



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
**OF THE**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**January 18, 2022**  
**Closed Session 6:00 p.m./Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

---

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

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

**Student Representatives:** Ms. Grace Gremel, Bear Creek High School and Ms. Britany Yepez-Tafolla, Lodi High School.

**Meeting Recorder:** Mrs. Valerie McFee, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

**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, and broadcast on YouTube.

**Public Comment on Closed Session Items**

A parent spoke regarding a Closed Session student matter prior to the Board adjourning to Closed Session.

**Adjourn to Closed Session**

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

**Reconvene Open Session**

The meeting was reconvened at 7:10 p.m. Attendance was recorded and Board Member Gary Knackstedt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Moment of Silence**

Mike Leabo, Girls Water Polo and Swim Teams Coach at Ronald McNair High School for the past ten years, passed away on January 13. Both President Macfarlane and Vice President Porter related personal remembrances of Mike. Board extended their condolences to the Leabo family, and to the students and staff at McNair High School.

**Moment of Silence**

Melissa Thompson, Campus Supervisor, Club Advisor, and Coach, passed away on January 16. Mrs. Thompson had been an employee at McNair High School since the doors opened. Board extended their condolences to her family, and to the students and staff at McNair High School.

**Closed Session**

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

## **Message from the President**

President Macfarlane issued a message of thanks and noted that the Board will continue to adapt to changes and work towards strengthening positive relations with sites. She stated the Board takes each decision seriously, with a keen focus on what is best for students. She asked that comments be delivered in a respectful manner. President Macfarlane commented that with the assistance of an outstanding educational staff, the District will continue to bridge educational gaps. The Board and the District will continue to weather the storm caused by the global pandemic. She thanked classified employees and expanded upon classified employees' service to students and staff. She wished everyone a healthy 2022.

## **Public Hearings**

### **Lodi Pupil Personnel Association (LPPA) Re-openers for the 2021-22 year**

President Macfarlane declared the public hearing "Lodi Pupil Personnel Association (LPPA) Re-openers for the 2021-22 year" open. No comments were received from Board or the public. The public hearing was declared closed.

### **Lodi Education Association (LEA) Re-openers for the 2021-22 year**

President Macfarlane declared the public hearing "Lodi Education Association (LEA) Re-openers for the 2021-22 year" open. No comments were received from Board or the public. The public hearing was declared closed.

## **Spotlights**

### **Parklane School: Building Positive Connections Between Students and Staff**

### **Highlighting Ronald McNair High School's Theatre Program and Elkhorn School's Chess Club**

### **CSBA Delegate Assembly Meeting**

This Spotlight segment was tabled to the next meeting.

## **Recognition**

### **Recognition of Melisa Shepherd for her accomplishment of becoming a National Board Certified Teacher**

Melisa Shepherd, Teacher, Larson Elementary School, received her National Board Certified Teacher pin from Lori Celiz, Teacher, Ansel Adams Elementary School, who is also a National Board Certified Teacher.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Washer welcomed those returning from winter break. She thanked the employees of the Transportation Department, Nutrition Services Department, Maintenance & Operations, Purchasing, Warehouse, and those administrators who were involved in the process of assisting to distribute 9,000 Covid-19 screening kits within a two-day window to students and families. Dr. Washer thanked staff at the school sites who are assisting to cover positions of coworkers who are absent and acknowledged administrators and teachers who are meeting the daily challenges of keeping kids safe and keeping education going.

## **Comments from Student Representatives**

Grace Gremel, Student Representative, Bear Creek High School, and Britany Yepez-Tafolla, Lodi High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

## **Comments from the Public**

Lana Gentry, Teacher, Bear Creek High School, advocated for increased compensation for teachers who teach Credit Recovery. She also asked that the Board look at extending Covid sick leave days for teachers.

Michael Heberle, Negotiator, Lodi Education Association, spoke regarding the loss of 4.4 FTEs (despite having an increase in projected enrollment), including the loss of a science teacher position at Bear Creek High School. He noted that careers related to STEM will be increasing in future years; thus, there is an obligation to prepare students for career and college readiness in science.

Lisa Wilkins, Vice President, Lodi Education Association, spoke regarding extending employee leave for COVID absences.

Reiss Mahoney, Community Member, voiced concerns related to the consequences for students and District employees not complying with the current mask mandate.

Jim Hicks, Community Member, spoke regarding the District's enforcement of the state's mask mandate.

Alex Aliferis, Substitute Teacher, commented on the District's enforcement of the state's mask mandate.

