

San Pasqual Union School District

The Little School in the Valley

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BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING **Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at San Pasqual Union School**

- Meeting called to order at 4:31 p.m. to allow public comment on closed session agenda items. Board Members Goe, Gourley, and Merz were present. Superintendent Burroughs and recording secretary Jenny Grassy were also present. SPETA representative Jolene Mallory addressed the Board regarding negotiations on behalf of herself and also on behalf of Tim Harmon who could not be present. Adjournment at 4:33 p.m. for closed session.

Regular Session

- Meeting called back to order at 5:40 p.m. Members Goe, Gourley, and Merz were present. Superintendent Burroughs and recording secretary Jenny Grassy were also present.
- Public was welcomed. The flag salute was recited.
- Report from Closed Session: Board gave direction to the Superintendent.
- Hearing of the Public: No one addressed the Board
- Member Gourley motioned to approve the current agenda and minutes from the regular meeting. Member Goe seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.
- Mr. Larkin from SDCOE gave a presentation on a multi-tiered system of support. SPU Recognized as PBIS Silver Award Winner. See website for presentation.
- Mr. Burroughs gave a presentation of the 2022-23 CAASPP test results. SPU increased overall math scores (+5%) and decreased in overall ELA scores (-2%) from prior year.
- Mrs. Zdunich delivered the PTO/Foundation report:
 - Foundation
 - Getting ready for the Scramble for the Saints Golf Tournament.
 - The Foundation Grant deadline closed on 9/29, teams will be notified soon
 - Foundation seeking a guest speaker for the Great Kindness Week in January
 - PTO
 - Walk or Wheel a huge success
 - PTO membership drive came to a close
 - Charleston Wrap fundraiser ended. PTO made \$3,583.
 - Book Fair kicks off 10/13
 - Lunch on the Lawn on 10/19
- Superintendent's Report:
 - WECARE partnership with the Safari Park experts back in our classroom

- After school choir is back
- Middle School Sports in full swing
- Field trips are happening at SPU
 - TK/Kinder to Bates Nut Farm and 4th and 5th grade to Safari Park
- Upcoming events/activities:
 - 10/13-10/20 - PTO Book Fair - Kicks off Friday!
 - 10/16-10/20 – Parent Teacher Conferences next week (minimum days all week)
 - 10/19 - Great American Shakeout & Lunch on the Lawn
 - 10/23-10/27 - Red Ribbon Week
 - 10/26 - SOAR Assembly/Coffee with the Principal
 - 10/27- Red Barn Arts Harvest Night
 - 10/31 - Costume Parade
 - 11/3 - Middle School Dance
 - 11/10 - Veterans Day observed (No School)

Action/Discussion Items

- Matt VanNote from Baker Electric submitted and presented solar power proposal. Discussed project variables (PPA time frame, size of system, proposed locations, etc.) Member Goe made a motion to approve the Solar Purchase proposal from Baker Electric. Member Gourley seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

- Superintendent Burroughs provided an update on SSC Library Review Committee, including proposed language updates to AR 6163.1. During Board discussion, Member Gourley shared the following message:

I want to express my deep appreciation to the School Site Council for their thoughtful proposals on how we collectively handle challenged library materials. It's crucial to acknowledge that our existing library and future library purchases must be in line with support for the core principles set by our School District. This policy and the proposed changes emphasize the importance of supporting transparency, education, nurturing reading skills, and contributing to the development of students' values.

As a school we have the opportunity to honor the cultures and family makeups of our student populations by allowing them to see themselves reflected in the stories in the books in our library and allowing their peers to see the same. By following the proposed criteria for reviewing and selecting books- including controversial materials, we ensure that students get access to materials that not only encourage critical thinking but also cover a wide range of topics through diverse lenses, while also effectively addressing the concerns of parents.

As a point of personal experience, my 5th grade daughter brought home a fiction book that was about an active threat on campus. Initially I was afraid for her to read it and felt

that it was not appropriate for a ten year old. On further reflection I realized that she is growing up in a country where many children are faced with school shootings and it was important to give her the ability to think about it and discuss the topic in a safe environment. As a parent I care deeply about keeping our kids safe and protecting their rights.

Our students have the right to freedom of speech and access to information. These principals we have outlined are vital for shaping well-informed and responsible citizens. Let's continue to work together to create an environment that encourages open discussions and fosters a shared understanding for the benefit of our educational community.

Member Gourley made a motion to approve the recommended Policy Manual Changes. Member Goe seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

Consent Agenda

Member Gourley motioned to approve the consent agenda. Member Goe seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

Comments by Trustees:

- Member Goe - Member Goe shared that sitting in the Board Meeting reinforces that SPU is a great place to be. She praised the SEAL program and was excited about the new solar project.
- Member Gourley & Member Merz - Agreed to previous comments and provided no additional comments.

Regular meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: November 14, 2023 - 4:30 p.m. Regular Meeting

(At 4:30 p.m. there will be an open session to allow for public comment on the closed session agenda items, followed immediately by a closed session.)