, so as to keep everyone informed of the status of the projects.

Public Comments

Aaron Lange, Parent, Joe Serna, Jr. Charter School

Comments from the Public

Rebecca Ray, Market Business Development Manager, Barnes & Noble, congratulated Dr. Washer for being recognized for ten years as Superintendent of Lodi Unified School District. Ms. Ray spoke regarding the summer reading program that awards a book to students in grades 1-6 if they read 8 books over the summer. She explained the educator discount card that is available for all to use to attain 5% off purchases. She also stated she would soon be sending information for their Action on Behalf of Children (ABC) awards program. Ms. Ray detailed the various story times and book clubs available to students at our local Stockton Barnes & Noble.

Gena Brentt, Community Member, expressed concern for students with regards to the recent poor air quality caused by wildfires. She asked for consideration for limited outdoor exercise/activities for students during this time.

Denise Swearingen, Music Teacher, thanked the District for purchasing new classroom music curriculum and Promethean boards. She also reported that a string orchestra has returned to the District after many years of not having one. She said she will keep the Board and District informed of future happenings in the Music Department.

Teri Dix, Technology Coach, wanted to provide additional information to an item discussed at the last Board meeting regarding the role of District technology coaches. She also gave examples of various ways she has personally assisted classroom teachers.

Lester Patrick, Community Member, presented statistics regarding suspension and expulsion rates of African American students in Lodi USD and compared the Lodi USD statistics to other schools districts in the county. He would like the Board to consider the implementation of an expulsion/suspension review board in an effort to reduce rates for such.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

Mr. Freitas asked to remove Item A-2 and Mr. Neely asked to remove Item A-3.

- Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget
- Item A-4 Resolution 2018-48 Certifies the Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Prop 39 Year 3-5 Lighting Retrofit Services Project at Bear Creek and McNair High Schools – Project No. 6230-6550
- Item A-5 Resolution 2018-49 Authorizing the Filing of the Notice of Completion (NOC) for The Prop 39 Year 2 Tokay High School Gymnasium evaporative Direct Cooler Replacement – Project No. 6230-6550
- Item A-6 Resolution 2018-50 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the Fire Alarm Replacement at Lodi Middle School Project, Project No. 0908-8208
- Item A-7 Quarterly Report Pursuant to the Williams and Valenzuela Settlements
- Item A-8 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 19, 2018
- Item A-9 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 26, 2018

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda A, as amended.

Individual Action on Items Pulled from Consent Agenda A – Routine Business

Item A-2 Donations

Mr. Freitas commented on the generosity of the people, PTA organizations, and local businesses who continue to support the District as evidenced by the \$127,000 in donations received. Mr. Freitas also commented that \$16,000 was donated by the GOT Kids Foundation. He asked for support of GOT Kids by attending the Dancin' on Dynamite event or purchasing a GOT Kids t-shirt.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Freitas moved, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda A, Item A-2 Donations.

Item A-3 Contracts List

Mr. Neely inquired about number three on the list, the contract with the City of Stockton to obtain the services of two school resource officers (SROs) in the amount of \$260,000. The SROs would service Bear Creek and McNair High Schools. Mr. Neely commented that the City of Stockton should pay for the officers, as the students that attend these two high schools are Stockton citizens.

For comparison, Mr. Nava asked about the SRO contract with the City of Lodi. Mr. Kahn explained that the contract with the City of Lodi is in the amount of \$301,000 and the District is charged for two officers with an additional two officers provided at no cost.

Mr. Neely asked about number eleven on the contracts list, which is a contract with Magnitude.io in the amount of \$246,000. Ms. Kotowski responded to the request for more information and explained that this contract covers curriculum, professional development, and support of the Can Sat engineering program including launching rockets and high altitude balloons. This program will eventually lead to Lodi USD students actually launching a satellite into space in the year 2020. Board asked Ms. Kotowski to provide a report on Can Sat program at a later Board meeting.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Freitas moved, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda A, Item A-3 Contracts List.

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

- Item B-1 Expulsion: Student #17/18-9-54
- Item B-2 Admission: Student #18/19-9-A1
- Item B-3 Readmission: Student #17/18-9-09
- Item B-4 Readmission: Student #17/18-9-14
- Item B-5 Readmission: Student #16/17-10-34
- Item B-6 Readmission: Student #16/17-7-62

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

Other Action Items

Item OAI-1 Resolution 2018-52 Authorizing the District to Participate in the California Energy Commission's Alternative and Renewable Fuels and Vehicle Technology Program for the Purchase of New Alternative Fueled School Buses

Mr. Kahn explained that the Director of Transportation, Carlos Garcia, is seeking authorization to participate in the grant process to purchase new schools buses. The funds will come out of the Transportation Department's equipment replacement budget. The grant would provide \$165,000 towards the purchase of each compressed natural gas school bus purchased.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-1 Resolution 2018-52 Authorizing the District to Participate in the California Energy Commission's Alternative and Renewable Fuels and Vehicle Technology Program for the Purchase of New Alternative Fueled School Buses.

Public Comments
None

Ms. Cassel expressed her thanks to Mr. Garcia, as she is an environmentalist and appreciates the acquisition of additional clean-fuel buses.

Item OAI-2 Ratification of the Tentative Agreement with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association

Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, presented the ratified tentative agreement between Lodi Unified School District and Lodi Pupil Personnel Association for their approval.

No Board or public comments were received.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-2 Ratification of the Tentative Agreement with Lodi Pupil Personnel Association.

Item OAI-3 Approval of Resolution 2018-51 Support for California Assembly Bill 276 (Medina): Accountability and Transparency for Charter Schools and Their Entities

Mr. Neely noted that the premise of Bill 276 is to hold charter schools to the same level of accountability as other public schools including adherence to the Ralph M. Brown Act.

