



## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 16, 2017

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

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

**Administrative Staff:** Dr. Cathy Washer, Superintendent; Mr. Tim Hern, Associate Superintendent/CBO; and Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel

**Student Representative:** Ms. Farrahlynn Bonocan, Bear Creek High School and Ms. Jennica Casciaro, Tokay 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 Education Support Center, 1305 East Vine Street, Lodi, CA.

### Public Comment on Closed Session Items

A parent and her child addressed the Board prior to Closed Session regarding a Closed Session student discipline matter.

### Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

### Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:25 p.m. Attendance was recorded and President Heberle led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Closed Session

President Heberle reported on the following action taken in Closed Session:

- **Non-Public School Students** – Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the placement of Non-Public School Students 2016-17 #s 96 and 97.
- **Anticipated Litigation:**  
Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board voted unanimously to reject Claim #538346.
- **Closed Session Personnel Matters:**  
Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Gina Azevedo as an Elementary Vice Principal, location to be determined, effective date to be determined.

### **Closed Session - *continued***

- **Closed Session Personnel Matters:**  
Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Rafael Prado as an Elementary Vice Principal, location to be determined, effective date to be determined.
- **Closed Session Personnel Matters:**  
Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Van Ha To-Cowell as an Elementary Vice Principal, location to be determined, effective date to be determined.
- **Closed Session Personnel Matters:**  
Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Gayliene Winterhalder as an Elementary Vice Principal, location to be determined, effective date to be determined.

### **Spotlight**

#### **First Place Winners of the 2017 Superintendent's Poetry Contest are Invited to Read Their Award-winning Poems**

The following first place winners read their poems: Jaiden Ha, Tokay High School, Grades 9-12; Nicole Marcia, Christa McAuliffe Middle School, Grades 6-8; Jacob Bechthold, Reese Elementary School, Grades 3-5; and Brayden Moitoso, Borchardt Elementary School, Grades 1-2.

Dr. Washer thanked the teachers and principals for encouraging their students' participation in the annual contest and she thanked Professor Bob Stanley, CSU Sacramento, for his assistance with judging the finalists.

#### **Performance by Ronald E. McNair High School Advance Choir**

Audience members were treated to a performance by the Ronald McNair Advance Choir. The choir recently garnered a "Unanimous Superior" designation at a recent California Music Educators Association event.

### **Recognitions**

#### **2017 California Skills USA Leadership & Skills Championships**

Bob Lofsted, Principal, Lodi High School and Debi Chiene, Principal, Lodi Adult School, announced the students and their respective achievements and awards received at the recent California Skills USA Leadership & Skills events. Lodi High School Instructor, Paul Guthrie, was commended for his leadership and dedication to the students involved in Skills USA.

#### **AVID Teacher Advocacy Award Recipient Recognized**

Sarah Santana, Beckman Elementary Teacher, received recognition and congratulations for having been selected as one of five California teachers to receive the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Teacher Advocacy Awards for 2017. Along with the award, the AVID organization gives the honorees \$10,000 to spend in their classrooms.



## **Superintendent and Staff Member Reports**

Dr. Washer highlighted two events sponsored in part by GOT Kids. She explained the collaboration of the District's elementary schools and the *Lodi News-Sentinel* during the recent press night. Board Member Neely also commented on the press night, noting the collaboration and interaction between the *Lodi News-Sentinel* staff and the students involved. Dr. Washer issued a reminder that the movie premier of "The Bizarre Zone" is Monday at 6:00 p.m. at Hutchins Street Square. The Lodi USD students who took part in the process learned every aspect of movie making. Dr. Washer detailed a community service project spearheaded by three English classes at Lodi High School that is aimed at assisting the homeless population of Lodi. The group is planning a taco dinner fundraiser on May 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **Comments From The Public**

Martha Snider, Teacher, Christa McAuliffe Middle School, spoke regarding Discovery Education and announced the inaugural National Day of STEM, May 16, 2017.

Karen Minnick, Teacher, Bear Creek High School, thanked the GOT Kids Foundation for the donation for students to attend the recent national speech and debate tournament. She spoke on teachers giving up their summer break, how teachers spend their free time and the need for a fair contract settlement.

Maryella Randall, Teacher, Podesta Ranch Elementary School, spoke from the frame of reference of a teacher new to the profession and the daily responsibilities of such. She asked for a fair contract settlement.

