

**Minutes of  
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board  
For Tracy Unified School District  
Held on Tuesday, October 24, 2023**

- 6:30 PM:** 1-3. President Abercrombie called the meeting to order and adjourned to closed session.
- Roll Call:** 4. Board: S. Abercrombie, O. Alexander, R. Fagin, L. Hawkins, Z. Hoffert, N. Kahlon, J. Silcox  
Staff: R. Pecot, T. Salinas, T. Jalique, J. Stocking, S. Smith
- 7:00 PM** 5. President Abercrombie called the Tracy Unified School District Board of Education to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Closed Session:** 6a Action Taken on Finding of Facts: 23/24#11, 23/24#12, 23/24#13,  
3.2.1 23/24#14, 23/24#15, 23/24#16, 23/24#17  
**Action:** Hawkins, Silcox. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0  
6b Report Out of Action Taken on Reinstatements: AR#23-24/#06, AR#23-  
3.2.2 24/#07, AR#23-24/#08  
**Action:** **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0  
6c Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Request for Claim Settlement  
3.3.1 Authority  
**Action:** **Approved.** **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0
- Minutes:** 7. **Approve Regular Minutes of September 26, 2023.**  
**Action:** Silcox, Kahlon. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Hoffert)
- Audience:** Monica Hill, Kailyn Hill, Bobbie Etcheverry, Annabelle Lee, Troy Brown, Lisa Bryant, Alex Contreras, Bob Wallace, Dr. Troy Brown, Chris Munger, Bill Maslyar, Jon Waggle, Derek Freligh, Gary Henderson, April Jacobs, Monica Peralta, Sofia Enget, Kaleigh Felisberto, Spencer Peterson, Mary Fernandez, Wes Huffman, Vanessa Gomes, Chloe Andrus, Liliana Alves, Christina Gomes, Rosalie Enget
- Student Rep Reports:** 8.1 **Kimball High:** Harleen Kaur reports that KHS had an eventful month with a graduation fair and an option to purchase caps and gowns. The seniors had a tailgate with a car decorating contest and the school band performed at the new Geri Neylan Theater. Winter sports have officially started. Leadership is focusing on their black-tie event and the upcoming trunk or treat. Students are happy that AP exams are now only \$20. The price will no longer be an inconvenience to the students. Kimball has begun to reward punctuality. Students with no tardies will be entered into a special drawing, with 5 winners receiving a skip the lunch line pass. They are also hosting the Red-Carpet ceremony next month and are encouraging students to complete anti bullying posters or poems. Next month is their first production of the school year. The play is called You Can't Take It With You.

**Alternative Education:** Jeffery Moss informs the biology classes have been working on a project utilizing microscopes and studying slides. Before break, they finished up Banned Books Week where they had a banned books escape room. In English they've completed their food truck business report, where they learned how to run a business and create profit for success. This week is Red Ribbon week and there are many spirit events scheduled. Last but not least, the Stein volleyball team went 4 and 4 in their second tournament, the final tournament is this week, and they hope to bring home another trophy.

**West High:** Noah Watkins and Kaelyn Garcia shared that many of the programs at West have been participating in college tours. They have had four senior nights for various sports teams with over 40 seniors this fall taking part in the celebrations. This Thursday their ROTC program is hosting a trunk or treat. They also have the West vs Tracy High football game this week. On November 2nd the art program is having a Dia de los Muertos art exhibition. Noah and Kaelyn ended by wishing the board a spooky night!

**Tracy High:** Olivia Orcutt provided a THS update. Winter sports are gearing up with conditioning and try outs. They are celebrating the girls flag football team as they have won league. The 3 players from the boys football team, along with Coach Pribble, were on ABC10 news to speak about their season. THS is hosting a Halloween movie night on October 30<sup>th</sup> and the AG Science FFA is having a pumpkin patch for children to enjoy. Students attended the safe school's summit at the district to address their concerns for safety at their school. From conversation with other high schools, they realized how much they have in common and how safe they really are.

## **Recognition & Presentations:**

**Item 9.1 was moved up on the agenda.** Fagin, Silcox. Vote: Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0

### **9.1 Recognize Officer Contreras with the Tracy Police Department, Freiler Principal Stephen Theall, Teacher Alayna Evans, and Students Malyna Torres-Melton, McKenna Adamo, and Joey Russell for their Heroic Actions**

Dr. Troy Brown, County Superintendent of Schools, quoted definitions of being a hero. He was present to celebrate the actions of the many that saved the life of Heather Freligh. He thanked them for their courage and presented them with a certificate of recognition. Trustee Abercrombie presented certifications on behalf of TUSD. Heather's father, Derek Freligh, also presented plaques to show his gratitude. For the Freligh family this was a defining moment that forever changed their lives.

