

**Minutes of
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board
For Tracy Unified School District
Held on Tuesday, March 23, 2021**

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).

- 6:15 PM:** **1-3.** Vice-President Abercrombie called the meeting to order and adjourned to closed session.
- Roll Call:** **4.** Board: S. Abercrombie, A. Alexander, A. Blanco, N. Erskine, Z. Hoffert, S. Kaur, L. Souza
Staff: B. Stephens, R. Pecot, T. Jalique, J. Stocking, B. Etcheverry
- 7:00 PM** **5.** Vice-President Abercrombie called the Tracy Unified School District Board of Education to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Closed Session:** **6a** Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Leave of Absence Requests for Certificated Employees: #UC-1244, #UC-1245, #UC-1246, #UC-1247, #UC-1248, #UC-1249, #UC-1250, #UC-1251, #UC-1252, #UC-1253, #UC-1254, #UC-1255, #UC-1256, #UC-1257, and #UC-1258. Pursuant to Article XX
Action: Approved. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.
- 6b** Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Non-Paid Leave of Absence for Certificated Employee #UC-1259, Pursuant to Article XX
Action: Approved. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0. ____
- 6c** Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Paid and Non-Paid Leave of Absence for Certificated Employee #UC-1260, Pursuant to Article XX
Action: Approved. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.
- 6d** Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Non-Paid Leave of Absence for Classified Employee #UCL-400, Pursuant to Article XXIII
Action: Approved. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.
- 6e** Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Non-Paid Leave of Absence for Classified Employee #UCL-401, Pursuant to Article XXIII
Action: Approved. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0. ____
- Minutes:** **7. Approve Regular Minutes of March 9, 2021.**
Action: Erskine, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.
- Visitors:** None. Meeting was live streamed via Microsoft Teams.

**Student Rep
Reports:**

8. Students prepared video presentations:

Tracy High: Sophia Alejandre reported the loss of Tracy High Student, Tyler Siegel. On March 17th, there was a candlelight vigil held in his honor. Teachers, family and friends shared stories of him. He was liked by many and a part of the swim team. The March 19th meet was dedicated to him. A poster signed by all was given to his family at the end of the night. They will be establishing a quarterly award in Tyler's name. It will be given for academic achievements and those who bring joy to their community. Love and support our sent to his family. He will never be forgotten.

West High: Kaitlyn Durant and Gianna Uribe reported the retirements of bookkeeper Ms. Loreda and an attendance clerk, Ms. Basset. They wished them a great retirement. They held a week-long hygiene drive where people could drop off donations like soap, shampoo, body wash and deodorant, etc. They then showed an interview with teacher, Mr. Sundquist. He spoke about his background and how he enjoyed announcing games. He was a club advisor for GSA and video production. He kept score at football and basketball games. After baseball started, the lockdown happened. He has software that helps him with music and background He also has put together some podcasting. He does the scoreboard and manages sound at the football games. He also works with cheer to make sure that the music is ready for them. Leadership apps are out for next year.

Kimball High: Julian Steffens updated us on what leadership has been up to over the past few months. They held a multi-culture week that celebrated the diverse cultures on campus. There are many cultural clubs on campus. They also celebrated freshman academic achievement. Each class has a month to recognize their achievements. Students will elect a pandemic prince and princes for each class and the seniors will have a king and queen. Voting will begin soon. Students are excited for these upcoming events.

Alternative Ed Campus: Aime Valencia Munoz is a junior at Stein and reported that students have applied and have been accepted to Delta College and are working with a counselor to schedule their classes. Tracy Adult program has planted succulents outside of the classroom. Also, 2 of their students have received the *Every Student Succeeds* award. Stein has been named a model continuation high school. In horticulture class, plants have started to bloom. The tulips that were planted for Red Ribbon Week have also started to bloom around campus. The childcare center has opened for students who are parents at the same time. Learning hubs have been created on campus for small groups or individual support as well as group counseling.

