

San Mateo-Foster City School District Minutes

CLOSED SESSION/REGULAR MEETING~BOARD OF TRUSTEES

September 09, 2021, 6:30 PM

Closed Session Begins at 5:30 pm | Regular Meeting Begins at 6:30 pm

In Person:

1170 Chess Drive, Foster City, CA 94404

(Maximum capacity at this time for in-person attendance by members of the public is 50)

Via Zoom

Announcement of Closed Session: 5:30 pm

<https://smfcsd-net.zoom.us/j/85743119258> - Zoom ID: 857-4311-9258

Regular Board Meeting - 6:30 pm

<https://smfcsd-net.zoom.us/j/84183058260> - Zoom ID: 841-8305-8260

iPhone one-tap US:+16699009128,,84183058260# or +13462487799,

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 P.M.

2. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

2.1. GOVT. CODE 54957 - Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

2.2. GOVT. CODE 54957 - Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release: District Office Reorganization

2.3. Conference with Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation (Government Code 54956.9). Student v. San Mateo-Foster City School District for the following four cases: OAH Case #2020110586;

Case #LRFR320210412;

OAH Case #2021060663; and

Case #LRF320210802.

2.4. Review of Non-Public School/Non-Public Agency ratification ESY contract(s) for the 2021-2022 school year.

2.5. Review Non-Public School/Non-Public Agency contract(s) for the 2021-2022 school year. If these discussions are not completed before 6:30 p.m., the Closed Session will continue following the regular meeting.

3. RECONVENE TO REGULAR MEETING

3.1. Report out of Closed Session

None.

3.2. Flag Salute

The Flag Salute was led by Trustee Kenneth Chin.

3.3. Roll Call

All Board Members were present:

Kenneth Chin

Noelia Corzo

Alison Proctor

Lisa Warren
Shara Watkins

3.4. Approval of Agenda: September 9, 2021 (v)

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Shara Watkins and a second by Noelia Corzo.

Yes **Kenneth Chin**
Yes **Noelia Corzo**
Yes **Alison Proctor**
Yes **Lisa Warren**
Yes **Shara Watkins**

4. STATEMENTS

4.1. Public Statements Related to Non-agenda Topics:

Drew inquired about how families are notified when Board Meetings are happening

Fernando, substitute teacher for the San Mateo – Foster City School District, expressed concerns about the raise in COVID cases. Suggests to reinstating the Distance Learning option for the winter season.

Rena enquired about why our District is doing pool testing rather than individual testing.

4.2. Public Statements Related to Agenda Items: Persons will be called on at the appropriate time

4.3. Foundation/Committee Reports

Trustee Warren reported that SEDAC had a meeting on August 31. Everyone was introduced as well as getting acquainted to a new year and topics that would be interesting for parents in special education

Trustee Corzo reported that the Sanctuary Task Force is advocating for the needs of the students and families in our district.

4.4. SMETA/CSEA/SMEAA Updates

Alicia Aragon, CSEA Chapter 11 Representative, held a special meeting for tentative agreement for the contract and it passed with 100% of the members voting yes. She also indicated that she participated in the Strategic Planning meeting today and wanted to thanked superintendent for the opportunity to include CSEA members.

Cristina Haley, Principal at San Mateo Park School, indicated that being back on campus is an absolute dream come true and they have been COVID free for 3 weeks. Also gave an update of San Mateo Park School projects and trainings.

Julie MacArthur, reported that she is pleased about our Independent Study program and that we were able to work out what seems to be a solid plan for students when they go out due to COVID related illnesses. Indicated that she was very excited that she participated in the Strategic Planning meeting. She also congratulated Dennis Hill on his new position of Assistant Superintendent of Student Services.

4.5. Announcements

Trustee Corzo wanted to recognize the Labor Day holiday by giving a shout out to unions and the progress that they had for working families.

Trustee Proctor wanted to remind everyone about the COVID testing at the school sites and to check out the dates on the District website.