### **9.2 Central Elementary School**

Principal April Jacobs, Assistant Principal Monica Peralta, and first grade teacher Jennifer Jefferis shared information and a presentation. Each day the students have PIR Time, which stands for Priority Individualized Reading. They have one hour of differentiated reading which includes small group work with their teacher and pull-out groups with their paras and teacher librarian. Social emotional learning is spread school wide. Each month they focus on a different pillar of character and reward students for their behavior. Weekly the COST team meets to discuss students in need of social emotional support. The team consists of counselors from Sow A Seed and Valley Community Counseling, Ms. Jacobs, and Ms. Peralta. Central is having a

monthly attendance challenge where they recognize the class with the best attendance. Parent Café has started, parents are invited to campus every Tuesday where they receive parent support about various topics at each session.

### **9.3 Tracy Charter School**

Principal Annabelle Lee presented background information about the Tracy Charter School and a snapshot of how learning happens on campus. The charter opened in the 20/21 school year. Families uncomfortable sending students back to in person learning opted to enroll in the program. Each student receives a one to one device to complete their classwork. The school offers kinder through 12 grade. Students enjoy online learning because it offers self-paced learning without distractions. They have weekly meetings with their teacher either virtual or in person. During this time, they have a socio-emotional check-in, complete a progress plan check and receive support as needed. The school started with 44 students with grades 6 through 12. They are now at 332 students, with students enrolling year-round, and have a goal to increase future enrollment by 10%. They plan to have more community events moving forward. This Monday they will host the Cardinal Candy Crawl.

### **9.4 Tracy High School eSports**

Tracy High School Principal, Jon Waggle, introduced their new Esports team, and eSports Coach Gomez-Zavala. He has enjoyed the opportunity to get more students involved in a competitive sport. Students from the eSport Overwatch 2 Team and the League of Legends Team introduced themselves. The games include strategy, team building, and an opportunity to increase communication skills and electronic technological know-how. They also run an eSports Instagram account with some competitions broadcast live on Twitch. They have begun to expand and capitalize on the equipment they have in their eSports arena. Mr. Waggle expressed appreciation to Tom Quimbao and his staff for making this possible. They have 16 students participating daily with much more interest building for the spring season. This is an opportunity for students that can carry on beyond high school.

## **Information & Discussion Items:**

**10.1 Administrative & Business Services:** None.

**10.2 Educational Services:**

**10.2.1 Receive Report on California State Law SB 328 TUSD High School Late Start**

Erin Quintana is the Director of Professional Learning and Curriculum. Per SB 328, current late start law mandates the school day begin no earlier than 8:30 am for high school students. When comparing the 21/22 school year to 22/23, tardies were reduced at WHS and THS, however KHS saw an increase. Absences in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> period saw an increase for WHS and THS, with a decrease at KHS. Principals were interviewed about the impacts on instruction and activities. Students that play sports miss more classes due to the late start and resulting late dismissal. After school intervention is challenging and activities without lights must start earlier, again resulting in more missed classes. Safety is a concern with students arriving to campus early. After school meetings run later which impacts teacher participation in professional learning and these later programs

have contributed to an increase in overtime for security and custodial. As of today, the district has not received any complaints from parents regarding late start.

## Hearing of Delegations

11. Mary Fernandez spoke regarding concerns with TUSD van safety and maintenance. The vans are old and not maintained. Recently there was a tire blow out. She would like to see record of the safety and maintenance inspections and when the vans will be replaced? She would like this concern to be placed on the agenda or requests a response back from the board.

Wes Huffman is with the Tracy Breakfast Lions and the Tracy Tree Organization. He shared a publication regarding mini forests. He would like the district to consider putting a mini forest on a campus somewhere in the district. The smallest mini forest is the size of six parking spaces. The Tracy Tree Organization would fund this activity. He is looking for schools willing to do this activity that students can participate in.

Wes Huffman also shared that the Tracy Breakfast Lions has equipment that evaluates student vision. This program has been mentioned previously to the board. The club provides the equipment, and the evaluation results are sent directly to the school nurse.

Vanessa Gomes said the change in the graduation date was unexpected and unwarranted. This ceremony is a highlight of their high school career. They only heard of this from chatter with their teachers, no official statement has gone out. She realizes how inconvenient this change would be. Parents will have to take the day off from work. It is odd for the seniors to have to return the next day. Saturday graduation has always been ideal, she would like it to return to Saturday.

It has come to Christina Gomes's attention that the day of graduation has changed. She couldn't believe this change happened and conflicted with Jefferson middle school graduations. When students cross the stage, it is their last steps on campus, they should not have to return to school the next day. At the start of the school year, the student calendar said Saturday. The students deserve better. TUSD is experimenting this change on the students that had drive through graduation in middle school.

Becky Andres, KHS Parent, is frustrated because the date was changed without being announced and asks why the decision was made solely by the district office. The dates conflict with 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation at Jefferson and Kelly Schools. This change was not appropriately discussed or planned. Many residents commute out of town and would have to take the day off from work to attend. The kids deserve better. She asks that the board puts this issue on the next agenda and has an open forum with parents. This is about students not staff or administrators.

Sofia Enget is a Kimball senior. Throughout her experience everything has been disrupted due to starting online, now this has been the last straw. She is very upset and doesn't know if her family will be able to attend. Students have school the next day. So many seniors are being effected without their input. She feels they are being treated as an experiment.