**Recognition &
Presentations:**

9.1 Recognize the Outstanding Employees of the Winter Term for the 2020-2021 School Year

The board recognized Dean Medek (9-12), Michelle Baptista (6-8) and Diane Kikes (K-5) as Outstanding Certificated Employees; Maria Galvan Piceno (9-12) and Joseph Martocchio (6-8) and Serenna Williams (K-5) as Outstanding Classified Employees and Marsha McCormick as the Outstanding Management Employee for the Winter Term of the 2020-2021 school year. Certificates will be sent to them.

9.2 McKinley Elementary School Presentation

Shannon Bancroft, Principal of McKinley, hosted a video of her school. She is proud of parents, staff and students for all they have done this past year. It has taken the entire village to get where they are. She showed a video of various teachers interacting with their students through distance learning. The different grade levels had various topics for their assignments. There were photos of students showing their projects and video clips of a student talking about his weatherman report, many photos of three-dimension mission projects, European explores reports, and super pollinators projects. Lastly, the earth projects that showed the desert and water filtration projects. They are promoting literacy and are having a book giveaway in March 25 and 26.

9.3 George Kelly School Presentation

George Kelly School Principal, Michael Bunch, and Assistant Principal, Virginia Nyberg, hosted a video where ASB president, Trinity Brown, spoke about her experience at Kelly. She attended since kindergarten and is looking forward to playing high school sports. She has enjoyed many activities at school such as science camp, color run, school sports and the talent show. Dr. Bunch then recognized the teaching staff. He is proud of the extraordinary job that teachers have done to help students thrive. Various teachers spoke about the STEM See think and wonder charts and STEM design challenges and the opportunity to visit other teacher classrooms. Teachers were able to use the students' homes and yards to continue with STEM instruction. They showed pictures of students making the perfect pancake recipe. Another project was to create a structure to protect a plant. Students got very creative. They also spoke about the Scratch and Design Challenges. STEM has been a great success even in distance learning. Dr. Bunch also thanked KCRA and weatherman Dirk Verdoorn for visiting and helping students understand weather and climate. Drive through events and virtual classroom events helped to stay in a positive culture. They held a drive-thru Halloween parade and had virtual pajama days that were part of the fun. They also had their first Dunkin drive-through. On Monday, March 22nd, they were thrilled to bring the hybrid students back. They showed pictures of students walking onto campus on the red carpet, 8th grade students and some of their pictures. They are proud of the 8th graders' accomplishments and will keep moving forward together as an ohana. Dr. Bunch invited everyone to come and visit Kelly to see the wonderful things the students are doing.

Trustee Hoffert left the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

Trustee Hoffert returned to the meeting 7:32 p.m.

Information & Discussion Items:

10.1 Administrative & Business Services: None.

10.2 Educational Services:

10.2.1 Receive Report on San Joaquin County COVID19

Associate Superintendent of Educational Services, Julianna Stocking, presented a power point on the COVID 19 update. The State of California has made significant progress with a 5.5 positive cases per day per 100,000, and a 2.0% positivity rate. San Joaquin County is not quite in the red yet. Our cases have increased slightly. We are at 11.6 cases per 100,000 and a 4.6% positivity rate.

10.2.2 Receive Information on Reopening Schools PreK-6

Associate Superintendent of Educational Services, Julianna Stocking, commented that we have had SPED cohorts attending in person November. That is the model that we have used in provided concurrent instruction in person and at home. We were successful in providing a smooth as silk reopening which is a testament to all of the preparation from creating the guidelines for our sites to follow and many departments working together in the central office. It is also a testament to the work that all of our sites have done to prepare. Members of cabinet visited every school site. Administration had prepared weeks before by making sure everyone had their supplies such as hand sanitizer and masks and that there were visual markers for social distance and posters welcoming kids back. Sites were well organized. She also thanked our certificated classified and management for working together on issues such as schedules, electronic devices and communication to families. It was nice to see kids on the buses and food service handing out multiple meals for students for the grab and go lunch which included lunch, dinner and breakfast for the next day.

