

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER ONE
OF TULSA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 3, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District Number One of Tulsa County, Oklahoma, was held on May 3, 2021, commencing at 6:33 p.m., in the Cheryl Selman room, ground floor, at the Charles C. Mason Education, 3027 S. New Haven Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma in addition to video conference. Notice of the meeting was given by service of written notice of the meeting to the office of the County Clerk of Tulsa County, Oklahoma, as required by Title 25, O.S., § 311(A)(5) and (A)(8), and by posting the agenda and recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools in prominent public view in the enclosed glass display case at the main door of the Charles C. Mason Education Service Center and at tulsaschools.org on April 30, 2021 at 6:15 p.m., pursuant to the provisions of Title 25, O.S., § 311(A)(9).

PRESENT: Judith Barba Perez
John Croisant
Jerry Griffin
Shawna Keller
Jennettie Marshall
Suzanne Schreiber
Stacey Woolley

ABSENT: None

OPENING EXERCISES

Board President Woolley called the meeting to order, roll called, and declared that a quorum of the board was present; therefore, the meeting was qualified to consider the agenda items.

The flag salute was led by the Edison High School's JROTC under the direction of Lieutenant Carmen Hill. The participating cadets were introduced by Board Member John Croisant.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Superintendent Gist stated the withdrawal of encumbrance item PO 2210671 to be brought back at a future meeting. She also stated a correction on item F.1. The rationale would be corrected to reflect former Board Member Ruth Ann Fate's years of service on the Board of Education to 24 years. Lastly, Dr. Gist withdrew item G.1 from the agenda.

Board Member Suzanne Schreiber made a motion to adopt the agenda with said changes, and Board Member Judith Barba Perez seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following vote: AYE: Jerry Griffin, Shawna Keller, John Croisant, Suzanne Schreiber, Judith Barba Perez, Jennettie Marshall, and Stacey Woolley; NAY: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS/RESOLUTIONS

Superintendent Deborah Gist introduced Dr. Abraham Kamara, science and career technology teacher at Memorial Middle School and Jaime Rush, student and Technology Student Association president at Memorial Middle School who presented on the STEM program.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Board Member Schreiber made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2021 regular meeting of the board and the April 22, 2021 special meeting of the board. The motion to approve was seconded by Ms. Shawna Keller. The motion passed by the following vote: AYE: Jennettie Marshall, Judith Barba Perez, Suzanne Schreiber, John Croisant, Shawna Keller, Jerry Griffin, and Stacey Woolley; NAY: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Ms. Suzanne Schreiber to approve the consent agenda, and the motion was seconded by Ms. Shawna Keller.

Dr. Gist and team answered questions of the board.

The motion passed by the following vote: AYE: Jerry Griffin (with exception of E.5, E.7, E.8) Shawna Keller, John Croisant, Suzanne Schreiber, Judith Barba Perez, Jennettie Marshall (with exception of E.7), and Stacey Woolley; NAY: Jerry Griffin on E.5, E. 7, E.8, Jennettie Marshall on E.7; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

ACTION AGENDA

F.1. RECOMMENDATION: Name the Hale High School auditorium "The Ruth Ann Fate Auditorium."

A motion was made by Board Member Jerry Griffin and the motion was seconded by Ms. Suzanne Schreiber.

Mr. John Huffines spoke on items F-1 and F-2.

Following board comments and the superintendent, President Woolley called for the vote and **the motion passed by the following vote:** AYE: Jennettie Marshall, Judith Barba Perez, Suzanne Schreiber, John Croisant, Shawna Keller, Jerry Griffin, and Stacey Woolley; NAY: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

Ms. Ruth Ann Fate shared her appreciation for the honor of naming Hale High School's auditorium after her. She also shared some of her rich history and that of her family with Tulsa Public Schools.

F.2. RECOMMENDATION: Restore the name of Ralph J Bunche to the site at 2703 N. Yorktown PL, Tulsa, OK 74110 and rename the Dual Language Academy as Felicitas Mendéz International School.

School leader and naming committee chair, Ms. Irma Sandoval shared an update regarding the naming committee meeting on April 23, 2021 to review the additional feedback from the community. She discussed what brought the committee to the unanimous decision to restore the name of Ralph J. Bunche to the site at 2703 N. Yorktown Pl, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74114 and additionally that the school currently housed in this building named Dual Language Academy be named Felicitas Mendéz International School.

- School leadership will meet with the operations team to outline signage to be installed and the location where the portrait and biography plaques of Ralph J. Bunch and Felicitas Mendéz will be installed to honor and memorialize each individual.
- A ribbon cutting ceremony with members of the community present will take place.
 - At the ribbon cutting Dr. Bunche's birthday (August 7) will be commemorated by sharing his legacy.
 - Bunche alumni will be invited to sing the Bunche song and current and former Dual Language Academy students will sing their school song, Que Bonito Es.
- Bunche alumni will be invited to meet to collaborate and plan ways to educate students, parents, and members of the community about the history and contributions of Ralph J. Bunche.
- Black history month will be celebrated and will include the legacy and contributions of Ralph J. Bunche and other civil rights leaders. This celebration will also include the birthday of Felicitas Mendéz (February 5) to honor her black heritage and her civil rights activism.

The Dual Language Academy school name proposal letter was submitted to the superintendent on April 27, 2021 and is attached below as Exhibit A.

Board Member Marshall spoke regarding the renaming meeting, process, and the proposal being brought to the Board for their consideration.

