

San Mateo-Foster City School District
Minutes
CLOSED SESSION/REGULAR MEETING~BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 22, 2021, 6:30 PM

1170 Chess Drive, Foster City, CA 94404
Teleconference Meeting via Zoom

Closed Session Begins at 5:30 pm - <https://smfcsd-net.zoom.us/j/86051845981> - Zoom ID: 860 5184 5981 - One tap mobile : US: +16699009128,,86051845981# or +13462487799,,86051845981#
Regular Board Meeting Begins at 6:30 pm - <https://smfcsd-net.zoom.us/j/86063453505> - One tap mobile : US: +16699009128,,86063453505# or 13462487799,,86063453505# -- Zoom ID: 860 6345 3505

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

2. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

2.1. Conference with Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation (Government Code 54956.9): Student v. San Mateo-Foster City School District, OAH Case number 2020090666.

2.2. GOVT. CODE 54957 - PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE

2.3. GOVT. CODE 54957.6 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR(S) Agency Designated Representative: Dr. Joan Rosas. Employee Organization: SMETA, CSEA and/or SMEAA. 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

The Regular Board meeting convened at 6:30 pm.

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: April 22, 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

3.5. Approval of Minutes: March 25, 2021 (v)

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor 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

James Rurigomez, Representative of the San Mateo Building Construction Trade Council, spoke about prevailing wage jobs and school facilities projects in the District, and hoped that the District creates policies that will support working families who live locally.

Fernando Lorenzo, substitute teacher, stated the advantages for conducting the Board meetings via Zoom and asked the District to survey teachers to weigh on interest for teaching online or in-person.

Cristina Fuentes, wanted to know the steps that the District has taken throughout the sites to assist students that are at high risk medically.

Julie MacArthur was pleased to share that the District and the teachers reached an agreement to return on campus on May 3. She stated that teachers have also been impacted by the pandemic and now they need to settle in their classrooms and move forward. On behalf of the teachers, she asked that this be the last shift on the teacher's schedules for this year.

Amy Fickenscher spoke about staff retention issues in the Special Education Department, specifically about the resignation of Speech Language Pathologists and the District's inability to replace these positions. She advocated for the District to look into hiring and retaining quality service providers and added that the lack of services for the students is disruptive, affecting their progress and their goals.

Marcella McCullom asked for more communication with families and a platform that would allow them to provide comments on an ongoing basis other than at the Board meetings as well as making presentation slides easy to access for the public.

Suzanne has a child in Special Education. She shared her experience with trying to reach the Special Education Department and requested a faster responsive system to phone calls.

Jayne Congdon would like to see a plan from the District that addresses anti-racism in the classrooms. She asked that the plan include support for the teachers and site administrators, such as training and any resources needed to ensure that we are addressing this concerning topic.

Daniela Guadarrama spoke to safety on the school campuses due to the ongoing gun violence. She wanted to see a plan that will keep students and staff safe at the schools.

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

4.3. Foundation/Committee Reports

Trustee Watkins reported that the Equity Task Force hosted a community engagement meeting conducted by Dr. Pedro Noguera regarding the New School in North Central San Mateo project. At the meeting, they also talked about Governance and membership turnover.

Trustee Corzo said that the Sanctuary Task Force also had a feedback session on the New School in North Central San Mateo project. The team also touched on their own strategic plan, as well as academics, and equity.

Trustee Warren reported that she attended the SEDAC meeting where they discussed the LCAP. She also mentioned that at their May meeting, they would have a speaker present on Dyslexia.

Trustee Proctor attended the DELAC, the San Mateo Foster City Education Foundation and the LMI meetings. She reported that the Ed Foundation meeting is working on revamping its website and is planning a meet-and-greet event to introduce new volunteers. At the LMI meeting, they discussed ideas for the use of the AB 86 funds, LCAP engagement, update on the Math program and search for the New Superintendent as well as an update on In-person classes.

Trustee Chin reported that he and Trustee Watkins attended the San Mateo City Liaison meeting where they had the opportunity to share information on Measure X projects such as the gyms at Borel and Abbott Middle Schools. He also attended the Communication Committee meeting where they discussed the updating of the District's website.

4.4. Announcements

Trustee Chin announced that the Board will meet on April 23 to review resumes and select the candidates that will move forward for interviews for the Superintendent position. Trustee Chin was happy to report that over 65% of the community in San Mateo County has been vaccinated and that we expect to be in the Yellow Tier soon. He reminisced on where we were a year ago in terms of the pandemic, and said that we have come a long way. He encouraged everyone to continue wearing masks and keeping social distance according to the guidance.