Ashley Herzick, Speech Language Pathologist, Beckman Elementary School, read a statement from Emily Mahoney, outlining Ms. Mahoney's personal experience and outcomes from not complying with the current mask mandate.

## **Consent Agenda A, Routine Business**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association, pulled Items A-2 and A-11, Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer pulled Items A-9, A-10, A-11, A-15, A-16, and A-17.

Item A-1 Contracts List

Item A-3 Purchase Order Detail Report

Item A-4 Resolution 2022-01 Award of Contract for Ruckus Wireless Infrastructure Upgrade Project

Item A-5 Resolution 2022-03 Authorization to Advertise for Request for Proposals – Fresh Bread

Item A-6 Resolution 2022-04 Authorization to Advertise for Request for Proposals – Paper Products

Item A-7 Resolution 2022-05 Authorization to Advertise for Request for Proposals – Fresh Produce

Item A-8 Resolution 2022-06 Authorization to Advertise for Request for Proposals – Fresh Produce for the Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program

Item A-12 Resolution 2022-11 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the Woodbridge HVAC Project

Item A-13 Resolution 2022-12 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for 19 S. Central

Demolition Project (Former Joe Serna Site) Project No. 0829-8429  
Item A-14 Resolution 2022-15 Addition of One Relocatable Classroom at Joe Serna Charter School  
Item A-18 Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of December 14, 2021

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

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

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

#### **Item A-2 Changes to the Adopted Budget**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association, pulled the item to ask why additional staff is being added when the salaries have not increased for the Head Start and preschool programs.

It was asked that Mr. Kahn provide additional information to Ms. Orgon.

Mr. Knackstedt moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Changes to the Adopted Budget.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

#### **Item A-9 Resolution 2022-08 Authorizing the Filing of the Notice of Completion Tokay High School Gymnasium Inc. 3 – Project No. 0947-8247**

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, pulled this item and the other similar items regarding the Tokay High School gym and classrooms, and the classrooms at Needham Elementary School, to state that the notice of competition and the final change orders on these projects came in at \$1.75 million under budget.

Mr. Freitas commented that coming in under budget is no small feat.

No public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-9 Resolution 2022-08 Authorizing the Filing of the Notice of Completion Tokay High School Gymnasium Inc. 3 – Project No. 0947-8247.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

#### **Item A-10 Resolution 2022-09 Authorizing the Filing of the Notice of Completion Tokay High Classroom Building Inc. 2 – Project No. 0947-8247**

Please see explanation on Item A-9.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Heberle seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-10 Resolution 2022-09 Authorizing the Filing of the Notice of Completion Tokay High Classroom Building Inc. 2 – Project No. 0947-8247.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

**Item A-11 Resolution 2022-10 Authorizing the Filing of the Notice of Completion Needham Classroom Building Inc. 2 – Project No. 0917-8217**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association, pulled the item to ask why a notice of completion is being acted upon, as there is still work needing to be done to the roof, due to a water.

Mr. Kahn explained that the notice of completion is for the completion of the classroom building and that the repairs to the roof will be completed as warranty work.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-11 Resolution 2022-10 Authorizing the Filing of the Notice of Completion Needham Classroom Building Inc. 2 – Project No. 0917-8217.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

**Item A-15 Approval of Construction Project Final Change Order Facility Improvement – Tokay High School Classroom – Inc. 2 Project No. 0947-8247**

Please see explanation on Item A-9.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-15 Approval of Construction Project Final Change Order Facility Improvement – Tokay High School Classroom – Inc. 2 Project No. 0947-8247.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

**Item A-16 Approval of Construction Project Final Change Order Facility Improvement – Tokay High School Gymnasium – Inc. 3 Project No. 0947-8247**

Please see explanation on Item A-9.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-16 Approval of Construction Project Final Change Order Facility Improvement – Tokay High School Gymnasium – Inc. 3 Project No. 0947-8247.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

**Item A-17 Approval of Construction Project Final Change Order Facility Improvement – Needham Elementary School Classroom Building – Inc. 2 Project No. 0917-8217**

Please see explanation on Item A-9.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-17 Approval of Construction Project Final Change Order Facility Improvement – Needham Elementary School Classroom Building – Inc. 2 Project No. 0917-8217.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