4.6. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Ochoa started by addressing a couple of the questions that came up earlier and apologized for having the doors lock a few minutes ago. He also informed that we would be looking at how we message our school board meetings to the community. Superintendent Ochoa also stated that COVID pool testing is a way to scan thousands of students every week and that the intent is to identify asymptomatic possible positive individuals and then come back and retest those individuals. Also gave information from the state of California as a requirement to implement independent study and not to implement distance learning

5. PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA (v)

Trustee Warren indicated that she doesn't want to pull or discuss an item but wanted to highlight the fact that we have special education settlements for the month of September totaling \$238,800.

Items 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.1.4 and 5.1.5 were removed from the Consent Agenda to allow Board comments.

The consent agenda was approved by the Board with the exception of under the 5.1

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Noelia Corzo and a second by Shara Watkins.

Yes Kenneth Chin
Yes Noelia Corzo
Yes Alison Proctor
Yes Lisa Warren
Yes Shara Watkins

5.1. SUPERINTENDENT SERVICES/BOARD

5.1.1. Ratification of 2021 2022 ESY Non Public Agency (NPA) and Non Public School (NPS) Contracts

The following community members made public comments:

Randi Paynter

Board Comments:

Trustees Warren and Trustee Proctor asked clarifying questions and provided their comments. They would like to see a total of how much we are expending in these outside companies.

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Noelia Corzo and a second by Shara Watkins.

Yes Kenneth Chin
Yes Noelia Corzo
Yes Alison Proctor
Yes Lisa Warren
Yes Shara Watkins

5.1.2. Approval of 2021-2022 Non Public School (NPS) Contracts

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Shara Watkins.

Yes Kenneth Chin
Yes Noelia Corzo
Yes Alison Proctor
Yes Lisa Warren
Yes Shara Watkins

5.1.3. Approval of 2021-2022 Non Public Agency (NPA) Contracts

The following community members made public comments:

Amy Fickenscher
Randi Paynter

Board Comments:

Trustees Warren and Trustee Watkins asked clarifying questions and provided their comments. They requested that the District provide more details.

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Shara Watkins and a second by Noelia Corzo.

Yes Kenneth Chin
Yes Noelia Corzo
Yes Alison Proctor
Yes Lisa Warren
Yes Shara Watkins

5.1.4. Approval of three Special Education Settlement Agreements

The following community members made public comments:

Randi Paynter requested a cumulative summary of how much the District has paid.

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Shara Watkins.

Yes Kenneth Chin
Yes Noelia Corzo
Yes Alison Proctor
Yes Lisa Warren
Yes Shara Watkins

5.1.5. Approval of one Special Education Settlement Agreement

The following community members made public comments:

Randi Paynter

Board Comments:

Trustee Warren requested to see a multiyear summary of how much we spent in settlements when we get an update in October.

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Shara Watkins and a second by Alison Proctor.

Yes Kenneth Chin
Yes Noelia Corzo
Yes Alison Proctor
Yes Lisa Warren
Yes Shara Watkins

5.2. BUSINESS/FINANCE

5.2.1. Abbott New Gymnasium/Classrooms Project - Change Order No.8 Rodan Builders Inc.

5.2.2. Beach Park Turf Site Work Project- Colony Landscape Maintenance Change Order No.1

5.2.3. Borel Middle School - Reilly Construction, Inc. - Existing Weight Room - Change Order #1

5.2.4. George Hall - Multipurpose Building - HMC Architects Amendment No.4

5.2.5. Resolution No. 05/21-22 for Education Protection Act (EPA) Funds

5.2.6. Resolution No. 06/21-22 - Adoption of Gann Limit for 2020-2021

5.2.7. Contract with Lozano Smith

5.2.8. Approval of Resolution No. 07/21-22 - Disposal of Equipment

5.2.9. Contracts & Consultants \$45,000 and Under

5.2.10. Listing of Payments to Meet District Expenditures

5.3. HUMAN RESOURCES

5.3.1. Assignments Noted for Individuals Listed

5.3.2. Approval of Resignations, Releases, and/or Retirees

6. SUPERINTENDENT SERVICES/BOARD

6.1. Proposal for Establishing Monthly Board & Community Workshops

Superintendent Ochoa – gave a presentation with the intent to achieve more community engagement from a broader group of stakeholders. Also commented that we are a large district with 21 schools and over 11,000 students. These board meeting are design to give parents a chance to be heard more in a conversational way.

Clarifying Questions from the Board:

Trustee Corzo would like to know if the agenda would be community topics or Board Member topics.