10.2.3 Receive Report on Proposed Instructional Materials for International Baccalaureate Mathematics at Tracy High School

Director of IMC, Dr. Debra Schneider, presented a power point which explained the process of adoption. She reviewed each of the steps. Sometimes this will include piloting for certain subjects. This one is a shorter process. The committee reviews and makes a recommendation to the board. The committee does not vote, they must have consensus based on evidence. They use the toolkit provided by the state. Teacher for the course, Mr. Kalis, also explained that students take a series of tests for the IB diploma. This course was approved a few years ago and now they need to get a book approved. Dr. Schneider then looks for books and found 2 sets of materials, the Oxford University Press and one from Hodder Education. These are proposed to curriculum counsel for review. They recommended Oxford Univ Press called Mathematics Applications and Interpretation. Mr. Kalis thought this was best because it offered worked solutions which is very important for their learning. A lot of IB exam questions are throughout the book. It also has an enhanced online course companion. When we purchase programs with digital companions, it gets updated during the lifetime of that adoption. She will be back at the next board meeting with an agenda item asking for board approval. There is a public review of the book ongoing at IMC. At the April 27th meeting, she will come back seeking approval and will order these to be ready for the 2021-22 school year.

10.2.4 Receive Report on 2021-2024 LCAP Process

Director of Continuous Improvement, State and Federal Programs, Tania Salinas, presented power point that showed an overview of the LCAP. The Board adopts the LCAP by using a template provided by the SBE. The purpose is to build capacity of Local Educational Agencies to support continuous improvement. It is in effect for 3 years

and adopted on or before July 1 of each a year. She then reviewed the priorities defined by the state, state indicators and local indicator. Results are published to the dashboard. The annual update is a reflection of how we did and what we accomplished based on the goals. Implementation will be assessed and analyzed. The LCP replaced the LCAP in 2021. We will reflect on in-person instruction and on the distance learning program. She reviewed the adoption process and the required steps needed in order to have it approved. She thanked everyone who participated in the survey, the community members who attended the stakeholder engagement meeting last week and the San Joaquin County Office of Education for their support and partnership in developing the LCAP.

10.2.5 Receive Information on Grade 4/5 2021-2022 Report Grade Reporting
Associate Superintendent of Educational Services, Julianna Stocking, presented a recorded presentation for the recommendation by curriculum council to proceed with standards-based grade reporting and transition away from letter grade reporting for the 21-22 school year. Fourth-grade teachers at Kelly explained the teacher procedures. They piloted this. They reviewed student and teacher impacts. They want students to develop a growth mindset focus. They also looked at parent feedback which was very positive. Grading will be student centered and will be confidence builder and celebrates learning. It has both academic and emotional benefits. This will provide a uniform and equitable measurement across the district. Ms. Stocking thanked the team from George Kelly for their work on this.

10.2.6 Receive Report on Options to Reopen 7-12 Schools
Superintendent Stephens reported that he learned that our county would not be moved to the red tier. The Board authorized him to bring students back in March, if possible, so he was going to present options to bring back in April. On Saturday, however, the state changed their criteria and are now allowing counties in the purple to come back as long as their cases are 25 per 100,000 or less. Based on the authority the board gave him last month and with this new state guidance, it is his intention to bring back grades 7-12 on Monday, March 29th with the current instructional model that we have with the elementary students. We have already done a lot of work to get ready. Principals are aware of this and are excited to return.

Hearing of Delegations

11. The following comments were submitted online and read aloud. The following statements were copied from their online submission:

Renee Riddle: Dear Trustees, We want our students to be able to have the access to the libraries that will make them successful in the world. Only you can make it happen!

A little back ground of your libraries. Hours of operations were between 35-40 hours a week depending on the size of the school. On March 2nd 2011, the school board than voted to cut the hours of all library techs down to 20 hours a week with the understanding when our financial situation improved they would restore the

hours. TUSD financial situation has improved and is sitting on a huge \$40 plus million surplus.

For at least 7 years we have been asking and asking for our hours back so we could help the students of Tracy. With no results, however more management and coordinators positions have been created in the past five years. While some of our students continue to fall behind on reading. Are we teaching our students that reading is not important?

