



## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

September 18, 2018

Closed Session 5:30 p.m./Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

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**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:** Ms. Alayssia Townsell, McNair High School and Mr. Jonathan Henry, Tokay High School

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

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 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 7:10 p.m. Attendance was recorded and Jonathan Henry led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Closed Session

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

#### Closed Session Personnel Matters:

Dr. Talken moved, Mr. Knackstedt seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Ismael Medina as Middle School Vice Principal, Delta Sierra/Christa McAuliffe, effective September 10, 2018.

### Public Hearing

President Neely declared the Public Hearing "Resolution 2018-59 Sufficiency of Instructional Materials" open. No comments were received from the public.

President Neely commented on the publication dates of many of the textbooks on the list and advocated for digital curriculum and materials in an effort to save money and become more efficient. The Public Hearing was declared closed.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Washer announced that the one-time funds/expenditures for facility issues and other needs will be brought back to Board as a report item on the October 2<sup>nd</sup> agenda. She noted that also on that agenda will be a report featuring options for expanding Middle College High School. She reported that the District is continuing leadership development for administrators with an upcoming program provided by ASCD to build support and leadership capacities. Dr. Washer thanked the Board for the encouragement given to RBET (Review Board for Excellence in Teaching) at the Special Meeting and added that RBET is continuing their work and will schedule a follow up meeting to present their refined recommendation.

## **Comments from the Public**

No comments were received.

## **Comments from Board Members**

Mr. Heberle voiced appreciation to the RBET for the presentation and information presented at the Special Meeting. He addressed concerns regarding the water situation at Henderson School. He stated that Henderson School is valuable and needed, especially with the housing subdivision being built in that area and added that this safety issue is a priority and needs to be addressed immediately.

Mr. Freitas agreed with Mr. Heberle's comments regarding the need to address the water situation at Henderson School. Mr. Freitas reported that he attended the "Lunch on the Lawn" event at Mosher Elementary School. The Mosher event featured a picnic, book fair, and patriotic dress. He attended the McNair High School homecoming festivities. Mr. Freitas announced that Westwood Elementary School will host a Nutrition, Health and Safety Fair on Friday. He noted that the fair is an annual event under the direction of Pam Meerdink, LUSD School Nurse. Mr. Freitas attended the GOT Kids Dancin' on Dynamite event that featured live music, great food, a mechanical bull, and games. He reported that everyone in attendance had a good time and the event raised several thousand dollars. He issued a reminder for those interested to purchase GOT Kids Crab Feed tickets, as the annual January event is sure to sell out. Mr. Freitas attended the union apprenticeship trade show of which many Lodi Unified students also attended.

Mr. Knackstedt endorsed Mr. Heberle's request to address concerns about the water quality at Henderson School. Mr. Knackstedt announced that *The Record's* Male Athlete of the Week is Blake Supinger from Bear Creek High School.

Ms. Cassel reported she attended several school festivities during the past week and is pleased to acknowledge the wealth of talent of the staff we have caring for our kids. She read to a Kindergarten class at Larson School in their new style "houses". She attended the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Plaza Robles School, which featured music and festivities. She noted that the campus at Plaza Robles houses students from six months (parenting class) to students in their early twenties (RSP classes). She read to a second grade class at Live Oak Elementary. She attended the PTA meeting at Lockeford School along with Leonard Kahn, Warren Sun and an engineer, to address the concerns brought forth by concerned Lockeford parents at the last Board meeting and to discuss timelines for the parking lot project.

Mr. Neely agreed with Mr. Heberle's comments regarding the success of the Special Meeting to discuss the progress of the Review Board for Excellence in Teaching. Mr. Neely asked for a report item on October 2<sup>nd</sup> regarding Henderson School. Mr. Neely issued a reminder that when you are shopping on

Amazon to go to Amazon Smiles ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)) and select Giving Opportunities to Kids, as a donation will be made from your purchase.

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

- Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget
- Item A-2 Warrant Report
- Item A-3 Contracts List
- Item A-4 Resolution 2018-60 "Gann" Appropriations Limit for 2017/2018 and 2018/2019
- Item A-5 Purchase Order Detail Report
- Item A-6 Approval of Proposed Board Policy Changes Submitted by Curriculum & Instruction Department
- Item A-7 Approval of Resolution 2018-61 Request For Proposal of District Uninterruptible Power Supply and Cabinet Installation

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

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

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

- Item B-1 Readmission: Student #15/16-8-78

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 2018-59 Sufficiency of Instructional Materials**

Lisa Kotowski, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, presented Resolution 2018-59.

Mr. Heberle commented that, in his option, lab materials are not sufficient. However, as the wording of the resolution is "materials are provided" that will explain his vote on Resolution 2018-59.

Public Comments  
None.

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 2018-59 Sufficiency of Instructional Materials.

#### **Item OAI-2 Certification of 2017/2018 Unaudited Actuals Report**

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, and April Juarez, Controller, presented the report, which once approved, will proceed to the audit phase.

Mr. Knackstedt asked if there will be any help from the state to assist with CalSTRS and CalPERS expenses. Mr. Kahn noted that interest rates are on the rise, which helps the pension funds.

Mr. Freitas asked for an explanation of Fund 68. Mr. Kahn explained that it is to fund the pro-rated retiree health benefits cap prior to employees' Medi-Care age.

Discussion ensued regarding various aspects of the report.

#### Public Comments

Debra Ladwig, President, California School Employees Association, Chapter #77, explained the Affordable Care Act (ACA) penalty and how the lack of offering an affordable plan to all eligible employees leads to the District being charged ACA penalties. Ms. Ladwig also explained that CalPERS has introduced a new, more affordable plan that will provide an affordable option to the employees in her unit that were unable to afford any plan currently being offered. Ms. Ladwig inquired as to the actual deficit status of Fund 68.