Dr. Rosas congratulated the Sanctuary Task Force team for the Kent Award and for making a difference in the community.

Trustee Corzo also congratulated the STF and said that Dale Rogers, English Learner Coordinator, created a roadmap for other districts to follow and the program model will be shared with other counties at the Kent Awards event.

4.5. Superintendent Report

Dr. Rosas addressed her remarks later on the Agenda.

5. PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA (v)

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

5.1. EDUCATION/STUDENT SERVICES

5.1.1. Williams Quarterly Report

5.1.2. San Mateo-Foster City School District Expulsion Report 2021

5.1.3. United Way Worldwide - Sunnybrae Grant Award

5.1.4. Special Education Settlement Agreement

5.2. BUSINESS/FINANCE

5.2.1. Abbott Middle School New Shade Structure- Community Playgrounds Change Order No. 2

5.2.2. Borel Middle School - New Gym and classrooms - Amendment #2 for Cleary Consultants, Inc.

5.2.3. Contract with Cato's Paving

5.2.4. Agreement for Consulting Services - DTA

5.2.5. Master Agreement and Addenda between the District and Bartos Architecture for Two Facilities Master Plan Projects

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

5.2.7. Listing of Payments to Meet District Expenditures

5.3. HUMAN RESOURCES

5.3.1. Assignments Noted for Individuals Listed

5.3.2. Resignations, Releases, and/or Retirees

6. EDUCATION/STUDENT SERVICES

[YouTube Recording: 00:37:51](#)

6.1. Special Education Program Update and SEDAC Update

Dr. Sarah Drinkwater, Assistant Superintendent; Alma Ellis, Director of Special Education, and Amy Fickenscher, Representative of SEDAC, gave an update on the Special Education Program as well as on the SEDAC program. Their presentation included an update on the following topics: Special Education Plan Compliance and Strategic Plan, Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services Plan, and SEDAC. They shared the rubric from Tool for Stakeholder Engagement and provided highlights of their work in progress as well as their strategic plan timeline. Ms. Fickenscher shared the SEDAC meeting calendar through June 2022 and the areas of focus.

The Board asked various clarifying questions regarding both programs, the Special Education and SEDAC.

Public Comments:

The following members of the public provided their input on the topic(s):

Tara Clark thanked Amy and the SEDAC.

Moragn Ariello stated that virtual services are very difficult and advocated for in-person services.

Frederick Mayman was very concerned about the targets that were being set for the sped students.

Fernando Lorenzo spoke to in-person versus distance learning and who wishes to return.

Chelsea Bonini appreciated the SEDAC and Amy and Jennifer's participation on the CAC. She spoke positively about inclusion and shared information on AB 692.

Amy Fickenscher requested further information on timeline for sped actions.

Robin was concerned about virtual services and bringing back NPS students.

Board Comments:

Trustee Watkins recommended to focus on fewer issues at a time and to examine the alignment between the State requirements and the audit. She hopes to see a single Strategic Plan, to set goals, and set a tracking system. She also asked about providing related services back in person.

Trustee Corzo was interested in seeing the Special Education data broken down by students with similar needs to compare the work done. She wanted to know the timeline for the Strategic Plan. She asked for the Special Education Parent Handbook be updated and create a type of incentive program to increase parent participation.

Trustee Warren asked for a mentorship program, adding that it can be overwhelming for a Special Education family learning about the different services and that they could benefit from one-on-one guidance. She hopes that we can continue with service providers and would like to see in-person services individually, IEP services. She stated that early intervention is the key for developmental disability and mental health issues so meetings should be held in parallel with assessment. She also talked about targets and said that the goal should be raising them to 20% or 30%.

Dr. Rosas clarified that the targets that were presented were the State requirements; however, as a District we can set our own targets.

Trustee Proctor asked for more frequent updates that include metrics and a timeline for actions delineated on the audit. She addressed the concern about the long response time to callers, and asked to look into the issue. She thanked Dr. Drinkwater, Ms. Ellis, and Ms. Fickenscher for their presentation.

Trustee Chin confirmed that the frequency for updates to the Board would be quarterly. He felt optimistic with the progress the Special Education Department is making with the items recommended in the audit and he is looking forward to more updates.

[YouTube Recording: 02:20:00](#)

6.2. Math Plan for 6th Grade (v)

David Chambliss, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, and Pam Bartfield, Director of Curriculum for Middle School, presented the Math Plan for 6th Grade and requested Board approval. The Math Plan for 6th Grade was brought for information at the March 25 Regular Board Meeting and it proposes to create a single heterogeneous Math 6 course, as well as providing pathways in 7th and 8th grade for more students to access Algebra. Their presentation focused on various aspects of the proposal and goals, including Pathways for High School and clarified that the proposal does not eliminate Compacted 6-8 Math Pathway. The GATE program was not part of this proposal and will continue next year at College Park and Bayside as usual.