Today is a new day with a lot of new school board members that truly are putting our children first. The time is now, our community needs to know that the school board is really here for our children. If the district really wants to improve our test scores and show that our students matter and show that they believe reading is a fundamental building block of education, open up the libraries!

According to the Ca. Ed code: 18103. The libraries shall be open to the use of the teachers and the pupils of the school district during the school day.-

TUSD = K-5, K-8 and 6-8 libraries are closed on Mondays and closed before school gets out.

Substantial research indicates that a school library with appropriate staffing, adequate funding, and a rich collection of materials in various formats makes a positive impact on literacy as well as on overall academic achievement.

The school library plays an important role in preparing students to live and learn in a world of information. Since 1988, the mission of school library media programs across the country has been to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information by taking the following steps:

Providing intellectual and physical access to materials in all formats

Providing instruction to foster competence and stimulate interest in reading, viewing, and using information and ideas

They teach students how to learn and help teachers drive student success. School librarians work with every student in the school, teaching them to think critically, providing the resources and support learners need in school and beyond, and nurturing their creativity. Cited from ALA.org (American Libraries Assoc.)

In the 2019-2020 LCAP in which it is stated that "School Library Standards it was determined that currently TUSD school libraries do not meet the recommended number of books (of both genres) per the pupil population. In order to begin to increase pupil access to current and appropriate forms of literary and expository works, it is a best practice to provide resources for the purchase of these library materials. The purchase of additional library books will serve to update the site library collections and support research stating that additional access to books results in greater achievement on standardized tests, even when controlled for poverty", (pg. 133-134)

The main access for a student in school is their LIBRARY. I know you will agree with me that we want the students to have the literacy skills, we want them to be successful, How is that possible when libraries are closed?

All the K-8 library techs serve over 8000 students, these students DO NOT HAVE THE ACCESS THE NEED! I have watched this district make new jobs, hire more management than I have seen in the last 25 years.– libraries are important for our students!

We cringe when a child wants to read and the closed signs on our library doors say they can't! We are not here before and after school, we are not here on Mondays. You have the money for all these new MANAGEMENT jobs, but when the libraries are shut down over 8000 students have no access. We are schools we are

supposed to be here for the STUDENTS!

Trustee Abercrombie talked about TUSD's Mission Statement at the last board meeting and how we are all here for the students of Tracy. Our Mission is to ensure all students are equipped with essential critical-thinking and information skills. How do we do that? We have the books, and yet – they stand still because we are not here, we help the children with technology we make sure students have text books, we are a safe place for students. **BUT ALL THAT IS ONLY PART TIME!** Let's make this right for the students of Tracy and restore the library techs hours so libraries are open and our Mission can carry through for our students. Make it right for the children of Tracy! Let's start the 2021/2022 school year with open libraries for all student at TUSD. Better yet, let's finish this school year with libraries open!

After this pandemic the students will be playing catch up and having the libraries open will benefit the students in their success now more than ever.

Thank you for your time.

Ashley Fisher: Dear School Board; My name is Ashley Fisher and I would like to share my experience as a Library Tech in TUSD for the last 4 years. I had the unique opportunity of being a parent volunteer at McKinley for several years prior to applying for this 5 hour a day, 4 days a week position. My duties include doing read alouds, checking in and out books, text book distribution, keeping shelves in order as well as some light book keeping. It became clear to me very quickly that the Library had the potential to be so much more. Especially when I would be on campus helping with picture day or helping in a Teacher's classroom on a Monday and students would ask to come to the Library or there would be a line at the Library door. In these few short years I have had the pleasure of transforming the McKinley Library into OUR school Library, a welcoming place everyone wants to come to and no one wants to leave. Our school library is the heart of our school and it breaks my heart that the students do not have full access to it during every school day. It is a safe place that brings out the best in everyone. All students and staff in TUSD deserve full time access to their Library. Studies show that the more access students have to books the higher their test scores and overall school performance. A well-staffed and funded school library is essential for all students. At an Elementary level especially we have the unique opportunity to set a precedent for student's relationships with books and Libraries for the rest of their lives. I hope the Board will be open to increasing all TUSD student's access to their school library. Thank you.