Superintended Ochoa responded that it would be both and that two board members would attend at a time rather than all 5 members.

Trustee Chin commented that the community would like some sort of engagement and suggested that they should be done in complexes which are divided by middle school groups and their feeder elementary schools.

Trustee Proctor asked how we would report back.

Superintendent responded that we could use School Board meetings to report.

Public Comment:

Randi Paynter agreed that it is a great idea.

Marcella McCollum expressed gratitude to a two way conversation.

Stephen said that it is a phenomenal idea. Suggested to have the events focused on other languages.

Eric Park indicated that this is fantastic and amazing.

Board Comments:

Trustee Watkins expressed that it is a great idea in communication effort. Suggested to offer the LCAP engagement and a survey to parents of availability to get a sense from the community. Recommended to having them outdoor rather than indoors.

Trustee Proctor indicated that she is very excited about this. She also expressed that she is glad to participate to provide more ways to engage.

Noelia Corzo stated that she is very excited about it and to have an open conversation with the community. Also, to have the opportunity to celebrate and connect with families. Happy to do some in Spanish.

Trustee Warren mentioned that she would love to support the ideal and having a two way conversation.

Trustee Chin agrees with the idea.

Superintendent Ochoa – responded that we have a large group of families that we could send a survey.

6.2. SMFCSD Air Quality Preparation and Response

Superintendent Ochoa presented a look at air quality that shows state quality activity recommendations based on 5 different levels. San Mateo County are grouped into a system where the air quality is reported by color levels. Reported that Student Services manages the air conditions multiple times a day and that we use AirNow in the Bay Area to monitor.

Board Questions:

Trustee Watkins commented that the numbers are very different and would like to know how often it is updated.

Superintendent Ochoa reported that they update hourly but do not report each hour.

Trustee Warren asked if we would go to distance learning when schools close due to bad air quality.

Superintendent Ochoa reported that we will be getting additional hotspots and will train families. We have adopted instruction materials.

Trustee Proctor inquired about who are the experts to tell us when to close.

Superintendent Ochoa responded that every School District is working closely with the county and consortiums to monitor air quality.

Trustee Chin asked if we would close the schools, would it be suggested that we close as a complete closure or would we be having an at home learning.

Superintendent Ochoa responded that we would have access to going online and using the programs teachers are teaching every day.

Public Comments:

Randi Paynter expressed concerns that the carbon monoxide detectors have not been installed.

Eric Park thanked Superintendent Ochoa for the air quality presentation. Suggested performing COVID testing outside rather than inside and buying stand along sensors.

Sandi Arata commented that would like to have a plan for when it happens for a long time.

Board Comments:

Trustee Chin express the concern that when the air is bad we follow guidelines but when there is a pandemic it is different. Suggested a lower metric than 300 for our schools to close. Notifying families ahead of time when schools will close.

Trustee Corzo indicated that it is important to take into account where we get our numbers. Does not want to put any kids at risk and would recommend a lower number and notifying families sooner.

Trustee Watkins suggested a lower number in the 200 range level versus the 300. Trustee Watkins also asked what support could be put in place when we close the schools and questioned if all students have their Chromebook at home.

Trustee Proctor agrees looking at a lower number. Expressed that the main concerned is that when students are at campus they are safe. Would like to hear about the plan for the HVAC system.

Trustee Warren made comments about wild fires and expressed the support of having a lower number. Also Trustee Warren expressed concerns about meals and special education services.

Trustee Chin recommended to discussing the topic of going lower at a later meeting.

Superintendent Ochoa responded that different schools have different levels based on geographical area and we are making a decision for all of our students. Parent will decide for themselves whether to send their kids to school. Recommended to continue with the conversation on the September 23 Board Meeting.

Trustee Corzo expressed her concern to not wait for two weeks to address the issue again. Proposing to lower the numbers to 150 or 200 range.

Trustee Chin proposed to lower the level to 201.

Trustee Corzo agrees with the 201 level and is concerned about families having access to food and access to mental support.

Trustee Proctor agrees with the 201 category.

Trustee Chin indicated that he still has unanswered questions.

Trustee Warren expressed that the 201 level is a good number. Some families parents go to work and their children would go to school. Concerned about students with IEPs.