Apryl Messinger, Community Member, stated she did not want the District to return to a shortage of teachers or a track schedule. She asked that the Board return to the (bargaining) table with a fair contract for teachers.

Aaron Barnett, Teacher, Christa McAuliffe Middle School, spoke of the need for the Board to allocate funds towards a fair contract settlement for teaching staff.

Lori Celiz, Teacher, Ansel Adams Elementary School, read statements for the Lodi USD Local Control and Accountability Plan with reference to retaining highly qualified teachers. She noted that other districts and states pay extra for (national) teacher certification; Lodi USD does not.

Terry Welch, Community Member and Stockton USD Teacher, reflected on the wonderful teachers in Lodi USD that have taught her children. She asked that the Lodi teachers see an increase in their salaries.

Kris Gutierrez, Community Member, voiced his disappointment that some of the Lodi USD teachers are leaving. He asked that Lodi teachers be offered a fair contract that is at least equivalent or more than the surrounding districts.

Dave Hurley, Teacher, Sutherland Elementary School, spoke on AVID and asked for additional funding above what is included in the current LCAP for District administrators. He has chosen to speak at the AVID Summer Institute and noted the lack of funding for Lodi teachers to attend. He spoke on the reduced enrollment of AVID students at the high school level.

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

Mr. Heberle asked to removed Consent Agenda A Item A-8. No items were removed by the public.

- Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget
- Item A-2 Warrant Report
- Item A-3 Resolution 2017-36 Authorizing Certain Employees to Make Cash and Budget Transfers for Year-End Accrual
- Item A-4 Resolution 2017-37 Temporary Interfund Transfers
- Item A-5 2016-2017 Non-Public Agency Master Contract to Include West Coast Captioning
- Item A-6 Ratification of Representatives and Alternate Designees to California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Section
- Item A-7 Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of May 2, 2017
- Item A-9 Construction Project Change Orders
- Item A-10 Resolution 2017-39 Certifies the Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Westwood Roofing Project No. 0901-8201
- Item A-11 Resolution 2017-40 Certifies the Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Bear Creek High School Painting Project No. 0903-8202
- Item A-12 Resolution 2017-41 Certifies the Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the McNair High School Painting Project No. 0903-8203
- Item A-13 Resolution 2017-42 Certifies the Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Joe Serna, Jr. Charter School Roofing Project No. 0904-8204
- Item A-14 Resolution 2017-43 Approving the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration And Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Tokay High School Football Stadium Renovation and Authorizing the Filing of the Notice of Determination

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

The Student Representative vote was unanimously aye.

### **Item A-8 Proposed Board Policy Revisions**

Mr. Heberle pulled this item to stress the importance of addressing the protection of student directory information and to address a concern regarding the two-fight rule for suspension and expulsion. He asked that Dr. Washer explain the proposed changes regarding the suspension policy.

Dr. Washer stated that staff has been working with issues related to discipline and being consistent with all of the District's schools and working with the Office for Civil Rights. She further explained that proposed changes are not intended to decrease safety; but to be able to look at situations individually.

Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Knackstedt seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-8 Proposed Board Policy Revisions.

The Student Representative vote was unanimously aye.



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

Mr. Knackstedt asked to remove Item B-2 from Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

(Item B-1) Expulsion: Student #16/17-7-62

(Item B-3) Expulsion: Student #16/17-8-64

(Item B-4) Expulsion: Student #16/17-8-65

Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Knackstedt seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases, as amended.

### **Item B-2 Expulsion: Student #16/17-11-63**

Mr. Knackstedt motioned, Mr. Freitas seconded and the Board voted, by voice vote, to suspension the expulsion for Student #16/17-11-63, as follows:

Ayes: Freitas; Knackstedt, Neely

Noes: Heberle; Nava; Talken

Absent: None

Abstain: Cassel

Motion Failed

Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted, by voice vote, to approve the expulsion recommendation for Student #16/17-11-63, as follows:

Ayes: Heberle; Nava; Neely; Talken

Noes: Freitas; Knackstedt

Absent: None

Abstain: Cassel

Motion Carried

## **Other Action Items**

### **Item OAI-1 Resolution 2017-38 Designating the Week of May 21-27, 2017 as Classified School Employee Week in Lodi Unified School District**

President Heberle read the resolution and designated the week of May 21-27, 2017 as Classified School Employee Week in Lodi Unified School District. Resolution 2017-38 was presented to Debra Ladwig, President, California School Employees Association, Lodi, Chapter #77.

