

APPROVED MINUTES
FENTON CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

May 25, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fenton Charter Public Schools was held on Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. in the FCPS Boardroom at 8928 B Sunland Boulevard, Sun Valley, CA 91352 and via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87479668758>).

I. PRELIMINARY

A. Call to Order – Chairperson of the Board – Joe Lucente

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m. by the Board Chair, Joe Lucente.

B. Roll Call – Secretary of the Board – Irene Sumida

Board Members Present

Yvette King-Berg, *Community Representative*
Daniel Laughlin, *Parent Representative*
Joe Lucente, *Community Representative*
Erin Studer, *Community Representative*
Carrie Wagner, *Community Representative*
Walter Wallace, *Community Representative*

Board Members Not Present

Jed Wallace, *Community Representative*

C. Flag Salute – Chair Lucente

D. Approval of the Agenda – Chair Lucente

On **MOTION** of Erin Studer, **SECONDED** by Daniel Laughlin, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the Agenda (Item I.D.) was approved as presented. Chair Lucente noted that agenda items will be taken out of order, with items requiring board action taken first to accommodate schedules of board members while maintaining quorum. Reports and information items will be shared at the end of the meeting.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace
Nay: (0)
Abstentions: (0)

E. Approval of Minutes of Previous Regular Meeting – Chair Lucente

On **MOTION** of Yvette King-Berg, **SECONDED** by Carrie Wagner, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the minutes of the April 13, 2023 Regular Meeting (Item I.E.) were approved as presented.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace
Nay: (0)
Abstentions: (0)

II. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Presentations from the Public – Chair Lucente

There were no presentations from the public.

B. Public Hearing: Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAPs) - Chair Lucente

The FCPS Board of Directors conducted a public hearing to receive recommendations from parents, community members and staff regarding the Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAPs) for Fenton Avenue Charter School, Santa Monica Boulevard Community Charter School, Fenton Primary Center, Fenton STEM Academy and Fenton Charter Leadership Academy.

There were no presentations from the public.

C. Committee/Council Reports

Minutes of all meetings held by any committee and/or council were sent to the Board Members prior to this meeting.

There were no further reports by committees/councils.

D. Financial Business Manager’s Report

Erik Okazaki, Financial Business Manager of the FCPS, presented the following information:

- Ending fund balances remain strong as an organization.
- One-time funds have a significant impact on the financial outlook. All schools would be in a negative position without one-time funds (noted in red):
 - FACS Operating Income
 - Current forecast - \$359,851
 - **Without one-time funds - \$1,192,721**
 - FPC Operating Income

- Current forecast - \$100,000
 - **Without one-time funds - \$2,391,845**
 - o SMBCCS Operating Income
 - Current forecast - \$896,018
 - **Without one-time funds - \$1,352,164**
 - o STEM Operating Income
 - Current forecast - \$36,307
 - **Without one-time funds - \$697,808**
 - o FCLA Income
 - Current forecast - \$38,445
 - **Without one-time funds - \$903,966**
- Previous vs. current forecast: All sites experienced a decrease in operating income since the previous update.
 - o FACS - Operating income decreased by \$58K due to increase in CMO fee expense (\$7K) and lower than projected ADA (\$139K less than projected)
Months Cash on Hand - 7.4
 - o FPC - Operating income decreased by \$227K driven by reduction in SB740 reimbursement (\$108K less) and lower than projected ADA (\$750K less than projected)
Months Cash on Hand - 5.3
 - o SMBCCS - Operating income decreased by \$417K as a result of higher expenses for custodial supplies (\$35K), non-capitalized equipment (\$97K), contracted services (\$162K) and lower than projected ADA (\$222K less than projected)
Months Cash on Hand -10.4
 - o STEM - Operating income decreased by \$25K due to reduction in SB740 reimbursement (\$38K less), and lower than projected ADA (\$75K less than projected)
Months Cash on Hand - 3.0
 - o FCLA - Operating income decreased by \$15K due to reduction in SB740 reimbursement (\$45K less), and lower than projected ADA (\$227K less than projected)
Months Cash on Hand - 1.5
- Bond Covenants: The obligated group (FPC, STEM and FCLA) is expected to meet both bond covenants:
 - o Liquidity - Minimum requirement is 45 days of cash on hand