Superintendent Ochoa suggested to work on a draft for the board to review for actions to be taken. We will provide a list of support.

6.3. Report on Strategic Plan process

Superintendent Ochoa informed that today was the first Strategic Planning meeting with a total of 37 attendees. Indicated that it is a great way for everyone in the room to think about as a District, to think about what makes us who we are and that it was a very uplifting event. Superintendent Ochoa also mentioned that there were 19 of the 20 schools represented and informed that the next meeting will be September 30th.

Sue Wieser, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, expressed that it was a very productive day. A good start on the vision and mission and looking forward and very impressed with the engagement.

Patrick Gaffney, Chief Business Officer, indicated that it was a genuine excitement, laughter and cheering. Great mixed of people that participated. Thanked Superintendent Ochoa and his assistant Tatiana Sandoval for the planning.

Clarifying Questions from the Board:

Trustee Proctor asked what kind of information was shared.

Superintendent Ochoa responded that he will send out a communication districtwide notifying the public about the meeting today and the future meetings.

Public Commends:

Marcella McCollum asked at what point students would participate in the strategic planning.

Board Comments:

Trustee Corzo reported that she is super happy that our District is engagement in this process and indicted that it is a good way to focus on priorities.

Trustee Watkins agrees and is very excited and asked if we would have students involved?

Trustee Proctor questioned about the way to select who is in the committee and wished a member part of the public could participate.

Trustee Warren expressed that it is great that we are engaging people in this discussion. Casting a broader net would be nice so we don't hear the same voices in the future.

Trustee Chin indicated that going to the community would be great and suggested doing a long term planning.

Superintendent Ochoa responded that parents of students from Bowditch and Borel were reached and that dates coming up will required students involvement. Also reported that we will start the process of recording of the OneSMFC podcast into Spanish which would be UnSMFC podcast.

7. BUSINESS/FINANCE

7.1. 2020-2021 Unaudited Actuals (v)

Patrick Gaffney, Chief Business Officer thanked employees in the business department that put the presentation together. Gave out a detailed explanation of the numbers.

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Shara Watkins and a second by Alison Proctor.

- Yes** Kenneth Chin
- Yes** Noelia Corzo
- Yes** Alison Proctor
- Yes** Lisa Warren
- Yes** Shara Watkins

8. HUMAN RESOURCES

8.1. Approval of Employment Contract for Assistant Superintendent of Student Services (v)

Sue Wieser, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, reported that Dennis Hills is being recommended for the Assistant Superintendent of Student Services position beginning tomorrow.

Comments from the Board:

Trustee Corzo indicated that she is very excited that Mr. Hills is joining the amazing team and that he is moving forward and helping our kids.

Trustee Alison congratulated Mr. Hills and mentioned that she is so excited.

Trustee Watkins expressed that she is super excited that Mr. Hills brings a lot of experience. Looking forward to working closer.

Trustee Proctor indicated that she cannot wait to see what he would bring to the table.

Trustee Chin congratulated Mr. Hills and expressed that he is a great asset to the District and appreciates his hard work.

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Noelia Corzo and a second by Alison Proctor.

Yes **Kenneth Chin**
Yes **Noelia Corzo**
Yes **Alison Proctor**
Yes **Lisa Warren**
Yes **Shara Watkins**

9. BOARD MEMBER STATEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Trustee Watkins would like to follow up on SRO Resolution. To modify a board policy.

Trustee Warren expressed concerns about the lunch waste at schools. Take a closer look to what we are serving.

Trustee Watkins would like to address on how to improve food quality and food options.

Trustee Proctor suggested considering a vaccine Mandate.

Trustee Corzo would like to request to discuss in close session about the after school care program for students that need more support.

Trustee Chin thanked everyone for all their hard work. Also indicated that parents are happier with the response and the communication in terms of COVID.

10. FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES

September 23
October 7
October 21

11. ADJOURNMENT

11.1. Adjournment (v)

The Regular Board meeting adjourned at 10:11 pm.

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Shara Watkins and a second by Noelia Corzo.

Yes **Kenneth Chin**
Yes **Noelia Corzo**
Yes **Alison Proctor**
Yes **Lisa Warren**

Board Secretary

Date