The Board asked various clarifying questions.

Public Comments.

The following members of the public provided their input on the topic both in favor of the proposed change and opposing the proposed change:

Naomi Goodman, Julie MacArthur, Sibby, Daniel Wekselgreene, Kim Bambao, Michelle Lee, Danni, Gene McKenna, Cara Shpizner, Dana Pedde, Archana Bhuta, Jingran Sun, Elena Winberry, Erik Mangold, Beili, Mia Bennett, Erin McCloskey, Christina Kaiser, Jeanne Stewart, Larry, Andrew Prock, Rena Korb, Boahua Huang, Steven Zhang, Amit Saini, Svetlana, Rich Rana, Alli, Tor, Stephen Floor, Uday Kale, Grayson Lum, C Sun, Kalagee Shah, Kathy, Mike Spillner, Gayle, Julian (Richardson)

Board Comments:

The Board engaged in an extensive discussion taking turns to express their thoughts about the proposal. Trustees Proctor and Warren liked the program but felt that they needed to see a more solid plan, such as expanding electives, a mentorship program, and program sustainability. In addition, they thought that we need to build trust.

Trustees Chin, Corzo, and Watkins were in favor of the proposal. They said that teachers support the proposal. Therefore, they felt comfortable approving the program. They acknowledge that there is still work to be done in terms of rebuilding community trust.

The Trustees asked additional questions about support and resources for the proposed program. Mr. Chambliss said that the District is currently going through the Stakeholder process from the LCAP and AB86 to identify priorities and that the program can be supported through a variety of supplemental funding, including AB86.

Motion Passed: IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES RECEIVE INFORMATION AND APPROVE ADJUSTMENTS TO THE MATH PLAN FOR 6TH GRADE.

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

Yes Kenneth Chin
Yes Noelia Corzo
No Alison Proctor
No Lisa Warren
Yes Shara Watkins

7. SUPERINTENDENT SERVICES/BOARD

[YouTube Recording: 05:36:11](#)

7.1. Update on In-person Learning

Sue Wieser, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, gave an update on the return to school for elementary and middle school. Ms. Wieser explained that elementary students would return to school in person 5 days a week on May 3. The in-person learning will be increased to 4 hours a day. She then talked about the proposed daily schedule, the logistics, and the general timeline for the full return to school adding that Principals will be sending updated bell schedules to families and that grab-and-go lunch will continue to be available at dismissal. Some students may remain at school for academic support and/or enrichment after dismissal. Ms. Wieser further explained that middle school students would return to school 4 days a week, in a Hybrid starting Monday April 19. They would maintain the current Wednesday schedule and the reopening would occur in phases:

- Phase 1: April 19 in period 1 online for rest of classes
- Phase 2: April 26 add period 5 online for rest of classes
- Phase 3: May 3 add period 4 online for rest of classes
- Phase 4: May 10 add periods 2,3, 6 and 7 attending all classes in person.

Phase 4 will begin on May 10 instead of May 17. Grab and go lunch will be provided and some students will receive academic support and/or enrichment after dismissal time. North Shoreview Montessori Middle School will keep its current schedule. Families that opted to remain in FTDL will continue in the program through the end of the school year.

Administrators are currently completing the assignments and seeking to achieve the least amount of disruption to in class assignments.

Public Comments.

The following members of the public provided their input on the topic:

Julie MacArthur, Joy Shmueli, Scott Hilton, Daniela Guadarrama, Robert, Christie L., Fernando Figueroa, Kevin McCloskey, Rena Korb, Colleen H., Marissa McMurray, Marcella McCollum,

Lauren, Jessica W., Sandi Arata, Jayme Congdon, Suzanne, Kit (Katherine), Brandie B., Randi Paynter, Robert Hansen

Board Comments:

The Trustees thanked the teachers, site leaders, SMETA, and Ms. Wieser for the important work on bringing students back to school before the anticipated date and said that our children will be happy to return to school so the hard work has been worthwhile. They asked for data on In-person and Distance Learning classes and also for a presentation on Equity groups as well as a plan for the fall. Dr. Rosas clarified that the CDC expects that everyone would be back in the fall full time.