### **Item OAI-2 Resolution 2017-44 Authorizing the Purchase of Real Property located at 5401 East Harney Lane, Lodi, California**

Tim Hern, Associate Superintendent/Chief Business Officer, presented this item for Board consideration.

Mr. Heberle noted the need to move the Maintenance and Operations facility, which will allow for additional space to refresh the Lodi High School campus. Mr. Neely detailed additional uses and programs the land addition would accommodate. Mr. Freitas noted his support for the purchase and added that public input on the Facility Master Plan also aligns with this intended purchase. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Heberle voiced concern to be sure the District is protected prior to purchasing the property.

Mr. Hern said it would be a 30-day contingent sale and the District would have a soil sample taken, and the septic and well checked and would take the findings into consideration.

Public Comments  
None

Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Freitas seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2017-44 Authorizing the Purchase of Real Property located at 5401 East Harney Lane, Lodi, California.

The Student Representative vote was unanimously aye.

### **Personnel Matters**

Mike McKilligan presented Personnel Matters for Board consideration.

Mr. Neely motioned, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Personnel Matters, as presented.

### **Comments**

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

Farrahlynn Bonocan, Bear Creek High School and Jennica Casciaro, Tokay High School, presented reports from their respective high schools.

As this was the last Board of Education meeting for Student Representatives Bonocan and Casciaro, several Board Members thanked them for their service to the Board during their tenure as Student Representatives and wished them continued success in their respective college careers.

#### **Comments from Employee Groups**

Debra Ladwig, President, California School Employees Association (CSEA), Lodi, Chapter #77, spoke regarding the CSEA scholarships that were recently award to Chapter #77 members' children. She noted the Chapter is hosting a dinner for its members next week. She spoke of year end activities. She explained Chapter members have spent a great deal of time brainstorming and thinking of ways to help their membership come to an agreement with the District.

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), spoke on the District's need to attract and retain highly qualified teachers by means of increasing salary, benefits and working conditions for teachers. Ms. Orgon brought up concerns related to the case load numbers for special education teachers. Ms. Orgon detailed concerns of RSP teachers, whose caseloads were altered in SEIS (Special Education Information System), and she said such actions do not build trust between teachers and the District. She reported that problems remain regarding common planning day collaboration efforts. She stated she hopes that contract issues can be resolved prior to the end of the school year and the beginning of the next year.

#### **Comments from Board Members**

Mr. Knackstedt detailed a very busy week spent at various Back-to-School nights and the senior award night at Bear Creek High School. He enjoyed the excitement of the student receiving awards for their achievements.

Mr. Freitas spoke of the recent loss to our community of two law enforcement officers: Alameda County Sheriff's Deputy, Sroeuy Khin and Jason Garner, Stanislaus County Deputy and former Tokay High School graduate. He commented that our thoughts and prayers are with both families.

Mr. Neely thanked Martha Snider for her continued work and dedication with Discovery Education. He inquired (to Dave Hurley) about AVID at the Title 1 schools. He stated his dissatisfaction that common planning days are still having issues and asked for additional information to deal with such. Mr. Neely asked for investigation and resolution to the issue of caseload numbers allegedly being altered in SEIS, as was stated by Michelle Orgon, President, LEA, earlier in the comments portion of the agenda.

Ms. Cassel congratulated teacher, Lori Celiz, on receiving National Board certification. She commented that she is a fierce proponent of the AVID program and will support advancing the program. Lastly, she added her support to Mr. Neely's request for support from his colleagues regarding an investigation into possible special education caseload altering.

Mr. Knackstedt also added his support towards an investigation (special education).

Mr. Heberle voiced his displeasure regarding the special education caseload situation and also asked for further investigation. Mr. Heberle spoke of the *Mokelumne Current* and noted it is far reaching over the District, including highlighting events from a variety of schools and many grade levels. He noted his appreciation that the District and community is supporting this venture.

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

No further comments.

#### **Board Advisory Committee Reports**

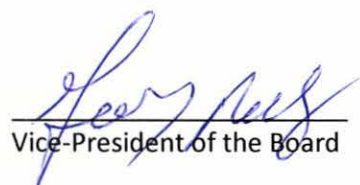
No committee reports were received.


#### **Future Agenda Items**

Mr. Neely asked for a future report on the AVID program be presented and a report related to special education.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

  
Vice-President of the Board

  
President of the Board