

**Minutes of
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board
For Tracy Unified School District
Held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021**

- 6:00 PM:** 1-3. President Kaur called the meeting to order and adjourned to closed session.
- Roll Call:** 4. Board: S. Abercrombie, A. Alexander, N. Erskine, S. Kaur, L. Souza
Absent: A. Blanco, Z. Hoffert
Staff: B. Stephens, R. Pecot, T. Jalique, J. Stocking
Absent: B. Etcheverry
- 7:00 PM** 5. President Kaur 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 Approve Funding for Compensatory Education Services and Attorney Fee for Student Per Confidential Settlement Agreement
Action: **Vote:** Yes-5; No-0; Absent-2(Blanco, Hoffert)
- 6b** Report Out of Action Taken on Approve Attorney Fee Pursuant to Confidential Settlement Agreement for 2021-2022 School Year
Action: **Vote:** Yes-5; No-0; Absent-2(Blanco, Hoffert)
- 6c** Report Out of Action Taken on Reinstatements: AR21-22/#01, AR21-22/#02, AR21-22/#03
Action: **Vote:** Yes-5; No-0; Absent-2(Blanco, Hoffert)___
- 6d** Report Out of Action Taken on Finding of Facts: 21/22#01, 21/22#02, 21/22#03, 21/22#04
Action: **Vote:** Yes-5; No-0; Absent-2(Blanco, Hoffert)___
- 6e** Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Non-Paid Leave of Absence for Classified Employee #UCL-403, Pursuant to Article XXIII
Action: Approved. **Vote:** Yes-5; No-0; Absent-2(Blanco, Hoffert)
- 6f** Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Paid and Non-Paid Leave of Absence for Classified Employee #UCL-404, Pursuant to Article XXIII
Action: Approved. **Vote:** Yes-5; No-0; Absent-2(Blanco, Hoffert)
- 6g** Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Settlement Agreement With Classified Substitute Employee
Action: Approved. **Vote:** Yes-5; No-0; Absent-2(Blanco, Hoffert)
- Minutes:** 7. **Approve Regular Minutes of August 24, 2021**
Action: Abercrombie, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-5; No-0; Absent-2(Blanco, Hoffert)
- Visitors:** C. Munger, L. Mendez, M. Baumann, J. Quintana, B. Hoffert, J. Yasemsky, K. Jacobs, K. Jones, M. Stagnaro, E. Quintana, A. Brown, L. Hawkins, S. Dailey, N. Turpin, J. Nott.
- Student Rep Reports:** 8. None.

Recognition & Presentations:

9.1 Villalovoz Elementary School Presentation

Principal, Marji Baumann, presented a power point on Villalovoz Elementary School. The pandemic is continually changing, and they are guiding students to reach their highest potential. They are focusing on vulnerability, connection and compassion. Teachers have worked hard to get to know students and to understand how they are feeling. Students are getting to know each other by working together. Teachers work on 2nd Step lessons throughout the day to reinforce what is being taught. Students are honored by being “Kid of the Day” or “Star of the Week”. She thanked the board for providing counseling 5 days a week. They are averaging 3 referrals a week. Counselors are working on lessons to go into classrooms and talking about emotions, communication skills and choices. Another focus is STEM. Students are working on their sense making notebooks and critical thinking through STEM challenges. She also showed pictures of their notebooks and challenges.

9.2 North School Presentation

Principal, Jose Jimenez, and Assistant Principal, Susan Hawkins, presented a power point on North School. This year they are celebrating new beginnings. Students are back from a pandemic, they have AVID K-8 grades, a new campus and they are very excited about STEM, RRR, College and Career and many other opportunities. After the pandemic and modernization, they are happy to have their new campus. They are excited to be back on one campus. They outreach to the community by having back to school night, school site council, 2nd cup of coffee, email, phone calls, parent conferences and backpack give-away. They gave out over 600 backpacks to their community. Each morning they line up. There are many new procedures and routines. Students are learning all day long. They learn from each other and work in small intervention groups. In music class, students play outside and other passing by enjoying hearing the music. There are AVID electives for 6, 7, and 8th grades and AVID goals for Kinder through 8th grade. Students do a lot of research learning about college and career. The 8th grade students teach the younger students. Counseling services includes Mr. Jessie, who is a part time school counselor, Valley Community Counseling is on their campus 4 days a week and Sow-A-Seed is on their campus 4 days a week. They have many activities during recess and lunch. They thanked the Tracy community for supporting the bond that enabled them to modernize their campus. Mr. Jimenez then read student letters to the board thanking them.

