

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

June 23, 2020

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

Board Members Present: Mr. Joe Nava, President; Mr. Ron Freitas, Vice President; Mrs. Susan Macfarlane, Clerk; Mr. Ron Heberle; Mr. Gary Knackstedt; 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

Meeting Recorder: Dr. Cathy Washer, Superintendent

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. via YouTube and GoToWebinar.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association, commented regarding labor negotiations.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:19 p.m. and attendance was recorded. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Nava.

Closed Session

President Nava reported the following action was taken in Closed Session:

Closed Session Personnel Matters:

Mr. Neely moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Christina Halsey as Elementary Vice Principal, location to be determined, effective date to be determined.

Mrs. Macfarlane moved, Mr. Porter seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Jeff Pappas as Elementary Vice Principal, location to be determined, effective date to be determined.

Mr. Porter moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Joseph Ward as Elementary Vice Principal, location to be determined, effective date to be determined.

Mr. Freitas moved, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Jose Gutierrez as High School Assistant Principal, location to be determined, effective date to be determined.

Superintendent and Staff Member Report

Dr. Washer expressed condolences to the family and colleagues of Robert Sieler, Sr., Operations Supervisor, Maintenance & Operations.

Comments from the Public

Maria Smith, Teacher, John Muir Elementary School, commented on negotiations.
MaryElla Randall, Teacher, Podesta Ranch Elementary School, commented on negotiations.
Kimberly Freeberg, Teacher, Lockeford School, commented on negotiations.
Mary Vallergera-Hood, Teacher, Lockeford School, commented on negotiations and the start of school.
Debbie Clemons, Teacher, Lodi High School, commented on AP students and the start of school.
Lana Gentry, Teacher, Bear Creek High School, commented on the start of school.

Comments from Board Members

Mr. Neely said that he wished we had this much support when we talked about school funding in California, noting that it could have made an impact.

Mr. Porter acknowledged that the opening of school is a struggle with so much going on. He noted that the county numbers are increasing and there are travel restrictions. He expressed concerns with going back to school full time and suggested that the District stagger re-opening by alpha and teach procedures. He said that the Board has a very important decision to make and the number one thing is the safety of students, teachers, and other employees.

Mr. Knackstedt commented on the number of emails he has received on both sides of the school opening issue. He appreciates the passion expressed.

Mrs. Macfarlane thanked everyone for the emails. She acknowledged the Task Force as a think tank to get information from people who know more than the people who need to use the information. She said that the committees are very valuable and the information is important but the Board can't promise it will be used the way the group delivered it. She stated that the information from surveys has been valuable and the models presented were in lieu of a full schedule. She said she never heard the Board say they don't want teachers in classes, if we can't do that then what is more important. She apologized if that was not conveyed.

Mr. Freitas expressed condolences to the Sieler family and the M&O Department. He thanked Board Members for recognizing the many emails and said it is great to be in a district that is so passionate. He thanked his colleagues for being here at the meeting. He commented on the concern regarding numbers in SJ County (COVID-19 cases), the fact that Lodi Adventist Hospital is closed to non-COVID-19 patients, and how this puts it in perspective. He proposed staggering and utilizing the first two weeks for orientations. He suggested August 17 as full operation, as allowed.

Reports

Update on Planning for the 2020-2021 School Year

Staff provided a report on planning for the new school year.

Mr. Nava said that this is the first experience for us to be in this predicament. He stated his view that LUSD needs full education for our students. He said he prefers to re-open 2020-21 as normal with logistics following guidelines for safety. He asked for comments from Board Members.

Mrs. Macfarlane said she agrees. The goal should be to open and get back to normal. She is in favor of opening with a delay. She said we should open full if we can demonstrate that we are ready to have safety measures in place.

Mr. Heberle said he is in favor of a full opening with modifications.

Mr. Neely said he would like to go through the presentation first. He said we need to get kids back but he has questions. Mr. Neely asked questions about Distance Learning and how many parents would be interested in that option. He also asked about the number of teachers who would not be able to come back and asked questions about schools' plans for health/safety if we come back full time. He said we need to decide on a plan, go with it 100% or we will fail, we need to implement the plan with vigor. He asked for all to cooperate as a team and that he hopes everyone is part of the solution. He stated that he has never seen an issue with so many varied opinions and we need to come together to make it work.

Mr. Heberle stated that staying at home causes a lot of problems for our students – social emotional health, increase in suicide rate, anxiety, and depression. He is always concerned about student learning and expressed concern that many are getting farther behind. He acknowledged that all sites are different and need safety plans specific to their facility and also that this is a no win situation.

Mr. Porter stated that parents need to know what model will be in place in order to know if they are going to choose Distance Learning. He commented on delaying the start of school and the need to have procedures in place for health/safety. He would like to open on August, 24 with the prior week for teachers and students to learn new procedures.

Mr. Nava said we need to be prepared for everything. We need effective education in a safe environment.