Mr. Heberle asked that the information pertaining to the new, more affordable health benefit plan be available via "sit down" time with employee groups.

The Student Representative preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Mr. Freitas moved, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-2 Certification of 2017/2018 Unaudited Actuals Report.

### **Personnel Matters**

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

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

### **Communications**

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

Jonathan Henry, Tokay High School, and Alayssia Townsell, Ronald E. McNair High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

#### **Employee Group Representatives**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association, recognized the many teachers and students who completed grape murals as part of the Lodi Grape & Wine Festival with the theme "Heard It Through The Grapevine". She stated her unit is pleased with continued strides in communication and were very pleased with the RBET Study Session. Her members would like the RBET presentation added to the website where they could contribute feedback. She noted there is still some gaps with stakeholders' input, as there was an LCAP meeting the night prior that they were not aware of. She asked about the status of the LCAP survey to parents that did not get disbursed during back-to-school nights. She asked for a report on special education enrollment shifts. She thanked Mr. Kahn and the Business Services staff for problem solving on insurance; deadlines in their contract do not match the CalPERS timelines.

Ms. Orgon asked for a report regarding the timeline from submitting an application to becoming a substitute teacher, as it seems to be taking candidates two to three months in this process. She announced that Lodi Education Association will have a booth at the Lodi Street Fair on October 7<sup>th</sup> and invited everyone to stop by as they greet the public and help students write notes to their teachers.

Debra Ladwig, President, California School Employees Association, Lodi, Chapter #77, stated she has been chapter president for four years, during which time she has gotten to know many CSEA Members. She feels that the members are coming together and understanding the meaning of "union"; taking care of each other and feeling part of a whole. Ms. Ladwig explained that at the new employee orientation, CSEA meets with new hires and noted it is very interesting the number of new hires that are excited to join the union. She announced that the chapter is in the midst of selecting the 2018 Boss of the Year and the chapter is engaged in the Board of Education endorsement process. She stated that the negotiation team is hopeful for a long-term solution to health care coverage. She stated chapter training starts in August, with training opportunities provided on a quarterly basis.

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

Dr. Washer had no further comments.

## **REPORTS**

### **Social Science Textbook Implementation Update**

Ms. Kotowski, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, presented the report regarding the social science curriculum roll out. Teacher perspectives were given for grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Mr. Neely inquired as to the Q&A portion of the website, Ms. Kotowski responded that Q&As are posted as they are received. Discussion ensued regarding problems with National Geographic's online accessibility (Grades 6-8).

Dr. Talken and Ms. Orgon agreed to the benefits of pilot programs that are conducted for longer periods of time, prior to making any purchases.

Mr. Heberle inquired as to the online upgrades and fees for such. Ms. Kotowski said there is no fee for online updates.

Ms. Cassel commented she is happy to see the cadre meetings. Ms. Kotowski agreed and noted the meetings are voluntary and teachers are paid at the adjunct rate to attend.

#### **Public comments**

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

### **Report on 2017-2018 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) Results**

The report was presented by Lisa Kotowski, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, and Randy Malandro, Coordinator, Assessment, Research and Evaluation.

Mr. Malandro noted that the results are not final District and school reports; they are individual student aggregates.

Mr. Neely asked when the results might be received. Mr. Malandro responded that the results will be received soon; however they will not be posted to the CA School Dashboard until December.

Mr. Neely asked for more information relative to Transitional Kindergarten students, specifically to determine if Transitional Kindergarten students are reading at grade level.

Mr. Heberle acknowledged the 25 out of 47 school sites that have gained; but he would also be interested in the school sites that have experienced a decrease.

Discussion ensued.

#### Public comments

Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

#### **1:1 Home-to-School Connection Status Report**

Leonard Kahn, Chief Business Officer, and Edith Holbert, Director of Technology Services, presented the status report.

Ms. Holbert explained the pilot program began on July 30<sup>th</sup> with 14 school sites and 2,800 students (a 97% participation rate) taking part in the program. She said the overall feedback has been positive. Challenges have included limited spare devices and the need for additional classroom chargers.

Ms. Cassel asked the Student Representatives for their input. Ms. Townsell said it would be helpful to have a take home device, as she currently does not have a device at home and usually stays longer at school to complete assignments that require a computer.

Mr. Henry also stated it would be helpful to have a Chromebook as a take home device, as sometimes an assignment cannot be completed on another type of device or a phone. Chromebooks can be checked out at lunchtime and there is less need to bring textbooks from home.

Mr. Heberle inquired as to the next steps. Ms. Holbert said planning is in the works for various possibilities. The Superintendent's Technology Advisory Committee meets on Thursday of this week and will work towards formulating a plan to move forward.

Mr. Freitas asked Ms. Townsell and Mr. Henry if a Chromebook, specifically, satisfied a students' technology needs. Both agreed that Chromebooks get the job done; they provide access to all textbooks (curriculum); and Chromebooks are easy to transport. Neither reported any downsides to the Chromebook device.

Mr. Kahn acknowledged the 1:1 Device roll out was a seamless process and has proved to be a real success.

Ms. Cassel spoke of the success of the 1:1 Device program at Lockeford School.

Mr. Neely looks forward to the entire District having access. Mr. Neely also inquired as to a report item regarding parent's access to interact via smartphone devices.

Public comments  
Michelle Orgon, President, Lodi Education Association

**Board Advisory Committee Reports**

No committee reports were received.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

  
Clerk of the Board

  
President of the Board