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

- Item B-1 Expulsion: Student #21/22-8-41
- Item B-2 Expulsion: Student #21/22-10-42
- Item B-3 Expulsion: Student #21/22-12-43
- Item B-4 Expulsion: Student #21/22-10-44
- Item B-5 Expulsion: Student #21/22-9-45
- Item B-6 Expulsion: Student #21/22-8-46
- Item B-7 Expulsion: Student #21/22-8-47
- Item B-8 Expulsion: Student #21/22-8-48
- Item B-9 Expulsion: Student #21/22-8-49
- Item B-10 Readmission: Student #18/19-7-42
- Item B-11 Readmission: Student #20/21-10-06

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

### **Other Action Items**

#### **Item OAI-1 Resolution 2022-07 Calling for State Officials to Recommend and Not Require the COVID-19 Vaccine for Students and Staff**

Dr. Washer explained that the resolution was discussed at the Board meeting in December and was now returning for Board consideration and action.

Mr. Porter stated that he believes that this resolution is superfluous and outside of the purview of the Board.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Heberle seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item OAI-1 Resolution 2022-07 Calling for State Officials to Recommend and Not Require the COVID-19 Vaccine for Students and Staff by the following vote:

Ayes:	Freitas; Heberle; Knackstedt; Macfarlane; Nava; and Neely
Noes:	None
Absent:	None
Abstain:	Porter

Motion Carried

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Student Representative Britany Yopez-Tafolla excused herself from the remainder of the meeting.

**Item OAI-2 AB 1200 Documents for Lodi Unified School District Employee Group: Supervisors**

Mr. Kahn explained the required document was before the Board for action and that the amount of the 5.07% salary increase amounted to \$5,000 per year for this employee group.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Heberle moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-2 AB 1200 Documents for Lodi Unified School District Employee Group: Supervisors.

Student Representative Gremel voted yes.

**Item OAI-3 Ratification of the Tentative Agreement with Lodi Unified Supervisorial Group**

Superintendent Washer presented the tentative agreement for Board consideration.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Heberle seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-3 Ratification of the Tentative Agreement with Lodi Unified Supervisorial Group.

Student Representative Gremel voted yes.

**Item OAI-4 Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding with Lodi Unified Supervisorial Group**

Superintendent Washer presented the memorandum of understanding for Board consideration.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-4 Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding with Lodi Unified Supervisorial Group.

Student Representative Gremel voted yes.

**Item OAI-5 Approval of Resolution 2022-02 for The Hiring of Short-term Classified Employees**

Superintendent Washer presented Resolution 2022-02 for short-term classified positions to the Board for consideration.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-5 Approval of Resolution 2022-02 for The Hiring of Short-term Classified Employees.

Student Representative Gremel voted yes.

**Item OAI-6 Provisional Internship Permit and Approval**

Superintendent Washer presented the provisional internship for one certificated employee.

No Board or public comments were received.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-6 Provisional Internship Permit and Approval.

Student Representative Gremel voted yes.

**Item OAI-7 Technology Services Re-Organization Plan**

Mr. Kahn asked that the Board table this item to the next meeting.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Heberle seconded, and the Board voted to table the Technology Services Re-Organization Plan to the next Board meeting.

Student Representative Gremel voted yes.

**Item OAI-8 Resolution 2022-13 Electing to be Subject to the Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act at an Unequal Amount for Employees and Annuitants with Respect to a Recognized Employee Organization 007 JSCS, (Joe Serna, Jr. Charter School)**

Mr. Kahn explained that the purpose of this resolution is to establish eligibility for non-certificated employees to choose CalPERS health plans. This resolution is to begin the process of negotiating.

Mr. Knackstedt asked if they will buy in.

Mr. Kahn said they are now their own group.

Mr. Knackstedt moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-8 Resolution 2022-13 Electing to be Subject to the Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act at an Unequal Amount for Employees and Annuitants with Respect to a Recognized Employee Organization 007 JSCS, (Joe Serna, Jr. Charter School).

Student Representative Gremel voted yes.

**Personnel Matters**

Superintendent Washer presented Personnel Matters for Board consideration.

Mr. Freitas and Mr. Knackstedt commented that the Personnel Matters list included many long time and valuable employees that were retiring.

Mr. Heberle wanted to wish employees well on their retirements.

President Macfarlane also wished the retiring employees well on their retirements and noted that we would welcome them back as substitutes.

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



## **Reports**

### **Revised Trustee Area Boundary Map Presentation**

As a result of the 2020 census and to be in compliance with California Education Code 5019.5, the District is obligated to determine if any adjustments to trustee area boundaries are necessary. Lodi Unified contracted with Davis Demographics, Inc. to provide this research. The analysis resulted in two trustee area map scenario options, each with proposed revisions to trustee area boundaries in an attempt to reestablish population balance.

