

**Minutes of  
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board  
For Tracy Unified School District  
Held on Tuesday, October 27, 2020**

As per Executive Order N-29-20 from Governor Newsom, the Tracy Unified School District Board of Education meetings moved to a virtual/teleconferencing environment using Microsoft Teams. The Governor's executive order on March 12, 2020, waived the requirement for a majority of board members to physically participate in a public board meeting at the same location. The intent is not to limit public participation, but rather to protect public health by following the Governor's Stay at Home executive order. (Public Comments were available by online submission).

**6:30 PM:** 1-3. President Pekari called the meeting to order and adjourned to closed session.

**Roll Call:** 4. Board: S. Abercrombie, A. Alexander, J. Costa, B. Pekari, J. Silcox, L. Souza  
Absent: S. Kaur  
Staff: B. Stephens, R. Pecot, T. Jalique, J. Stocking, B. Etcheverry

**7:00 PM** 5. President Pekari called the Tracy Unified School District Board of Education to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Souza read a statement that she would like to address concerns which have been raised that posts on her Facebook social media account have been interpreted as being representative of the board. Comments on her personal Facebook account, or posts which she makes in response to others through her personal Facebook account, are her personal opinions and are not representative of the board's opinion. President Pekari noted that per our board policy, any statements that are reflective of the board opinion would be given by the board president or superintendent and would be clearly identified as being the opinion of the board.

**Closed Session:** 6a Report Out of Action Taken on Early Graduation: TISCS #10311636  
**Action:** **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1(Kaur)  
6b Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Non-Paid Leave of Absence for Classified Employee #UCL-355, Pursuant to Article XXIII  
**Action:** Approved. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1(Kaur)  
6c Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Non-Paid Leave of Absence for Classified Employee #UCL-359, Pursuant to Article XXIII  
**Action:** Approved. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1(Kaur)  
6d Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Paid Leave of Absence for Certificated Employee #UC-1222, Pursuant to Article XX  
**Action:** Approved as amended. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1(Kaur)

**Minutes:** 7. Approve Regular Minutes of October 13, 2020  
**Action:** As amended. Silcox, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1(Kaur)

**Visitors:** None. Meeting was live streamed via Microsoft Teams.

**Student Rep  
Reports:**

8. None.

**Recognition &  
Presentations:**

**9.1 Bohn Elementary School Presentation**

Principal, Michael Burstein, hosted a video presentation that showed the daily schedule for Distance Learning. He explained the daily routine and how teachers are working as a team to have student success. He reviewed the STEM program and some of the activities involved and some online learning activities. The Bohn Sharks continue to have fun by having spirit weeks, video announcements, positive behavior rewards, attendance certificates and library book checkout. Students took their school photos and this week are celebrating red ribbon week. They have had a steady attendance rate of over 95% each week. We have great teachers and support staff. Everyone wants kids to come back and knows that distance learning is not ideal. He also thanked the parents and students who are doing their best, the community, and the district personnel who has provided amazing support for sites.

**9.2 West High School Presentation**

Principal, Dr. Zachary Boswell, hosted a video presentation that reviewed the EL Program and the re-designation English language learners to bilingual students. He reviewed the state testing results in ELA and Math from 2017 to 2019. There has been a 10% to 25% increase in scores over the past 3 years. Meeting with students, classes, teachers, and administrators have helped students realize the importance of testing and had a big impact on scores. The team, Mr. Haim, Ms. Escalante and Ms. Carrera, met with students, set goals, and held practice sessions. Once they become bilingual, they are able to take more elective classes. The goal is to re-designate 10% of the students each year and in 2019 they hit 13.6%. It looks like 2020 will exceed that.

**Information &  
Discussion Items:**

**10.1 Administrative & Business Services:** None.

**10.2 Educational Services:**

**10.2.1 San Joaquin County COVID19 Update**

Julianna Stocking, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services, reviewed a power point with data from the last information provided by Dr. Park as of October 22<sup>nd</sup>. We had a total of 21,630 in San Joaquin County and as of today 21,906. The new cases were 33 on Oct. 22 and as of yesterday there were 44 new cases. She showed the tiered status slide in purple and that schools can only open with a waiver; however, once in red schools can fully reopen with health and safety guidelines in place. Statewide metric is 7.0 new positive cases with 3.3. positivity rate. In San Joaquin County, we are at a 4.9 new per day per 100,000 and at a 3.3 positivity rate which is in the orange but in between red and orange which will be reassessed next Tuesday. San Joaquin County metrics show that the county is still officially in the red tier. She will be providing regular updates at board meetings. This data is reflective of the past 2 weeks.

**Hearing of Delegations**

**11.** The following comments were submitted online and were read aloud during the meeting:

Jennifer Pool: Lori Souza is an amazing person who has always put herself last, and worked hard for all children. She is especially vocal for at risk, foster, and special needs children. We are beyond blessed to have her as a school board member, and she is the last person whose character should be questioned. Always look at the source when comments are made against upstanding members of our community. What do they have to gain? Because Lori is the last to worry about personal gain, always.