Trustee Hoffert left the board meeting at 8:00 P.M.

Chloe Andrus is a Kimball student. The graduation change was never announced. The seniors had no say in this change. This is a great inconvenience. This forces families to change their work schedule. There is a possibility her father will not be able to attend. She asks the board to please put this on the agenda so seniors can have a celebration they have worked so hard for.

Liliana Alves is a Kimball student that moved to Tracy her sophomore year. Most of her friends and family live in the bay area. Due to the date of the graduation, she does not know if it is feasible for them to attend. There is no time for a post-graduation celebration. The new graduation date shows a level of disrespect to the students. Although this is her personal situation, it is not unique to her. How can this benefit the students and their families.

Rosalie Enget is a Kimball parent. The class of 2024 is the group of kids that had their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year come to an end with a drive by promotion ceremony. Freshman year was spent at home from the kitchen table. A Thursday graduation can mean out of town family may not be able to attend. It will be too dark for family photos. Why wasn't the class asked or considered in this decision.

Spencer Peterson says he is a representative of the Kimball student body. He has 131 signatures from Kimball students in favor of changing the date back to Saturday. The grad students of 2024 lost their graduation in middle school. He and many students refuse to stand by as their graduation is pawned off. Spencer shared a story from a fellow student. On this date, her mother will not be able to make it due to her work hours. The effort and work they have put in has been slighted. He asked for this to be put on a future agenda.

**Public Hearing:** 12.1 None.

- Consent Items:**
- 13. **Board approval of any agenda item requiring insurance is conditioned upon acceptance of appropriate insurance accepted by Tracy Unified.**  
**Action:** Hawkins, Silcox. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent- 1 (Hoffert)
  - 13.1 **Administrative & Business Services:**
    - 13.1.1 Ratify Routine Agreements, Expenditures and Notice of Completions Which Meet the Criteria for Placement on the Consent Agenda
    - 13.1.2 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
    - 13.1.3 Approve Entertainment, Assembly, Service, Business and Food Vendors
  - 13.2 **Educational Services:**
    - 13.2.1 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with The Learning Circle, LLC to provide Training to the TUSD School Readiness Preschool Program during the 2023-2024 School Year
    - 13.2.2 Receive Update on Quarterly Williams Complaint Report for the Quarter Ending October 15, 2023

**13.2.3** Approve Proposal between TUSD and Main Street Music to Provide College Conductors and Professional Accompanist for the TUSD Honors Concert

**13.2.4** Ratify Overnight Travel for George Kelly School Sixth Grade Students and Supervisors to attend Science Camp at Sky Mountain Educational Center on October 2-4, 2023

**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

**Action Items:**

**14.1 Administrative & Business Services:**

**14.1.1** Consider Claim 627224

**Action:** Board Approved to Reject Claim. Fagin, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1 (Hoffert)

**14.1.2** Adopt Resolution #23-05 Authorizing and Defining Names to Sign Orders on School District Funds

**Action:** Silcox, Kahlon. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1 (Hoffert)

**14.2 Educational Services:** None.

**14.3 Human Resources:**

**14.3.1** Acknowledge Revised Administrative Regulation 4157.1, 4257.1 and 4357.1 Work-Related Injuries (First Reading)

**Action:** Fagin, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1 (Hoffert)

**14.3.2** Adopt Revised Board Policy 4161.1 and New Board Policy 4261.1 Personal Illness and Injury Leaves (First Reading)

**Action:** Hawkins, Silcox. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1 (Hoffert)

**14.3.3** Adopt Revised Board Policy 4161 and 4261 Leaves (Second Reading)

**Action:** Adopted as Final. Hawkins, Silcox. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1 (Hoffert)

**14.3.4** Adopt Revised Board Policy 4361.1 Personal Illness and Injury Leaves (First Reading)

**Action:** Alexander, Kahlon. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1 (Hoffert)

**14.3.5** Approve a Variable Term Waiver for Multiple Subject, Single Subject and Education Specialist Teachers

**Action:** Hawkins, Fagin. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1 (Hoffert)

**14.3.6** Approve a Declaration for a Provisional Internship Permit

**Action:** Alexander, Kahlon. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1 (Hoffert)

**14.3.7** Approve Agreement for Contract Services Between Tracy Unified School District and LinkedIn Corporation

**Action:** Kahlon, Hawkins. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-1 (Hoffert)

**Board Reports:**

Trustee Kahlon expressed gratitude to the local heroes honored this evening, she is very proud of them. She enjoyed the presentations; great things are happening at the schools. Trustee Fagin agrees with what Trustee Kahlon expressed and added that eSports is way beyond him, but it sounds very intriguing; he is all for it. Trustee Alexander enjoyed tonight's presentations and offered congratulations to all the heroes that were here today. Trustee Silcox passed. Trustee Hawkins appreciates

everyone for attending the board meeting tonight. Trustee Abercrombie spoke about Saturday school. Saturday School allows students to get extra help and improve their education and allows schools to receive extra funding.

**Superintendent  
Report:**

Dr. Pecot passed on making comment this evening.

**Adjourn: 8:15 pm.**

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Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date