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, presented the report and provided an avenue for Board and the public to make comments on the two options. Jacob Gomez, Davis Demographics, and Bill Schuetz, an attorney with Dannis Woliver Kelley, were also available to provide clarification, as needed.

Mr. Kahn noted that Plan B was recommended as providing the most balance. Most Board members agreed with this plan.

Mr. Freitas stated he is not in favor of a plan that would result in him losing McNair High School from his current trustee area.

Discussion ensued and it was decided to bring the plans back for further review.

#### **Public Comments**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

### **Presentation of Lodi Unified Student Performance**

Robert Sahli, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction, and Uve Dahmen, Coordinator, Assessment, Research & Evaluation, presented the latest state testing results. Additional testing information can be found on the California Department of Education's Data Quest Website.

Discussion ensued. Dr. Sahli noted he will take the various questions of the Board and come back with another report at a future Board meeting.

#### **Public Comments**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

Lana Gentry, Teacher, Bear Creek High School

### **2022/2023 Proposed School Start Times**

Scott McGregor, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education, presented the report. He explained that due to the passage of California Senate Bill 328, the school day for high schools shall begin no earlier than 8:30 a.m. and the school day for middle schools shall begin no earlier than 8:00 a.m.

According to the new law, these changes need to be implemented no later than July 1, 2022.

Mr. McGregor presented information detailing current and proposed times and the potential changes that may extend to some of the elementary school sites.

Mr. Knackstedt asked what plans have been made for athletic programs, events, and afterschool programs. He asked that athletic directors be contacted to provide input.

Mr. Porter asked about flexibility with zero and seventh periods at the high school level and having the option of sports practice be conducted during the last period of the day.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Knackstedt would like to see a plan to mitigate the challenges associated with the proposed changes come back to a future Board Meeting.

**Public Comments**

Lana Gentry, Teacher, Bear Creek High School  
Lisa Wilkins, Vice President, Lodi Education Association  
Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

**Initial Information on the Governor's State Budget Proposal**

Mr. Kahn presented a report of the initial Governor's budget. He noted that there is still a lot of money in the system for education and he looks forward to additional information from the May Revise.

Discussion ensued.

No Public Comments were received.

**Proposed Revision to Board Policy 6171 Title 1 Programs**

Dr. Sahli stated that some language changes were needed to update the current policy.

Ms. Orgon asked why Rule 6171 was not being updated. Dr. Sahli responded that there were no needed changes to Rule 6171.

**Proposed Revision to Board Rule 6174 Education for English Language Learners**

Dr. Sahli presented the revisions to the rule to update language and the current existence of the program.

**Public Comments**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

**Communications**

**Comments from Employee Group Representatives**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association, thanked the Board for recognizing the loss of two District employees. She gave a shout out to all the employees who worked to assist with the Covid-19 test kit distributions. She wished Lisa Wilkins, Vice President, LEA, a happy birthday. She asked for Board's assistance to attain information regarding how many teachers have been absent and how many substitute requests have gone unfilled. She noted she is looking forward to a productive bargaining session and hoping for increased compensation to entice teachers to teach afterschool, extended year, and summer school sessions.

**Comments from the Board**

Mr. Freitas spoke of the ACT (A Community Transformed) Project and the Reese Elementary School students who took part in the opportunity to identify community needs, which was hosted by Pastor Robert T. Schipp, Radiant Life Church of Lodi.

Mr. Heberle stated that the ACT program and the Reese students that took part in the project would be a good spotlight for a future Board Meeting.

Mr. Nava asked staff to provide him with additional information about the decrease in FTEs at Bear Creek High School (mentioned during the Comments from the Public portion of the meeting).

**Comments from the Superintendent**

Dr. Washer had no further comments.

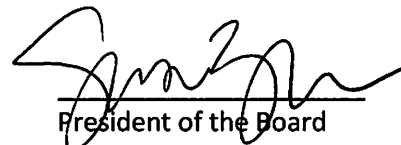
**Board Member Advisory Reports**

**Legislative Advocacy Committee:** Mr. Porter thanked Superintendent Washer and Chelsea Vongehr, Public Relations Officer, for setting up a meeting of the Legislative Advocacy Committee with Assemblymember Jim Cooper. Mr. Porter reported that Assemblymember Cooper was engaged and listened to the concerns of the committee. Mr. Porter stated that Dr. Washer did a great job facilitating the meeting.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

  
Clerk of the Board

  
President of the Board