- Forecast for obligated group (including FPC) – 93 days
 - STEM and FCLA only - 41 days
 - o Debt Service - Minimum requirement ratio of 1.10
 - Forecast for obligated group (including FPC) - 1.96
 - STEM and FCLA only – 1.01
- State Budget Update
 - o Governor’s May Revise Summary:
 - Higher COLA: 8.13% in January; 8.22% in May Revise
 - Further cuts to FY23 one-time funding (cuts to Arts, Music, and Instructional Block Grant and Learning Recovery Block Grant)
 - Equity Multiplier remains unchanged
 - ELOP remains unchanged
- Budget Proposal presents major differences between Governor and State Senate:
 - o LCFF: Governor - 8.22% COLA; State Senate - ~10% higher COLA
 - o Arts, Music and Instructional Materials Block Grant: Governor - 50% reduction; State Senate - 6.45% increase
 - o Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant: Governor - 32% reduction; State Senate - No change
 - o Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP): Governor - Extends spend-by date; State Senate - No change
 - o FY24 One-Time Recruiting Block Grant: Governor - No funds; State Senate - ~\$200/PY ADA for certificated and classified recruitment
 - o The State Senate plan would require a corporate tax hike, while the Governor has stated he is opposed to raising taxes to fund the 2023-2024 budget.

E. Directors’ Reports

Directors’ reports were received as presented in the agenda.

F. Chief Operating Officer’s Report

The Chief Operating Officer’s report was received as presented in the agenda.

G. Chief Executive Officer’s Report

Fenton Charter Public Schools (FCPS) – Dr. David Riddick, Chief Executive Officer, reported.

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Recommendation to approve third contract extension with Food Service Management Company *School Nutrition Plus***
- B. Recommendation to approve Ad Hoc Board Member Nominating Committee to review expiring board terms and recommend slate of directors for the 2023-2024 school year**
- C. Recommendation to approve Revised Procurement and Purchasing Procedures Handbook**
- D. Recommendation to approve the position of Administrative Coordinator for Ariana Gomez at SMBCCS, and move of newly appointed Assistant Director Nicole Langlois to FPC**
- E. Recommendation to approve hiring of Family Center Directors**
- F. Recommendation to approve renewal contracts with Infinite Campus and Renaissance (formerly Illuminate)**
- G. Recommendation to approve contracts for i-Ready**

On **MOTION** of Walter Wallace, **SECONDED** by Yvette King-Berg, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda (Items III.A., B., C., D., E., F., and G.) was approved as presented.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace
Nay: (0)
Abstentions: (0)

IV. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION

- A. Recommendation to approve revised salary increases on salary schedules for all employees**

On **MOTION** of Daniel Laughlin, **SECONDED** by Carrie Wagner, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the recommendation to approve revised salary increases on salary schedules for all employees (Item IV.A.) was approved as presented.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace
Nay: (0)

Abstentions: (0)

B. Recommendation to approve revised Kaiser Permanente and Health Net for medical benefits

On **MOTION** of Yvette King-Berg, **SECONDED** by Erin Studer, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the recommendation to approve revised Kaiser Permanente and Health Net medical benefits (Item IV.B.) was approved as presented.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente, Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace

Nay: (0)

Abstentions: (0)

C. Recommendation to approve acknowledgement of teachers who meet or exceed ADA rates of 98.5%

On **MOTION** of Carrie Wagner, **SECONDED** by Daniel Laughlin, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the recommendation to approve acknowledgement of teachers who meet or exceed ADA rates of 98.5% (Item IV.C.) was approved as presented.

