

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
February 8, 2022
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Meeting Held on Zoom Platform

ADOPTED MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING: The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on the date and place mentioned above.

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Public Comment on Closed Session Topics:
The Board did not receive any public comments related to this agenda.

2. Adjourn to Closed Session - 5:30 PM
Board of Education Members present: Board President Jennifer Williams, Board Vice President Heather Little, Board Clerk Megan Sweet, Board Trustee Ardella Dailey, and Board Trustee Gary K. Lym.

AUSD staff members present: Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, Timothy Erwin; Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Shariq Khan; Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, Kirsten Zazo; Senior Director of Equity and African American/Multicultural Achievement, Shamar Edwards; Senior Manager of Community Affairs, Susan Davis

3. Reconvene to Public Session - 6:30 PM - Via Zoom Video Conference

4. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance - Board of Education President Jennifer Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance

5. Introduction of Board Members and Staff Via Video Conference:
Board of Education Members present: Board President Jennifer Williams, Board Vice President Heather Little, Board Clerk Megan Sweet, Board Trustee Ardella Dailey, and Board Trustee Gary K. Lym.

Student Board Members present: Henry Mills, Alameda High School, Brian Lin, Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School, and Student Board Member William Lau, ASTI.

AUSD staff members present: Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, Timothy Erwin; Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Shariq Khan; Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, Kirsten Zazo; Senior Director of Equity and African American/Multicultural Achievement, Shamar Edwards; Senior Manager of Community Affairs, Susan Davis and Senior Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Kerri Lonergan.

6. Closed Session Action Report:
There was no action taken during Closed Session.

B. MODIFICATION(S) OF THE AGENDA:

There were no modifications to the agenda.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the January 25th Regular Board Meeting were submitted for approval.

Motion to adopt the Minutes from the January 25, 2022 Board of Education Meeting.

MOTION: Member Sweet

SECONDED: Member Dailey

ROLL CALL VOTE

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Student Board Members Lin and Mills

NOES:

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Members Williams, Little, Sweet, Dailey, and Lym

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION APPROVED

D. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Celebrating Black History Month During the Season for Non-Violence
A Season for Nonviolence is inspired by the memorial anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This international event starts January 30 and ends April 4 and thus honors their vision for an empowered, non-violent world.

In February, as a way to celebrate and honor Black History Month, the Season for Non-Violence Readings will feature quotes from notable African-American men and women who have made significant contributions to our country and the world. Black History Month honors the African American community's rich range of experiences, struggles, and achievements throughout history and into the modern-day.

Wood Middle School student Nyah Williams-Brown read the Season for Nonviolence explanation and the following quote from John Lewis:

Commitment

“Before we went on any protest, whether it was sit-ins or the freedom rides or any march, we prepared ourselves, and we were disciplined. We were committed to the way of peace - the way of non-violence - the way of love - the way of life as the way of living.”

Board President Jennifer Williams thanked Ms. Williams-Brown for volunteering to read tonight's agenda item. Board President Williams told Ms. Williams-Brown she did a beautiful job.

2. Public Comments:

Caroline Brossard, Alameda Mosaic: Ms. Brossard wished the audience a Happy New Year and a Happy Black History Month. Ms. Brossard invited the community to an event at Maya Lin, called AfroFuturizm. Ms. Brossard gave the audience information on how to contact members of Alameda Mosaic.

Jennifer Rakowski, Alameda community member: Ms. Rakowski stated San Francisco Unified honors Lunar New Year as a holiday on their school year calendar as a way to honor the large Asian population in San Francisco. Ms. Rakowski asked the Board to consider making Lunar New Year a holiday in AUSD.

2. Written Correspondence:

The Board received 1 email regarding General Business Item Number 1:
Update on Homework/Makeup Work Administrative Regulation (AR 6154).

The Board also received 2 emails on General Business Item Number 2:
Update on Schools and COVID-19 Pandemic: Cases and Testing Procedures.

3. Report from Employee Organizations:

Cindy Zecher, California School Employees Association Chapter 27 (CSEA 27): Ms. Zecher complimented Nyah Williams-Brown for the Black History Month reading she did earlier in the meeting. Ms. Zecher stated the school sites are still very busy in the school offices, and she asked parents and guardians to fill out the absence form out any time their child is sick or away from school. Ms. Zecher thanked the Human Resources team for their work.