No Board or public comments were received.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-3 Approval of Resolution 2018-51 Support for California Assembly Bill 276 (Medina): Accountability and Transparency for Charter Schools and Their Entities.

Item OAI-4 Provisional Internship Permit and Approval

Mr. McKilligan presented the provisional appointment to the Board for consideration.

No Board or public comments were received.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-4 Provisional Internship Permit and Approval.

Personnel Matters

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

Mr. Freitas commented that this list is exciting because of the large number of new teachers and issued a welcome to them.

Mr. Heberle inquired as to the twenty-three teacher resignations on the report and asked Mr. McKilligan for a reason for the amount. Mr. McKilligan said that most took jobs closer to home. Mr. Heberle asked about exit interviews. Mr. McKilligan explained the current process. Mr. Heberle asked about a staffing report in August or September and Mr. McKilligan noted it would be completed during that time frame.

Public Comments

Lester Patrick, Community Member; Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

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

Communications

Comments from Student Representatives

Mikayla Lozano, Lodi High School, and Jafari Binder, Bear Creek High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

Employee Group Representatives

John Hunt, President, Lodi Pupil Personnel Association, reported he has heard positive comments regarding the addition of counselors. He noted that at Tokay High School the addition of an additional counselor has made a huge difference. He explained that the individual counselors have their own areas of expertise, so not only did the caseload decrease, but the knowledge base increased as well. Mr. Neely asked about innovations in the area of counseling automation. Mr. Hunt offered to look into this area further for secondary schools.

Debra Ladwig, President, California School Employees Association, Lodi, Chapter #77, reported that the chapter has started the new school year by taking advantage of benefits and educational opportunities within CSEA towards the betterment of their membership. Ms. Ladwig described how CSEA takes members personally and considers themselves family, an example being efforts at their annual conference to raise funds for the Dorothy Bjork fund. Members can apply for assistance from the fund for emergencies. Ms. Ladwig noted that with the start of the new school year, she is meeting with all Board members to foster open communication. Mr. Neely agreed, noting that he has learned more about CSEA and the District's employees than ever before.

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association, shared some of the exciting ways that school site staffs are using to welcome new teachers to their respective schools. Ms. Orgon announced that Elizabeth Ing, Teacher, Lodi High School, was recently awarded a California Teachers Association IFT grant for \$18,000 to bring science to students. She spoke of communication and collaboration, and looks forward to expanding such in the coming year. Ms. Orgon voiced concern regarding the lack of time for LEA to speak to new teachers during the District's recent training event. Thirty Lodi USD

teachers were assembled and prepared to educate new teachers in an effort to build a foundation to support them (new teachers) to be successful and to want to stay in Lodi.

Comments from the Board

Mr. Knackstedt shared his visit to Larson Elementary School to view the students choosing their houses, as part of the Ron Clark Academy that the school is in the process of implementing.

Mr. Nava welcomed Jeff Palmquist and Scott McGregor to their respective new positions. Mr. Nava stressed the importance of the focus area of third graders not reading at third grade level. He spoke of the need for change when promoting students when they have not satisfactorily meet the expectations of a certain grade level. He commented that perhaps the increase in counseling services might help with this situation. He is looking forward to the Board and staff working on the focus areas.

Ms. Cassel welcomed Ms. Lozano and Mr. Binder as Student Representatives and noted she is looking forward to hearing from them throughout the year. Ms. Cassel thanked everyone in the District; as each employee does their part in preparing for the first day of school for our students. Ms. Cassel reported that everything she has heard related to the start of school has been positive.

Mr. Freitas welcomed everyone back to the start of the new school year. He specifically welcomed Mr. Palmquist, Mr. McGregor, Ms. Lozano and Mr. Binder. As a grandfather, he was proud to report that his three-year old granddaughter just started preschool in Hawaii.

Mr. Heberle reported he will be attending many back-to-school nights in the coming weeks. He attended the Ron Clark Academy event at Larson Elementary and noted the positive atmosphere there. He shared the phone call he received from the mother of a new teacher at Lodi Middle School, explaining that the staff had welcomed her and made her feel included. He welcomed the Student Representatives and noted that it will be a good year.

Mr. Neely congratulated Mr. McGregor and Mr. Palmquist regarding their respective new positions. He thanked Ms. Kotowski and her staff for the great job of providing professional growth opportunities and noted he would like to see online offerings. He also shared that he enjoyed the event at Larson Elementary School. He is looking forward to again volunteering with the GOT Kids "My Books" program. He commented that summer school should come up with programs to address reading by third grade. He proposed a take home device that does not require internet services. He commented regarding new employee orientations that would allow time for unions to talk to their members. Mr. Neely talked about expanding Middle College High School and asked that the Board Goals be addressed on the next Board meeting agenda.

Comments from the Superintendent

Dr. Washer had no further comments.

Report

Start of the 2018-2019 School Year

Dr. Washer and Cabinet members reported on various aspects related to the beginning of the new school year. After much sharing and discussion, it was deemed to have been a great start to the new school year and all facility, grounds and safety issues were addressed as the need arose. Areas of

concern were the need to hire additional school bus drivers and the need to address District website issues.

Areas of focus were discussed including the need to expand STEAM programs at the secondary and elementary levels. Mr. Heberle voiced concern for the need for additional maintenance, custodial and grounds help. He also asked what happens when a teacher is hired after the boot camp and how a later orientation is facilitated. Dr. Washer acknowledged there is no uniform procedure to address this issue.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association; Rebecca Ray, Market Business Development Manager, Barnes & Noble; Debra Ladwig, President, California School Employees Association, Lodi, Chapter #77

Board Advisory Committee Reports

No committee reports were received.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.


Clerk of the Board


President of the Board