

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER ONE
OF TULSA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 17, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District Number One of Tulsa County, Oklahoma, was held on May 17, 2021, commencing at 6:31 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 May 14, 2021 at 2:30 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 Booker T. Washington's JROTC under the direction of Colonel Willie Braggs. The participating cadets were introduced by Board Member Judith Barba Perez.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Board Member Shawna Keller made a motion to adopt the agenda and Board Member Suzanne Schreiber 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 Maricarmen Mitchell, community services manager with the Language and Cultural Services team to highlight and honor the 15 juniors and seniors to receive the Tomás Rivera Latinx Excellence in Education scholar awards. The ceremony was hosted by the Greater Tulsa Area Hispanic Affairs Commission at the Living Arts Tulsa.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Board Member Suzanne Schreiber made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2021 regular meeting of the board and the May 11 and May 12, 2021 special meetings 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. Shawna Keller to approve the consent agenda, and the motion was seconded by Ms. Suzanne Schreiber.

Board Member Marshall asked that her statements regarding The Opportunity Project be included within the minutes: "The recommendation was to The Opportunity Project and not to the Tulsa Community Foundation. However, on the encumbrances tonight we are paying someone other than The Opportunity Project. On the recommendation represented the reality of what the district was requesting. The Opportunity Project was made to appear as an entity or org qualified to receive funds. The recommendation did not identify The Opportunity Project as a fund, which excludes them from being qualified, or a qualified vendor for the award of a contract. The agenda and the minutes of the board are the official records of every meeting and every action taken by the board. The official minutes reflect that this board voted to award the contract for services to The Opportunity Project without mention of a connection to the Tulsa Community Foundation. This act in and within itself presents the appearance of lack of transparency, given the fact that we have two board members directly or indirectly through employment that are connected to the Tulsa Community Foundation; Growing Together and George Kaiser. Both Member Perez and Schreiber should have recused themselves from the

vote. If we are going to award a contract and pay out money to The Opportunity Project after talking with numerous accounting, people who are in accounting, and bookkeeping and organizational structure, and individuals well familiar with Robert's Rules of Order, that I know we sometimes go by and sometimes don't. What should have happened is that it should have been brought back before this Board and the recommendation should have been made in the name of the Tulsa Community Foundation, and then with it passing, encumbrances should have taken place. I submit that I do not believe that it is ethical or morally responsible to cut a check in the name of an organization that this Board has not approved to be a vendor, so we need to correct our error and not let it pass. A simple note on the encumbrance will not suffice."

Board President Woolley responded to the remarks by explaining that over the last six weeks, the board has discussed the fact that The Opportunity Project is part of the Tulsa Community Foundation. She agreed that the original agenda item could have been written more clearly, but stated there is appropriate documentation regarding the relationship of the organizations, that the relationship has been discussed in public meetings prior to the board's vote to contract for the services of The Opportunity Project, and that the board received information in writing on this topic as well. Board President Woolley stated her appreciation for Board Member Marshall raising her concerns and for her attention to detail.

Board Member Griffin stated his support and agreement with Pastor Marshall's recommendation to have the item regarding the engagement of The Opportunity Project/Tulsa Community Foundation come back before the board.

President Woolley responded that the board's approval of the encumbrance to pay Tulsa Community Foundation for its work through the Opportunity Project will formally document the relationship of the organizations and to whom payment is made.

Board Member Schreiber recalled that the first time the board heard from The Opportunity Project and became aware of its affiliation with Tulsa Community Foundation was last March. She explained that The Opportunity Project will be the team executing the work. She mentioned that the Tulsa Community Foundation is a fiduciary organization and that the Board had a detailed, in-depth discussion on the matter and received written information informing on this prior to the Board vote to receive the services of The Opportunity Project.

Board Member Schreiber moved to call the question.

Board Member Griffin stated that he requested a 501(C)3 or any document to show they are a legal organization.

Dr. Gist and team answered questions of the board.