Mr. Neely said that Level 1 may be the safest, but there are so many other things that come into play.

Mr. Knackstedt said that the goal is full time school but he doesn't see how that can work at this time. He suggested the year round school schedule as a way to have 1/3 of students off campus at one time.

Mr. Freitas asked about thermometers to check temperatures of students and staff. He acknowledged that there is no better way to teach our kids than to have them in class with our outstanding teachers. The sure way to not get the virus is to stay at home but in our society we cannot; we need to balance education with what is best for individual families. He said he is in favor of the highest level of

guidelines and delaying the start of school by two or three weeks. He commented that this is about attitude, we need a "can do" attitude; we are providing the best and safest education.

Mrs. Macfarlane stated that the number one goal is for all students to be at their desks with their teacher face-to-face. We need a "can do" attitude, have flexibility and awareness, and put our fear in our back pocket. Students, teachers, and parents need to feel safe. She said we need to be able to adapt quickly and we need to have everything in place to start. We need to be working on different scenarios for bussing, offices, and know the Workers Compensation component. Everyone needs to think about what is the greater good for all. We should open if we can do so in a safe environment.

Mr. Nava said that staff needs to bring back a plan based on what was discussed tonight.

Public Comments

Nicole Champeau, Parent
Manny Caluya, Parent
Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association
Elizabeth Ing, Teacher, Lodi High School
Karen Jackson, Teacher, Lois Borchardt Elementary School
Christi Thomas, Teacher, Lois Borchardt Elementary School
Anne Swehla-Garcia, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School
Jen Cassel, Teacher, Tokay High School
Jen Dietrich, Parent
Mary Valleriga-Hood, Teacher, Lockeford School
Mishell Wolff, Teacher, Lodi High School
Jenny Miller, Parent
Lori Celiz, Teacher, Ansel Adams Elementary School
Jessica Kempker, Parent/ARE Technician

Protected Insurance Plan for Schools (PIPS) Renewal

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, presented a report on the renewal payment for the Protected Insurance Plan for Schools.

Public Comment

Debra Ladwig, President, California School Employees Association, Lodi, Chapter #77

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

Item A-1, Item A-2, and Item A-3 were pulled from Consent Agenda A.

Item A-4 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 16, 2020

Mr. Neely 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 Contracts List

Mr. Porter pulled the contracts list to ask questions about Windwalker Security. Mr. Kahn responded to the questions.

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Heberle seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda A, Item A-1 Contracts List.

Item A-2 Approval of Resolution 2020-54 Resolution To Identify The Amount of Budget Reductions Needed in 2021-2022 and 2022-2023

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, presented Resolution 2020-54 for Board consideration. Discussion ensued.

Public Comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

Mr. Neely moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda A Item A-2 Approval of Resolution 2020-54 Resolution To Identify The Amount of Budget Reductions Needed in 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

Item A-3 Resolution 2020-56 Authorizing the Approval of an Eight (8) Foot Wide Public Utility Easement

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, presented Resolution 2020-56 for Board consideration. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Neely moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda A Item A-3 Resolution 2020-56 Authorizing the Approval of an Eight (8) Foot Wide Public Utility Easement.

Other Action Items

Item OAI-1 Local Control Accountability Plan Operations Update

Robert Sahli, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, presented the update.

Mr. Neely moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-1 Local Control Accountability Plan Operations Update.

Item OAI-2 2020-2021 Budget Adoption

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, presented the budget for consideration and opened the floor to questions.

Mr. Neely moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-2 2020-2021 Budget Adoption.

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

Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, presented the tentative agreement for Board consideration.

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

Item OAI-4 Approval of Chief Business Officer's Contract for One-Year Extension

President Nava presented the contract of the chief business officer for consideration of a one-year extension.

Mr. Freitas moved, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item OAI-4 Approval of Chief Business Officer's Contract for One-Year Extension, as follows:

Ayes: Freitas; Heberle; Knackstedt; Macfarlane; Nava and Neely

Noes: Porter

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

Item OAI-5 Approval of Superintendent's Contract for One-Year Extension

President Nava presented the contract of the superintendent for consideration of a one-year extension.

Mr. Freitas moved, Mr. Neely seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-5 Approval of Superintendent's Contract for One-Year Extension.

Personnel Matters

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

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

Communications

Comments from Employee Group Representatives

Debra Ladwig, President, California School Employees Association, Lodi, Chapter #77, commented on Windwalker Security, the start of school, and recognized the life of Robert Sieler, Sr.

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association, commented on the start of school.

Comments from the Superintendent

No additional comments.

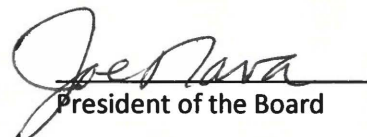
Board Advisory Committee Reports

No reports were presented.

Adjourn

Mr. Neely moved, Mr. Porter seconded and the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 p.m.


Clerk of the Board


President of the Board