A motion was made by Ms. Jennettie Marshall and seconded by Ms. Shawna Keller to approve item F.2.

The following individuals spoke on item F.2:

Ms. Carmen Oros
Dr. Joyce Brown
Ms. Linda Thomas
Mr. Darryl Bright
Ms. Joyce Smith-Williams
Mr. Eric Jones
Ms. Yasha Hill
Ms. Veronica Diaz-Rodriguez

Following discussion with the Board and district staff **the motion passed by the following vote:** AYE: Jennettie Marshall, Judith Barba Perez, Suzanne Schreiber, John Croisant, Shawna Keller, and Stacey Woolley; NAY: Jerry Griffin; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

F.3. RECOMMENDATION: Approve the 2020-2021 Amended School Budget and Financing Plan prepared in accordance with Section 5-155 of the School District Budget Act. The amended budget presents to the Board the details of the estimated revenue and expenditures that total \$663,486,702 and \$629,565,443, respectively for all appropriated funds.

A motion was made by Ms. Shawna Keller. The motion was seconded by Ms. Suzanne Schreiber.

The motion passed by the following vote: AYE: Jerry Griffin, Shawna Keller, John, Croisant, Suzanne Schreiber, Judith Barba Perez, Jennettie Marshall, and Stacey Woolley; NAY: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

INFORMATION AGENDA

Superintendent Gist introduced the information agenda. As a reminder, item G.1 was withdrawn from the agenda.

STAFF REPORT

Jorge Robles, chief financial and operations office presented the regular health update on COVID-19.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

John Croisant reported that as representative of the Tulsa Public Schools on OSSBA he wished to share that there are many opportunities to get Board required professional development credits that can be obtained virtually either live or through recorded session.

He also encouraged those that want to attend the OSSBA conference to register soon for the in-person June 12 workshop at Tulsa Southern Hills Marriott that is for new and incumbent board members. He stated that those wishing to attend OSSBA conference getting tickets as soon as possible for the August 26-29, 2021 in Oklahoma City.

Board Member Croisant also shared that all four Tulsa Public Schools Middle School Debate teams that competed online against urban delegate leagues from Atlanta, Boston, Kansas City, Miami, New York City and Washington D.C. were among the final teams out of the original 16 in the national competition. Congratulations to Hayden Croisant and Jackson Kern who made it to the top eight!

Board President Woolley reminded the public that there is one more board community listening session on Tuesday, May 4 at 12:00 p.m. More information and the registration link can be found on the board web page at tulaschools.org.

Pastor Marshall spoke about her visit to McLain High School for the students, "Say yes to the prom dress!" In addition, she had the opportunity to participate in an educational forum with the Supporters of Families with Sickle Cell and with the Tulsa Health Department as well as a food giveaway event.

Board Member Schreiber highlighted Teacher Appreciation week and thanked all teachers for working so hard to making the most of this unusual year. She gave a special thanks to Board Member Keller who also serves many students as a teacher.

CITIZENS Comments

There were no citizens comments.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

Superintendent Gist announced that is Teacher Appreciation Week and spoke about how the district is celebrating. She also mentioned the Celebration of Service events for district retirees and honored those with 25-50 years of service; as well as the Teacher and Support Employee of the year events.

Additionally, May 1 is National Principal's Day, School Nutrition Employees and Physical Education wee, as well as the beginning of Asian American and Pacific Island Heritage Month.

Dr. Gist closed with reminding the board of the virtual parent information sessions for the 2021 Bond for Tulsa Public schools.

OTHER NONROUTINE ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

There were no non-routine items.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be on Monday, May 17, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned **at 9:15 p.m. on a motion made by Ms. Shawna Keller and seconded by Mr. John Croisant. The motion passed by the following vote: AYE:** Jennettie Marshall, Judith Barba Perez, Suzanne Schreiber, John Croisant, Shawna Keller, Jerry Griffin, and Stacey Woolley. **NAY:** None; **ABSTAIN:** None; **ABSENT:** None.

Let the record show the meeting was digitally recorded. The recording is on file as a matter of record.



Attorney for the School District



President, Board of Education



Superintendent of Schools



Clerk of the Board of Education

EXHIBIT A

April 27, 2021

Dear Dr. Gist,

We are proposing to restore the name of the building located at 2703 N. Yorktown Pl. to Ralph J. Bunche. Moreover, we would like to recommend that the school currently housed in this building, Dual Language Academy, be named Felicitas Mendez International School.

As a committee we unanimously agreed about the importance of recognizing these two incredibly deserving people and celebrating their contributions to education and to our history.

We want to honor the community and to continue working together. If approved by the board, we want to be purposeful in recognizing and honoring both Dr. Ralph J. Bunche and Mrs. Felicitas Mendez. We are proposing the following ways to memorialize both individuals and to bring the community together.

- We will have a ribbon cutting ceremony with members of the community present.
- At the ribbon cutting ceremony, we will invite Bunche alumni to sing the Bunche song and have current and former Dual Language Academy students sing our school song, *Que Bonito Es*.
- We will have dedicated spaces inside the school building to honor and memorialize each individual.
- We will educate our students, parents, and members of the community about the history and contribution of each individual.

We would like to hear your suggestions about additional ways we can commemorate both Ralph J. Bunche and Felicitas Mendez. I will be happy and honored to present at the next board meeting the ideas generated during our last committee meeting.

Respectfully,

Irma Sandoval