Rosalie Enget: With desperation, I respectfully ask that you the Board makes the responsible decision to open school for grades 7-12.

It is imperative that we give these kids some part of their school experience back.

It has been 374 days since these kids last stepped foot on campus. 374.

Recent published studies show that the transmission rate amount children and teens is very low to non-existent. Especially with all the measures and precautions being taken to social distance, stay masked, and the dedication on behalf of the school to keep things sanitized.

<https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2021/01/scientists-highlight-low-risk-covid-19-spread-schools>

we are currently under 25% per 100,000. Doesn't this permit us to allow all grades to open?

Ideally, it would be beneficial on so many levels for them to be back in the classroom.

At a minimum it would help make for a smoother transition for the next academic year.

our kids are suffering. They need the socialization, interaction with their peers and educators.

We have done more than our share of what we have been asked to do to 'flatten the curve'

They are tired of being in front of a screen 10 hours a day.

This is not a conducive learning environment for long term.

I'm seeing my own children become disengaged, disconnected, and just fatigued.

We need to bring back some fun and creativity to learning.

Please, please open our schools. We shouldn't have to fight this hard for the right to have our kids in school.

We've more than done our share to slow the spread. Thank you!

Kimberly Jones: Dear Trustees, On March 2nd, 2011, the school board voted to cut the hours of all library techs from 35-40 hours a week down to 20 hours a week. The understanding was, when a vote was passed by the state to replace funding, their hours would be restored. The vote was to take place June 2011 but was moved to November. The vote passed and now 10 years later, libraries have still not had their hours replaced. What message does this send to students, parents and the community? It tells them that literacy skills are a part-time skill. But we know different. Literacy is a LIFE skill, used long after mandatory attendance in school is required.

There is renewed trust in the school board. We see that you have students needs at the forefront of your decisions. The questions all of you ask and watching the knowledge you all share to do better for our students, to improve test scores have restored my faith. Let's restore the libraries and show the students they do matter. Let's keep to our California Education code too. Ed Code 18103 states: The libraries shall be open to the use of the teachers and the pupils of the school district during the school day

Currently our campus libraries on the K-8 and 6-8 campuses, are closed ALL DAY Monday and closed before school ends for the day the rest of the week. The school library is the HEART of the school. I know you will agree with me that we want the students to have the literacy skills, we want them to be successful. How is that possible when libraries are closed?

Our Elementary and Middle School campuses serve over 8000 students. These students do not have access to the library when they need it. And yet, in the last 10 years the district has created new jobs and hired more management. It's true what they say about what is valued. Follow the money, and you'll understand what's valued. So, where is the money going in TUSD? Not to the library, and that's a shame.

Trustee Abercrombie talked about TUSD's Mission Statement at the last board meeting and how we are all here for the students of Tracy. Our Mission is to ensure all students are equipped with essential critical-thinking and information skills. How do we do that? We have the books, and yet – they stand still because library staff is not available. Libraries are more than the books inside. We help the children with technology, we make sure students have textbooks, we are a safe place for students. BUT ALL THAT IS ONLY PART TIME! Let's make this right

for the students of Tracy and restore library hours. Let's start the 2021/2022 school year with libraries open every school day, and from the start of the day to after school.

In closing, multiple library impact studies conducted across the U.S. offer the following conclusions:

- Access to books through school libraries develops life-long positive attitudes in students towards reading and helps them read more. The earlier the foundation can be laid, the better.
- Students consistently perform better on tests when there is a full-time, certified librarian and appropriate assistant on staff.
- Extended hours of operation and flexible scheduling have a direct impact on student achievement.
- Higher expenditures and larger, newer, and varied collections contribute to improved student test scores.
- The higher the number of visits to the library, the higher the scores on student achievement tests.
- School libraries are essential to students by providing facilities and tools to prepare them for navigating the information age and entering the workplace of the future.
- School libraries have the ability to bridge the gap between privileged and at-risk students by providing equal access and resources for learning.
- School librarians empower students by instilling in them a love of reading from early ages, teaching new ways of learning, guiding them to read and think critically, and offering technology skills.