Information & Discussion Items:

10.1 Administrative & Business Services: None.

10.2 Educational Services:

10.2.1 Receive Report on COVID 19 Updates

Director of Curriculum & Accountability, Dr. Zachary Boswell, presented a power point that showed our county's COVID numbers. We are a little higher than California overall. TUSD now has a COVID hotline for families that goes directly to our health services offices. By October 15th, we will implement weekly testing of unvaccinated staff. We plan on starting this during the week of September 27th. We have a team at the district office who are verifying vaccination status of all employees. A survey went out and about 1300 staff members have responded. We still have about 800 that need to respond, which includes staff, coaches and substitutes. We are working with a company called Crush the Curve that has the self-administered test. We overnight it to a lab in Seattle and we have been getting results in about 36 hours. They also provide a dashboard which allows us to see how many tests were administered and if they were negative or positive. Employees will get an email with results. It will also list school sites. We will be ready to roll out the testing during the last week of September.

Hearing of Delegations

11. Lisa Mendez is an ELD support teacher who expressed her dismay at the vote to cut the EL training at the last meeting. She has learned many strategies through this training. This will be evident in our LCAP results in the future. She urged the board to reinstate this funding. She also wanted to give an update on the sub shortage at Monte Vista. Some vacancies have been filled. Many teachers are still covering. They do not see an end in sight. She wants appropriate compensation to educators to help bring consistency to students and to consider giving 120% contracts to teachers to make a better experience for our students.

Parents, Stan & Nicole thanked Mr. Abercrombie and Ms. Souza for what they have done. They have been dealing with an issue at West High regarding counseling. He doesn't believe that the school district is responsible for raising children, however, their oldest daughter has been struggling with mental health. The school offered her some sessions. He said it as made it worse. She has been through many counselors. The trauma that she has experience in childhood is not something that she wants to keep going through. It seemed that each counseling didn't know her story or have notes on her. One who she saw before acted like she never met her or knew anything about her. He asked that we look into the consistency of the counselors.

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: Abercrombie, Souza. #13.3.2 as amended.

Vote: Yes-5; No-0; Absent-2(Blanco, Hoffert)

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 2021/22 School Year

13.2 Educational Services:

- 13.2.1 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with Mira Via LLC to Provide Professional Development to Teacher-Leaders for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 School Years
- 13.2.2 Approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between Tracy Unified School District (TUSD) and the San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) to Provide Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and Co-Teaching Professional Development and Coaching for the 2021-2022 School Year
- 13.2.3 Ratify Contract for Services with KidzJet, Inc. for Transportation Services for Special Education Students for the 2021-2022 School Year
- 13.2.4 Approve Agreement with the Child Abuse Prevention Council of San Joaquin (CAPC) to Provide Infant and Child Care Services on the Stein/Duncan Russell Campus for the 2021-2022 School Year
- 13.2.5 Approve Agreement for Contract Services for SJCOE Language & Literacy Department to provide 6 days of Professional Development on ELA/ELD Framework and ELD Standards at South/West Park Elementary
- 13.2.6 Approve Revised School Site Plan and Budget for South/West Park School for the Remainder of the 2021-2022 School Year (Separate Cover Item)
- 13.2.7 Approve Purchase for Scholastic Magazines for Williams Middle School to provide supplemental resources for Math, Science and ELA/ELD for the 2021-2022 School Year

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 a Variable Term Waiver for Multiple Subject Teacher
- 13.3.4 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with John Ford and Associates

Action Items:

14.1 Administrative & Business Services:

- 14.1.1 Approve the Unaudited Statement of Receipts and Expenditures for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year (Separate Cover Item)
Dr. Rob Pecot, Associate Superintendent for Business Services, presented a power point reviewing the unaudited actuals. There is a large balance in restricted funds which is carryover from last year. The restricted money is ESSER money that was paid to us at end of June but is budgeted for this year's expenses. The unrestricted money balance is because school was not in person, we didn't spend as much on supplies, services, counseling, food services shortfall, etc. He explained 2 different scenarios. Our reserves have 24% and 30% if you count the Fund 17. We have no intention of adding the unrestricted balance to our

reserves. This is a very fluid year for our budget. We are required to start testing staff. We have a vendor in place and if we used them for this school year, that cost would be between \$3 and \$5 million dollars. Dr. Boswell is researching other options and will try multiple agencies. We do not know yet about student testing and what that cost will be. If the substitute increase passes tonight, that costs will come out of there. He thanked TEA and CSEA who have been easy to work with during these times. Classroom supplies would also come out of there. We will be giving an additional \$500 for each teacher towards supplies. This list will consistently change over the year.