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

Board Member Marshall stated her objection to two school board members, that she stated are directly connected to The Opportunity Project, taking part in the vote.

ACTION AGENDA

There were no action items on this agenda.

INFORMATION AGENDA

Superintendent Gist announced that the City of Learning is out, tulsacityoflearning.org, and that there is so much exciting work happening over the summer. She also expressed her appreciation for The Opportunity Project and the many dozens of community-based organizations working with The Opportunity Project to serve Tulsa families. Dr. Gist also assured the Board and the public that all the paperwork regarding The Opportunity Project is in order and that no Board member is voting if they should not be doing so.

Dr. Gist introduced the information agenda and the superintendent and district staff answered questions of the Board.

Mr. John Huffines spoke to items G.1, G.3, and G.6.

STAFF REPORT

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

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Board Member Barba Perez reported on attending Parent Power 2021 that is part of the National Parents Union. She was honored to hear Dr. Bernice A. King, the daughter of the late Martin Luther King, who spoke on the importance of parents getting involved in their child's education, not just in the classroom levels but other levels as well. Board Member Barba Perez encouraged district parents to get involved, and to reach out to the board if they have questions. She echoed Dr. King's words that the most important thing for positive change in education is for the adults to stay focused on the child. She also highlighted that May 17 is the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia and she urged all to remember that love does not hurt but hate does.

John Croisant stated that he had the privilege of attending the Superintendent's JROTC Review. He stated that it was an outstanding event and gave a shout out to all of the district's JROTC students. Also, on Friday he attended the Edison and Bishop Kelley Boy's State Championship game. The Edison boys were defeated, but he commented on the outstanding play and character of the students, staff and families in attendance.

Board President Woolley mentioned that May is better hearing and speech month. She encouraged folks to check their hearing as diligently as they check their eyes. She stated that loss of hearing does not have to be a part of life. She also mentioned that eating, thinking, and communicating are the most sacred skills to all humans and that speech pathologists treat all three of these. She thanked the district's speech pathologists for all they do to support families.

Additionally, she noted that the Board Clerk Sarah Bozone will record Pastor Marshall's explicit objections in the minutes with regard to The Tulsa Community Foundation encumbrance. She also stated that if she missed any board requests tonight each board member could send an email to her, and that she would be certain they are addressed.

CITIZENS Comments

There were no citizens comments.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

Superintendent Gist announced that Ms. Donna Ross as the 2021 Teacher of the Year and Ms. Heather Mackey as the 2021 Support Employee of the Year. She listed the teacher finalists as, Dennis Burns, Craig Hoxie, Jacqui Walker, and Joey Williams. The support employee finalists are: Rita Botello, Sandra Johnson, Kristin Peterman, and Vertula Rentie.

Dr. Gist highlighted the accomplishments of some of the district's Latinx scholars and the work of the district's student artists at the District Art Show.

She also mentioned that students from Central Middle and High School, Memorial Middle School, Thoreau Demonstration Academy, Monroe Demonstration Academy, Tulsa Legacy Charter School, KIPP Tulsa Middle School, Booker T. Washington High School, Hale High School, McLain High School, Memorial High School, and Rogers College High School were competing in the Black Wall Street Awareness Bowl.

Additionally, she shared that the district is partnering with the Greenwood Cultural Center for the Youth Entrepreneur Expo. This expo will give the district's student entrepreneurs the opportunity to sell their products to community members. She thanked Mr. Jamaal Dyer for his leadership and work on both events.

OTHER NONROUTINE ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

There were no non-routine items.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

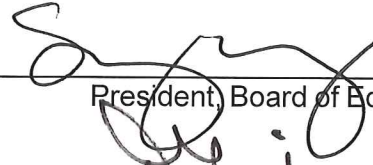
The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be on Monday, June 7, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned **at 7:32 p.m. on a motion made by Ms. Shawna Keller and seconded by Ms. Suzanne Schreiber. 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