-School Libraries Impact Study August 2013

Carrie Grover: Dear Board Members: Thank you for opening K-6! My fourth grader had a fantastic first day back at school! He felt very safe and said it went very well.

On March 20, The California Department of Public Health rendered all schools eligible to open if case rates fall below 25 per 100,000 population. Since we are well below 25, we should open all schools now!

Please consider the fact that our tier assignment is heavily skewed by the numbers in Stockton. Our city's numbers are significantly better than the county numbers as a whole. Please open all grades! Thank you!

Nancy Hensley: Dear Trustees and Administration:

I am writing to you to ask for your help in restoring the hours that were eliminated in our school libraries March 2nd, 2011.

School Libraries should be and want to be the heart of the student communities they serve.

Our School Libraries continue to grow and evolve to compliment new technologies instead of being replaced by them.

School libraries with adequate funding and support, can become wonderful places of discovery and learning with books, computers, green screen rooms, and makerspaces.

Library Technicians do more than check out books.

Library Technicians also do double duty as Textbook Clerks for our District.

K-8 Library Technicians introduce beginning readers to the joys of reading by story times, Book Fairs, displays and Teacher collaborations. During COVID they

stepped up to the challenge by doing virtual Story times, and provided take-out library services.

9-12 Library Technicians help students navigate the often-confusing world of fake news, and social media by giving them the tools for safe and accurate research through secure databases, preparing them for College and Young Adulthood. All of us pride ourselves on providing a safe and secure place for our students to learn, create, and feel accepted, but none of us feel as though we are doing our best right now. Our school libraries have been neglected since 2011 due to lack of funding and support.

I helped work at an elementary school this year while the District was trying to find another Technician to replace the former part-time Technician as she had accepted a job that provided more hours. Almost 90 percent of their book collection was composed of outdated and damaged material. Some books having racist stereotypes, which no longer reflect our attitudes or our communities. 20 hours a week is simply not enough time to do all of the work that is required to keep our school libraries adequately maintained and modern.

Public Libraries do a great job, but they can never replace or provide the tailored learning and personalized service that school libraries and School Library Technicians try to provide every day.

Please help us to help our students and restore the hours that were eliminated on March 2nd, 2011. Thank you for your time.

Jennifer Hernandez: Tracy School Board: My heart literally hurts today after finding out that we are still stuck in the purple tier. It pains me to think that this non logical tier system is what holds our children back from entering into in-person school. While I understand that my argument regarding the tier system is not something you as a board can fix or change, I would like to still beg that you keep the plan to open in-person for all students who wish to return for 7-12 grades in place. I am also curious to know if we are able to open under the new school guidelines that came out in the last couple days. I states that school can reopen under the red and purple tiers (under 25 cases per 100,000; which we meet). The school just needs to publish their health plan with the local health office. Please do all you can to look into this and act swiftly. We could have kids back in-person by the end of the month.

I had not seen my kids this excited in over a year, when they thought they were returning to school this week. Their entire routine, demeanor, and attitude changed. They were ecstatic to be able to see their teachers in-person. After learning this would not happen, I could see all that excitement vanish. They are upset. They need to be around peers. They need to actually meet their teachers in person. Please keep a plan to open as soon as we are allowed. Even if it means opening immediately or waiting a few more weeks. Regardless the kids need time in class.

In closing might I suggest that the high schools come up with some sort of activity or drive thru where these older kids can actually go to the school and see some of the faculty. My elementary school has done several of these and it helps a little to show the kids that the school cares. Thank you

Lorrie Brandt: I would like to address the new CDC guidelines that came out on Saturday regarding all school grades and any tier are now allowed to get back to school so long as the county/district was only 25% or less per 100,000.

These students need to get back to school. Seventh through 12th grade students are all frustrated and want to go back. Especially being that over the last month majority of teachers have had the vaccinations completed. There is no reason for us to not get back to school. I would like to know why this did not happen on March 23 considering teachers had asynchronous learning all day last Friday to get their rooms ready. Why are we waiting for a board meeting tonight?