Additionally, the Board discussed suggestions for addressing the discrepancy between ADA percentages, which span from a high of 100% to a low of 92% attained by individual teachers. As all school budgets are based on reaching an ADA of 98.5%, and with all teachers receiving the same \$10,000 stipend for in-person work and an additional \$5,000 stipend for their effort to accelerate student learning, addressing the discrepancy is warranted. Suggestions include adding ADA percentages back into the teacher evaluation model, and considering withholding some of the \$5,000 Acceleration Stipend for any teacher below 97.5%. These suggestions will be considered and action possibly taken at the June 15, 2023 board meeting.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente, Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace

Nay: (0)

Abstentions: (0)

D. Recommendation to receive and file 2022-2023 Annual Performance-Based Oversight Visit Reports for Fenton Schools

On **MOTION** of Yvette King-Berg, **SECONDED** by Carrie Wagner, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the recommendation to receive and file 2022-2023 Annual Performance-Based Oversight Visit Reports for the Fenton Schools (Item IV.D.) was approved as presented.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace
Nay: (0)
Abstentions: (0)

E. Recommendation to approve presenting notice to authorizing district, LAUSD, to reserve the right of Fenton schools to leave LAUSD SELPA at the end of the 2023-2024 school year

On **MOTION** of Walter Wallace, **SECONDED** by Carrie Wagner, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the recommendation to approve the recommendation to present notice to authorizing district, LAUSD, to reserve the right of Fenton schools to leave the LAUSD SELPA at the end of the 2023-2024 school year (Item IV.E.) was approved as presented.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace
Nay: (0)
Abstentions: (0)

F. Recommendation to receive and file tax returns for the calendar year 2021 and year ending June 30, 2022 for FCPS, SFV Education and FCPS Foundation

On **MOTION** of Yvette King-Berg, **SECONDED** by Daniel Laughlin, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the recommendation to receive and file tax returns for the calendar year 2021 and year ending June 30, 2022 for FCPS, SFV Education and FCPS Foundation (Item IV.F.) was approved as presented.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace
Nay: (0)
Abstentions: (0)

G. Recommendation to approve incentives for retention and retainment of Fenton staff

On **MOTION** of Yvette King-Berg, **SECONDED** by Erin Studer, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the recommendation to approve incentives for retention and retainment of Fenton staff (Item IV.G.) was approved as presented.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace
Nay: (0)
Abstentions: (0)

H. Recommendation to approve expenditures above the spending authority of the Chief Executive Officer

On **MOTION** of Carrie Wagner, **SECONDED** by Daniel Laughlin, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the recommendation to approve expenditures above the spending authority of the Chief Executive Officer (Item IV.H.) was approved as presented. *Specific expenditures approved:*

Villa's Roofing in the amount of **\$56,320** (SMBCCS)
Edgility Consulting in the amount of **\$55,000** (FACS, FPC, SMBCCS, STEM, FCLA)
Creative Curriculum in the amount of **\$60,000** (FACS, FPC, SMBCCS, STEM, FCLA)
Lakeshore in the amount of **\$83,632** (SMBCCS)
Parker Anderson Enrichment in the amount of **\$285,175** (FACS, FPC, SMBCCS, STEM, FCLA)

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace
Nay: (0)
Abstentions: (0)

I. Recommendation to approve Fenton Summer School Academy

On **MOTION** Yvette King-Berg, **SECONDED** by Erin Studer, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the recommendation to approve Fenton Summer School Academy (Item IV.I.) was approved as presented.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace
Nay: (0)
Abstentions: (0)

J. Recommendation to approve the Employer Retention Tax Credit retainer agreement at 8% contingency fee

On **MOTION** of Yvette King-Berg, **SECONDED** by Daniel Laughlin, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the recommendation to approve the Employer Retention Tax Credit retainer agreement at 8% contingency fee (Item IV.J.) was approved as presented.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace
Nay: (0)
Abstentions: (0)

V. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR INFORMATION

- A. LCAP Update and Instructional Report**
- B. FCPS Staffing Norms**
- C. 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Instructional Calendars**

These were information items only and no action was taken.