[YouTube Recording: 06:48:00](#)

7.2. Approve Stakeholders for Superintendent Interview Committee and Receive Information on the Interview Process (v)

The Board received the list of Stakeholders that will be on the Interview Committee and randomly selected two additional parents for the Committee.

The Board approved the membership of the Committee, including the two parents who were randomly selected: Victoria Pao and Ellen Curry.

Motion Passed by Alison Proctor and a second by Lisa Warren.

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

[YouTube Recording: 06:52:10](#)

7.3. Approval of the Governance Handbook (v)

Dr. Joan Rosas presented the suggested changes made on the Governance Handbook at the March 6 Board Study Session and asked for Board approval with the exception of the highlighted section titled Public Comments on page 12. Furthermore, Dr. Rosas recommended scheduling a time to discuss the implementation of a policy that addresses Public Comments.

Public Comments:

Colleen H wanted to know if the revision of the Public Comments section will address how families who attend the Board meetings via Zoom will voice their comments.

Rena Korb wanted clarification on the definition of Equity that is addressed on the Governance Handbook. She thought that the definition on the handbook needs to be clearer.

The Board accepted the highlighted changes and agreed to further discuss the length of the Board meetings as well as Public Comments at the May 15 Board Study Session.

Motion Passed with the exception of the highlighted section titled Public Comments on page 12.

Motion made by Alison Proctor and a second by Kenneth Chin

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

8. BUSINESS/FINANCE

[YouTube Recording: 07:01:35](#)

8.1. Measure L, X, T Oversight Committee Members (v)

Patrick Gaffney, Chief Business Official, presented the list of the Measure L, X, and T Oversight Committee Members and requested Board approval.

Motion Passed: IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBERS LISTED TO CONTINUE SERVING FOR A THREE-

YEAR TERM. Passed with a motion by Noelia Corzo and a second by Lisa Warren.

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

[YouTube Recording: 07:03:34](#)

8.2. Conceptual Master Plan for Bowditch Measure T Build/Rebuild/Renovate Project

Consultant Tish Busselle and Architects from HED, Wallace Gordon and Scott Byrd, presented the Conceptual Master Plan for Bowditch Middle School as part of Measure X. They reviewed the scope of the key components of the project. They also touched on the scope and guiding principles that would be used for the new facilities and Measure T during the development of the plan as well as funding and the next steps.

Board Comments:

The Trustees appreciated the presentation, the outreach process and the planning. They would like to share the information with the City of Foster City Liaison group. They were glad to see the plan moving forward.

[YouTube Recording: 07:32:32](#)

8.3. Master Agreements and Addenda for Multipurpose Room Projects (v)

Ms. Busselle presented the Master Agreements and Addenda for the four Multipurpose Room Projects: Parkside, Highlands, Meadow Heights, and LEAD Elementary Schools as part of Measure T projects and requested the ratification of the agreements along with their addenda.

Trustee Chin asked the Facilities team to consider including solar energy as part of the projects.

Motion Passed: IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES RATIFY THE MASTER AGREEMENTS WITH THE ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS AND APPROVE THE INDIVIDUAL ADDENDUMS FOR THE MULTIPURPOSE ROOMS AT LEAD, HIGHLANDS, MEADOW HEIGHTS AND PARKSIDE MONTESSORI SCHOOLS. Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Noelia Corzo.

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 Warren wished everyone a happy Earth Day and loved the idea that the District is doing its part in protecting the environment by incorporating solar energy in some of the building projects.

Trustee Chin seconded Trustee's Warren good wishes. He brought up the Coffee Chats events that have been happening and noted that he would like to host one along with Trustee Proctor in May.

10. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Dr. Rosas shared that the April 27 School Visitation has been cancelled and that the San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation meeting has been changed to May 17.

April 23, 2021	2:00 PM	Special Board Meeting - Superintendent Search
April 27, 2021	9:00 AM	School Visitation
May 6, 2021	6:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting
May 17, 2021	7:00 PM	SMFCSD Education Foundation
May 15, 2021	1:00 PM	Board Study Session
May 18, 2021	7:00 PM	Equity Task Force
May 20, 2021	6:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting

May 25, 2021	9:00 AM	School Visitations – Laurel, Beresford, & Meadow H.
May 25, 2021	7:00 PM	SEDAC

11. ADJOURNMENT

11.1. Adjournment (v)

Trustee Chin took the opportunity before adjourning the meeting to honor educator and legislator Gene Mullin and Dr. Rosas joined Trustee Chin in acknowledging Mullin’s longstanding support for education.

The Regular Board meeting adjourned at 2:13 am.

Passed with a motion by Kenneth Chin and second by Noelia Corzo.

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

Board Secretary

Date