Carolyn Retuta: I believe it is doing more harm than good keeping the student grades 7-12 out of school. It's been over a year since they left their school and plans should be in place for them to begin ASAP. I also believe it's burning out the teachers as well trying to manage online for the past year. They are not able to connect with the students which the students sorely need both mentally and academically. I believe they feel this disconnect just as much as the students. My daughter is a senior and she has lost 1/2 her junior year and majority of her senior year. These are important to their growth both mentally and academically. At least let them have the last 8 weeks of classes back with their classmates. And per the new guidelines there should be no delay in this beginning. Every day is one day too long. Please think of these kids, we've lost too many already. Don't let any more get lost.

Tarly Coffey: We are still not in red tier however we have reached the threshold for number of cases per 100k. Please reopen our schools. The science is in for school reopening. With all the precautions we are taking we can educate our children in person safely according to the CDC. Please reopen our schools for 7 thru 12th grade. Thank you.

Seymour Cornel: I am a high school student in the Tracy Unified School District, and I am astonished by the actions taken by the District and the Board. How many changes will you do before you settle on a plan, what is your plan for the future? Just let us go back already, how can we go back to normal if you don't take the steps back to normalcy. There are and were a handful of people ready to go back, let us go. We've got to normalize the situation we have at hand to return to a state of normalcy. This pandemic is a part of our lives, so we've really just got to live with it and hopefully live through and past it. Simple words from a simple high school student, keep it simple... silly! :) Grateful for your efforts though, please provide results, please and thank you.

Mary Ortega: Please lets figure out a better solution to our 7-12 kids to get back into school. Distance learning is harming my kid and others. There is SO much pressure on these Seniors. What are we doing for them? Steps can be taken to stop the spread of Covid at the schools. Scientist study show low risk spreading at the schools. We HAVE to think outside the box and get everyone back to school. I can and will help the school my kid goes to in any way I can possibly. Parents want to be part of the solution. We can all work together as a team.

Public Hearing:

12.1 Administrative & Business Services: None.

12.2 Educational Services:

12..1 Conduct a Public Hearing Regarding the Approval of the Waiver Request for Non Classroom Based Funding Determination for the Tracy Independent Study Charter School for 2021-2022

The Public Hearing was opened at 9:15 p.m.
Trustee Alexander asked about information, but no public comments were made.
The Public hearing was closed at 9:16 p.m.

12.3 Human Resources:

12.3.1 Receive Public Comments Regarding Negotiations with Tracy Educators Association (TEA) and the Tracy Unified School District (TUSD)

The Public Hearing was opened at 9:16 p.m.
No comments were made.
The Public hearing was closed at 9:17 p.m.

Consent Items:

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

Action: On items 13.1.1 through 13.1.6 and 13.3.1 through 13.3.4 Souza, Erskine. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

Action: On item 13.2.1.

Souza, Erskine. **Vote:** Yes-5; No-2(Alexander, Hoffert)

Action: On item 13.2.2

Erskine, Souza. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

Action: On item 13.2.3

Souza, Erskine. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

13.1 Administrative & Business Services:

13.1.1 Approve Accounts Payable Warrants (February, 2021)
Separate Cover Item

13.1.2 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

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

13.1.4 Approve Payroll Reports (February, 2021)

13.1.5 Approve Revolving Cash Fund Reports (February, 2021)

13.1.6 Approve Entertainment, Assembly, Service, Business and Food Vendors

13.2 Educational Services:

13.2.1 Approve Increase to Existing Master Contract with Nonpublic Agency-360 Degree Customer, Inc.

13.2.2 Ratify the Services of Curative testing to Conduct State Mandated COVID-19 Self-Administered Oral PCR Testing for All Three High School's Student Athletes in TUSD Participating in a Football Competition on March 13, 2021 at THS

13.2.3 Ratify the Services of Med-Mobile Testing to Conduct State Mandated COVID-19 Rapid Testing for All High School Student Athletes Participating in Football and Water Polo Competitions at All Three comprehensive High Schools in TUSD