Charlie Satterfield, Alameda Education Association (AEA): Mr. Satterfield wished the audience a Happy Lunar New Year and a Happy Black History Month. Mr. Satterfield stated his membership was very happy to hear about the supplemental paid family leave passed by the Governor. Mr. Satterfield thanked the district for working with him on the MOU that helps govern work during the pandemic.

4. PTA Council Report:

Gretchen Hoff Varner, PTA Council Representative: Ms. Hoff Varner wished the audience a Happy Lunar New Year and a Happy Black History Month. Ms. Hoff Varner announced different events happening at school sites to honor Black History Month. The highlight of the events is the Otis Elementary Read-A-Thon. Information about the Otis Read-A-Thon is on the Otis Elementary website. Ms. Hoff Varner thanked District Office staff for working around the clock to keep schools running during the pandemic. Ms. Hoff Varner also announced PTA Council will be looking for new officers in the very near future.

5. Board Members' Report:

Board Vice President Heather Little: Member Little wished the audience a Happy Lunar New Year and a Happy Black History Month. Member Little recognized Lorrie Murray for getting a recent award for Bay Area Music Project. Member Little is excited to visit the program on February 16th. Member Little acknowledged Board President Williams and Senior Manager of Community Affairs, Susan Davis, for the recent vaccination clinic held in Alameda.

Board Clerk Megan Sweet: Member Sweet wished the audience a Happy Lunar New Year and a Happy Black History Month. Member Sweet stated she was very excited as our community works towards the inclusion of people from diverse backgrounds.

Board Trustee Ardella Dailey: Member Dailey stated she is happy to see we are having real celebrations for Lunar New Year and Black History Month.

Board Trustee Gary K. Lym: Member Lym wished the audience a Happy Lunar New Year and a Happy Black History Month. Member Lym brought attention to the recent march in honor of an Asian senior citizen who died in San Francisco as a result of a hate crime. Member Lym stated there has been a 500% increase in incidents of violence towards the Asian community. Member Lym announced there has also been 10,000 incidents of hate crime or violence between March 2020 and September 2021. Member Lym reminded the community to stay safe and to be vigilant.

Board President Jennifer Williams: Board President Williams wished the audience a Happy Lunar New Year and a Happy Black History Month. President Williams thanked Nyah Williams-Brown for coming to the Board meeting tonight and reading the quote from John Lewis. President Williams stated there is a lot to reflect on in the quote and reading. President Williams thanked Susan Davis for the city-sponsored booster clinic. President Williams stated it was heart-warming to see whole families coming in for their booster shot. President Williams stated AUSD is putting on a vaccination clinic on February 16th and March 9th from 1:30pm – 5pm at Ruby Bridges Elementary. President Williams invited everyone in the community to come.

6. Student Board Members' Report:

Student Board Member Brian Lin, Encinal Jr. and Sr. High School: Student Board Member Lin wished the audience a Happy Lunar New Year and a Happy Black History Month. Student Board Member Lin stated there will be various activities at Encinal that will celebrate African Americans who have contributed to the history of the United States. Member Lin stated the Black Student Union hosted a fashion show at the school Member Lin stated this month is also Teen Dating Violence month, and Encinal will have activities to help students acknowledge this time.

Student Board Member Henry Mills, Alameda High School: wished the audience a Happy Lunar New Year and a Happy Black History Month.

Student Board Member William Lau, ASTI: Student Board Member Lau wished the audience a Happy Lunar New Year and a Happy Black History Month.

7. Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi: Superintendent Scuderi wished the audience a Happy Lunar New Year and a Happy Black History Month. Superintendent Scuderi stated we will have an overview of how our students are studying and learning about Black History Month during a presentation from our Office of Equity during our Board meeting on February 17th. Superintendent Scuderi gave a history of how Black History Month started.

8. Student Advisory Report:

Student Board Member Henry Mills: Student Board Member Mills stated the group will be meeting in February 2022.

E. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Certificated Personnel Actions
2. Classified Personnel Actions
3. Approval and Acceptance of Donations
4. Approval of Bill Warrants and Payroll Registers
5. Approval of Measure I Contracts (Standing Item)
6. Approval of Special Education Local Plan Area Master Contracts
7. Proclamation: Presidents' Day - February 21, 2022
8. Proclamation: Susan B. Anthony Day - February 15, 2022
9. Ratification of Contracts Executed Pursuant to Board Policy 3300
10. Resolution No. 2021-2022.36 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases
11. Resolution No. 2021-2022.37 Proclaiming a Local Emergency Ratifying the Proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Newsom Dated March 4, 2020 and Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for the Period February 8, 2022 Through March 8, 2022
12. Resolution No. 2021-2022.38 Criteria to Determine the Order of Layoff Among Certificated Employees with the Same First Date of Paid Service
13. Resolution No. 2021-2022.39 Authorization to Dispose of Surplus Property

Motion to adopt the Consent Calendar.

MOTION: Member Little

SECONDED: Member Lym

ROLL CALL VOTE

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Student Board Members Lin and Mills

NOES:

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Members Williams, Little, Sweet, Dailey, and Lym

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION APPROVED

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Update on Homework/Makeup Work Administrative Regulation (AR 6154

Kirsten Zazo, AUSD’s Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services gave the Board and public information on how AUSD’s revision of its Homework Policies came to be. The Homework Workgroup was convened in Spring 2017 following stakeholder interest in reviewing district policies, particularly with regard to quantity of total homework and consistency across classrooms and school sites. After engaging stakeholders, reviewing research, and reviewing model policies, the workgroup developed a draft policy revision that was presented to the Board in June 2018.

This policy was made available in 2018-19 for additional stakeholder input. Following input and further workgroup discussion, the draft was revised substantially. Reports to the Board were made throughout the process, with the workgroup’s recommendations for revisions to Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6154 (Homework/Makeup Work) and establishment of an additional exhibit (E6154) being brought to the Board for approval on June 26, 2019.

The proposed revisions would maintain the current overall structure of the policy with established parameters guiding the development of site-specific homework policies. The proposed exhibit would provide a template for sites to reference in their individual processes. The approved homework policies were piloted in 2019-20 with a plan to report and recommend next steps to the Board in the Spring of 2020. Full implementation of the pilot was interrupted due to schools moving into remote/distance learning in March 2020. AUSD's homework/makeup work minutes were also adjusted during this interim.

Board President Jennifer Williams thanked Ms. Zazo for her work on the Homework policies and for her presentation tonight.

Public Comments:

Caroline Brossard, Alameda Mosaic: Ms. Brossard asked about how the Homework Policy impacts students with IEPs or students who have 504 plans.

President Williams asked Ms. Zazo to address how the Homework Policy impacts students with IEPs and 504 plans. Ms. Zazo stated there is language in the policy that says any accommodations in an IEP takes precedence over anything outlined in the Homework Policy.

Board members also asked Ms. Zazo to clarify that AP classes do not align to the Homework Policy due to these classes being college level classes that are not required of students.

2. Update on Schools and COVID-19 Pandemic: Cases and Testing Procedures
Superintendent Scuderi gave the Board and community an update on COVID case numbers within AUSD. As AUSD continues to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic locally and globally, AUSD has had to adjust to increasing case numbers that are impacting students and staff.

Superintendent Scuderi shared the following with the Board:

- AUSD’s commitment to keeping our schools open. With media outlets packed with news about the Omicron variant of COVID-19, we want to address some of the questions and concerns related to school that are no doubt present, in varying degrees, across Alameda.
- Information on steps we have taken and will continue to take to keep students and staff safe.

Superintendent Scuderi reviewed some scenarios we should all be mindful of as we work through the winter together.

Public Comments:

Francis McIlveen, AUSD parent: Mr. McIlveen asked the Board to remove the requirements for outdoor masking. Mr. McIlveen stated he would like indoor masking lifted as well. Mr. McIlveen stated the masking policies are creating more harm than good.

3. Draft Resolution of the Board of Education of Alameda Unified School District Ordering an Election, and Establishing Specifications of the Election Order

David Casnocha, Attorney at Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth, the District's Bond counsel presented the draft resolution for discussion and direction.