Karin Williams: I would like to publicly thank Trustee Souza for her professionalism when being called up in public forums by angry parents who choose to air their frustrations in Facebook groups such as Tracy Rants & Raves. Trustee Souza was bashed publicly in multiple posts and comments by Brandi Hoffert, the mother of a candidate running for School Board Trustee, and instead of responding in anger, Trustee Souza either responded with facts directly from the school district's website or other public information, or didn't respond at all. She has set an example to our students about how to handle adversity and is a role model to our students on how to react to a bully by not responding and throwing fuel on the fire. Thank you Trustee Souza for always sharing information with the community by sharing information directly from official District communication and helping people find out where to find information. I appreciate the example you are setting for our students.

Christina Gomes: Planning for the next Semester I hope TUSD will maintain Student ID and Microsoft Teams information available to students if after they switch to the Charter. After having parent teacher conferences today, both I and the teachers felt it could be helpful if my daughter wanted to see where the class is at because the charter will not be following the same textbooks or material simultaneously. As a parent of a High School student, I am pleased that the board voted to wait till the end of the semester because my child was enrolled in an elective that the charter does not offer and for grading and high school transcripts she can now complete the course with full semester credit. Now I hope the board can find a way to ensure those students that have chosen to temporarily go to the TUSD Independent Charter School, will still have a place in their respective schools and academies upon their return and also for Seniors to have a place in the graduation celebrations however it is decided to honor the class of 2021.

**Public Hearing:**

**12.1 Administrative & Business Services:** None.

**Consent Items:**

**13. Board approval of any agenda item requiring insurance is conditioned upon acceptance of appropriate insurance accepted by Tracy Unified.**

**Action:** Costa, Silcox. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1(Kaur)

**13.1 Administrative & Business Services:**

**13.1.1** Accept the Generous Donations from the Various Individuals, Businesses, and School Site Parent Teacher Associations Listed Herein with Thanks and Appreciation from the Staff and Students of the Tracy Unified School District

**13.1.2** Accept and Review the Status of School Connected Organization/Booster Club Applications Submitted for the 2020/21 School Year

**13.2 Educational Services:**

**13.2.1** Ratify the Purchase of Edgenuity Online Curriculum for Grades K through 5 for the Tracy Independent Study Charter School (TISCS)

**13.2.2** Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with Crossroads, San Joaquin County Probation Department, for the 2020-2021 School Year.

**13.2.3** Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with Community Medical Centers to Provide Additional Mental Health Service Days at South/West Park Elementary School during the 2020-2021 School Year

**13.2.4** Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services for One Day at a Time (ODAT) for the 2020 – 2021 School Year

**13.2.5** Receive Update on Quarterly Williams Complaint Report for the Quarter Ending October 15, 2020

**13.3 Human Resources:**

**13.3.1** Accept the Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence for Certificated, Classified and/or Management Employees

**13.3.2** Approve Classified, Certificated and/or Management Employment

**13.3.3** Approve Student School Counseling Education Fieldwork Experience Agreement with CSU Stanislaus

**13.3.4** Approve a Variable Term Waiver for Special Education Teacher- Added Authorization in Special Education (AASE); Autism Spectrum

**Action Items:**

**14.1 Administrative & Business Services:** None.

**14.2 Educational Services:** None.

**14.3 Human Resources:**

**14.3.1** Adopt Resolution No. 20-09 Authorizing Teachers to Teach Outside Their Credential Authorizations

**Action:** Silcox, Costa. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1(Kaur)

**Board Reports:**

Trustee Abercrombie passed. Trustee Alexander passed. Trustee Costa passed. Trustee Silcox thanked Julianna Stocking for her presentation. It's important to connect with the county as our source. Trustee Souza is happy to hear some of our SPED kids were back to school today. Last week she attended anti-bullying and diversity and equity meetings. She is happy to see programs will be implemented through the district for students to participate. Trustee Pekari thanked all the presenters. Mr. Burstein and Dr. Boswell had great presentations.

**Superintendent Report:**

Dr. Stephens commented that we will not need a meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup>, so the December meeting will be on the 15<sup>th</sup>. The California Mental Health has a contest each year to support the prevention of suicide and mental health issues. A few students from Kimball High School competed and placed as follows: Autumn Harris received 1<sup>st</sup> place for her video "Put Yourself in a Black Woman's Shoes"; Madison Hyler-Smith received 3<sup>rd</sup> place for her artwork "Hands of Justice"; and Jordan Kirby received 4<sup>th</sup> place for the video "Creating Hope". He sent his

congratulations to each of these students and they will be getting a certificate from the district.

**Adjourn: 7:34**

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Clerk

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Date