VI. CLOSED SESSION

Chair Lucente made the following announcement:

“The Board of Directors will now be moving into closed session to discuss matters described in Section VI. Matters to be discussed are those permitted by Government Code Section 54957 - Public Employee Performance Evaluation and Public Employee Appointment.”

The Board convened to Closed Session at 5:35 p.m.

- A. Government Code 54957
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION: Evaluation of Chief Executive Officer**
- B. Government Code 54957
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION: Evaluation of Chief Operating Officer**
- C. Government Code 54957
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION: Evaluation of Executive Advisor**

VII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION – ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION

The Board reconvened to Open Session at 6:10 p.m.

Chair Lucente announced that action was taken on the following items by the Board of Directors in Closed Session:

**A. Government Code 54957
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:
Evaluation of Chief Executive Officer**

On **MOTION** of Yvette King-Berg, **SECONDED** by Daniel Laughlin, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the Board evaluated the performance of Dr. David Riddick, the Chief Executive Officer, for the 2022-2023 school year and unanimously agreed that his performance has been exceptional. His work ethic is incomparable, and his leadership in all areas has led to the successful reopening of all sites with enhanced resources for students and staff. In alignment with the salary increase approved by the Board for all staff, Dr. Riddick's current annual salary of \$180,000 will increase by \$10,000 to a base salary of \$190,000, and as per the Board's request, Dr. Riddick will additionally receive the \$5,000 Acceleration Stipend for the 2023-2024 school year. His total annual compensation will be \$195,000.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace
Nay: (0)
Abstentions: (0)

**B. Government Code 54957
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:
Evaluation of Chief Operating Officer**

On **MOTION** of Carrie Wagner, **SECONDED** by Daniel Laughlin, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the Board evaluated the performance of Mr. Jason Gonzalez, the Chief Operating Officer, for the 2022-2023 school year. The Board agreed that Mr. Gonzalez has fulfilled his responsibilities with the highest degree of professionalism and integrity, utilizing sound judgment at all times to ensure the well-being of the Fenton organization. In alignment with the salary increase approved by the Board for all staff, Mr. Gonzalez's current annual salary of \$160,000 will increase by \$10,000 to a base salary of \$170,000, and as per the Board's request, Mr. Gonzalez will additionally receive the \$5,000 Acceleration Stipend for the 2023-2024 school year. His total annual compensation will be \$175,000.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace
Nay: (0)
Abstentions: (0)

**C. Government Code 54957
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:
Evaluation of Executive Advisor**

On **MOTION** of Yvette King-Berg, **SECONDED** by Erin Studer, and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6 (YES) and 0 (NO), the Board evaluated the performance of Mrs. Irene Sumida who serves as the Executive Advisor to Dr. Riddick, Mr. Gonzalez, and the Board of Directors. Mrs. Sumida will continue in the position for the 2023-2024 school year and then as needed and determined by the Board and Executive Leadership. Mrs. Sumida's annual salary will be the approved limitation established by CalSTRS for the 2023-2024 school year, which is \$50,655. She is not eligible for any stipends or other compensation.

Aye: (6) Yvette King-Berg, Daniel Laughlin, Joe Lucente,
Erin Studer, Carrie Wagner, Walter Wallace

Nay: (0)

Abstentions: (0)

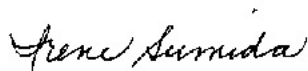
VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fenton Charter Public Schools will be held on Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. in the FCPS Business Office Boardroom (8928 B Sunland Boulevard, Sun Valley, CA 91352) and via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87479668758>).

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Irene Sumida
Secretary of the Board