The resolution language also includes Exhibit B, which contains a Project List that details the types of projects to be funded in this measure. The resolution states the bond amount would be \$298,000,000, and only projects identified in Exhibit B may be paid for with such funds.

Attached to this item is Option #3, as approved by the Board at their January 25, 2022 meeting as an update to the Facilities Master Plan.

This item will come back to the Board for action at its February 17th Board meeting.

Student Board Member William Lau left the meeting at 8:21pm

4. Financial Analysis and Tax Rate Statement - Facilities Bond 2022
Shariq Khan, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services gave the Board and audience information on the Financial Analysis and Tax Rate for the proposed

Facilities Bond Measure, which if approved, would be on the ballot in June 2022. This agenda item was discussed at the Board's January 25th meeting and is coming back for more feedback and to answer any additional questions Board members may have tonight.

Vincent McCarley from Backstrom McCarley Berry was on the Zoom in order to be able to provide any additional analysis the Board needed.

5. Presentation of Academy of Alameda's Materials Revision Review Request and AUSD's Review Process and Criteria

On January 25, the Academy of Alameda submitted a request for Material Revision to the Alameda Unified School District's (AUSD) Board of Education.

Matt Huxley, the Executive Director for the Academy of Alameda explained the current structure of his organization. The Academy currently operates two charter schools; The Academy of Alameda Middle School and The Academy of Alameda Elementary School. The Academy of Alameda intends to merge the two charter schools into a single charter school named The Academy of Alameda that will serve students in grades K-8 beginning the 2022-23 school year, and grades TK-8 beginning the 2023-24 school year.

Mr. Huxley introduced Leah Rubin, the principal of AOA's elementary school and Miranda Thompson, the principal of AOA's middle school. Together the team presented their plan to combine the two schools into one to the Board of Education. Kirsten Zazo, AUSD's Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, gave the Board information on of AUSD's review process and criteria.

On March 8, 2022, AUSD staff will bring back to the Board of Education their findings from the conducted review. Upon arriving at a satisfactory outcome, staff will seek approval from the Board of Education on March 22, 2022.

6. Update on Strategic Plan Components: Review of Strategic Goal #1: "Refining and Clarifying Our Foundational Program"

Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi provided an update on the work of the Strategic Plan Working Group. As students returned to in-person learning last year, the Superintendent and his team picked back up on the important work of a Strategic Plan and formed AUSD's Strategic Planning Workgroup. This group includes the following team members:

- Board Member Megan Sweet, Ed.D.
- Board Member Ardella Dailey, Ed.D.
- Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi
- Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services Kirsten Zazo
- Senior Manager of Data, Assessment, and Research Lindsey Jenkins-Stark

- Senior Director of Equity, African-American and Multi-Ethnic Student Achievement Shamar Edwards
- Senior Director of Special Education Randhir Bains, Ed.D.
- Director of Secondary Vernon Walton
- Director of Elementary Yvonne Wright
- Coordinator of Language and Literacy Nancy Lai

The group has been working to set universal goals pursued by targeted processes to achieve those goals. Targeted universalism is an approach that supports the needs of the particular while reminding us that we are all part of the same social fabric.

In February 2020, the Board approved AUSD’s Graduate profile, which consists of four goals for students as they exit AUSD’s schools and prepare for life beyond our K-12 program:

- a. I Am College and Career & Life Ready
- b. I Seek Opportunities and Challenges
- c. I Know Myself and Work Effectively with Others
- d. I Build Community Through Understanding and Service

Work on the District’s Strategic Plan was to begin the following month, March 2020. Instead, school districts across the country had to prepare for what has turned out to be an almost 2-year period of uncertainty due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic.

Superintendent Scuderi focused tonight’s presentation on Draft Goal Number 1: "Refining and Clarifying Our Foundational Program." This goal will be discussed with AUSD staff and the wider community in the coming months before coming back to the Board for further discussion and approval.

G. **ADJOURNMENT** – Board President Jennifer Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:44pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Kerri Lonergan
 Senior Executive Assistant
 Alameda Unified School District