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 the Revised Instructional Calendars and Calendar Listings for Certificated and Classified for the 2021-2022 year
- 13.3.4** Approve the Instructional Calendars for 2022-23, 2023-24, & 2024-25

Action Items:

14.1 Administrative & Business Services:

- 14.1.1** Adopt Resolution 20-17 Authorizing Settlement of Insurance Claims
Action: Souza, Erskine. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

14.2 Educational Services:

- 14.2.1** Adopt Revised Board Policy and Acknowledge Administrative Regulation 5142.52 Suicide Prevention for the 2020-2021 School Year (Second Reading)
Action: Souza, Erskine. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.
- 14.2.2** Approve Waiver Request for Non-Classroom Based Funding Determination for the Tracy Independent Study Charter School for 2021-2022
Action: Alexander, Souza. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-1(Hoffert)
- 14.2.3** Consider and Approve Options to Reopen 7-12 Schools
This item was pulled. There was no vote.

14.3 Human Resources:

- 14.3.1** Approve Tentative Agreements with the California School Employees Association (Separate Cover Item)
Action: Souza, Hoffert. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.
- 14.3.2** Adopt the District's Initial Bargaining Proposal for the Tracy Educators Association (TEA) for the 2021-2022 School Year and Submit it for Negotiations (Separate Cover Item)
Action: Souza, Erskine. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.
- 14.3.3** Acknowledge Receipt of California School Employees Association's (CSEA) Sunshine Proposal for the 2021-2022 School Year
Action: Souza, Erskine. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

Board Reports:

Trustee Alexander commented that he would like to consider to re-open our libraries. Trustee Erskine also agrees with Trustee Alexander she thinks that would be an achievement for the LCAP. She would also like to see the board come up with a plan of what we would like to focus on. One item she is interested in is the student learning loss as a focus for 20-21 and 21-22. She hopes we continue to improve and create structure for our mental health and special education so that she doesn't have to deal with email received last week. Would like to see some type of expenditure report for our COVID safety measures for purpose of governance, accountability and transparency. She feels they are transitioning well and appreciates the direction that they are going. Trustee Hoffert congratulated and recognized Stein High School for being named a model continuation school. He looked at Edjoin and saw some of the requirements for the STEM Director included an administrative credential and reference letters. He thought that could

be modified so that it would not discourage others from applying. He would also like to see on the April agenda, a review of library fees with a one-time waiver of fees accumulated during the 2020-21 school year. Several families are having hard financial issues, and this could help them. Trustee Souza recognized the employees of the term and they are the people working with our children. She thought McKinley and Kelly did a good job on their presentations. The last 2 weeks have been hard on TUSD. She sends her condolences to the family of student, Tyler Siegel. To have this decision to return our students on Monday is the best thing she could hear. She visited classrooms yesterday and it was amazing to see the little ones. Teachers are incredible and are utilizing different ways of teaching. These are unprecedented times and she gives credit to all that are back on campus. Trustee Blanco agrees with Trustees Alexander and Erskine regarding increasing library time as it could affect our community as a whole. She also agrees with Trustee Hoffert about waiving library fees. It is important to promote literacy to our students and that we are flexible. She also enjoyed hearing about Scratch activities and the design challenges. She thanked the ASB president at Kelly for explaining how she acclimated to distance learning. That shows growth mindset and grit. She appreciated that the student commented that the use of digital text has been useful to her. By utilizing digital textbooks, it is a positive impact on the environment as she is a tree lover. She sends her love to the families of the victims in Colorado, Georgia and also to Tyler Siegel's family. She cannot imagine what they are feeling at this time. Trustee Kaur thanked everyone for their presentations and wished everyone a good night. Trustee Abercrombie had the pleasure of teaching in the classrooms and seeing how excited the kids are and he is excited to get the kids back in school for grades 7-12.

**Superintendent
Report:**

Dr. Stephens congratulated Stein on their award. It is a wonderful school where teachers and students are engaged. There is a level of caring there and he applauds their efforts. He also thanked the classified, teachers and admin for the smooth opening of schools. It felt good and they all did a great job.

Adjourn: 10:00

Clerk

Date