Action: Abercrombie, Souza. **Vote:** Yes-5; No-0; Absent-1(Blanco, Hoffert)

14.1.2 Adopt Resolution #21-02, Recertifying the Appropriation “Gann” Limits for the 2020/21 School Year for Tracy Joint Unified School District

Action: Abercrombie, Souza. **Vote:** Yes-5; No-0; Absent-2(Blanco, Hoffert)

14.1.3 Consider Claim No. 596032

Action: Claim Rejected. Abercrombie, Alexander.

Vote: Yes-5; No-0; Absent-2(Blanco, Hoffert)

14.2 Educational Services: None.

14.2.1 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services and Memorandum of Understanding with San Joaquin County Office of Education, Language and Literacy Department to Provide ELL/ELD Trainings to TUSD Teachers and Staff for the 2021-2022 School Year

Speaker: Chris Munger, TEA President, urges the board to vote in favor of 14.2.1 and 14.3.1. These items are vital to our students and district. He knows first-hand the value of this training would offer. These strategies he has brought back to his classroom. These directly benefit students. He also commented that the sub shortage is a crisis and receives multiple emails daily regarding the stress of teachers covering classes on their prep. This directly affects student learning. Approving this is a step in the right direction.

Action: Abercrombie, Souza. **Vote:** Yes-5; No-0; Absent-2(Blanco, Hoffert)

14.3 Human Resources:

14.3.1 Approve Temporary Increase to Certificated Substitute Rates of Pay for the 2021-2022 School Year

Action: Abercrombie, Erskine. **Vote:** Yes-5; No-0; Absent-2(Blanco, Hoffert)

Board Reports:

Trustee Souza she received concerns about the COVID letters going out to families. There were 2 different letters that confused some. She met with Dr. Boswell to help clarify. She thanked him and our nurses for working on this. Parks and Rec is proposing a recreation center at the park next to Villalovoz. City council approved having formal talks with TUSD. She's happy that the EL training agenda item has been passed. She also thanked the speakers. She is happy to have more counselors on our school sites and hopes that it continues each year and is looking forward to the presentation. She is also happy that the increase for our substitute pay was approved. Trustee Erskine thanked everyone for attending and speaking. She is glad that we have a new director to process our COVID

information and testing. She visited Monte Vista and noticed their collaboration and engagement with each other. We are here because of the students. She believes the district does their best and works hard to accomplish tasks. She spoke of Michael Phelps and his struggle with mental health. You cannot put mental health on a time out. She thinks HR should take steps to curb lawsuits because she thinks we should craft prompts and appropriate responses to employee complaints. She thanked parents and students and they are the reason they are here. Trustee Alexander attended the art celebration and it was very successful. He also thanked North School for their presentation. It was special to get a copy of the student letters thanking the board for their new school. Trustee Abercrombie is at the school sites often and it is vital for the board and district to see how our employees are doing. It's obvious that this year is more stressful than last year. Mr. Stagnaro did a great job the other day while covering a 5th grade class and continuing to run the school. We hope to ease the burden of our staff as much as possible. Trustee Kaur thanked everyone for their presentations tonight and it is her son's first birthday. She hopes that the sub increase that was approved tonight will help provide more subs. We understand your pain and realize how much teachers are doing. We are trying to make it better. Regarding school supplies, there was concerns that some were buying supplies themselves and are glad that we are increasing the amount allotted for school supplies to classrooms.

**Superintendent
Report:**

Dr. Stephens thanked Dr. Boswell for stepping in an overseeing our COVID process. It helps to simply what we need to do and will be much better. This has been by far a much tougher year than last year. He knows everyone feels it. We need to take it one day at a time and we will get through it.

Adjourn: 8:12 p.m.

Clerk

Date