

**Minutes of
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board
For Tracy Unified School District
Held on Tuesday, February 27, 2024**

- 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#37, 23/24#39, 23/24#41
3.2.1
Action: Silcox, Fagin. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.
6b Report Out of Action Taken on Board Waivers: CES #10360101
3.2.2
Action: **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.
6c Report Out of Action Taken on Early Graduation: TISCS #10355626
3.2.3
Action: **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.
6d Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Unpaid Leave of Absence for
3.3.1 Certificated Employee #UC-1347
Action: Approved. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.
6e Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Leave of Absence Requests for
3.3.2 Certificated Employees: #UC-1348, #UC-1367, #UC-1368, #UC-1369, #UC-1370, #UC-1371, pursuant to Article XX
Action: Approved. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.
6f Report Out of Action Taken on Approve the Non-Reelection of
3.3.3 Probationary Certificated Employees: #UC-1349, #UC-1350, #UC-1351, #UC-1352, #UC-1354, #UC-1355, #UC-1357; #UC-1358, #UC-1359, #UC-1360, #UC-1361, #UC-1362, #UC-1363, #UC-1364; #UC-1365, #UC-1366 pursuant to Education Code Section 44929.21(b)
Action: Approved as Amended. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.
- Minutes:** 7. Approve Regular Minutes of February 13, 2024.
Action: Silcox, Fagin. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.
- Audience:** Susan Hawkins, Sam Strube, Marlene Hepner, Stephen Theall, Chris Munger, Jason Noll, Tony Quintana, Sophy Reese, Zach Boswell, Erin Quintana, Jake Hallen, Tanner Araujo, Yesenia Huerta, Marcee Valencia, Erin McKay, Jenny Ballutay, Lilyana Tang, Audra Munoz, Zach Boswell, Bob Brownne
- Student Rep Reports:** 8.1 Kimball High: Harleen Kaur provided a snap shot of current events at Kimball. Students have been accessing college information in the career center. Leadership

is preparing for Lift Up, a school wide music video, the students voted on Uptown Funk as their song. Winter sports have come to an end and Spring sports are underway. Last week they did their monthly Jag Tag, surprising students with snacks and making them feel appreciated.

Alternative Education: Joshua Diaz is a junior representing Stein High School. The Earth Day Program directors gave the students a presentation on the 2024 competition. Last year Stein won the trophy, and they are hoping to win again this year. Their first basketball tournament of the season is being held at Kimball on March 1st. ASVAB testing is underway for students interested in a military career.

West High: Noah Watkins and Kaelyn Garcia gave a shout out to both the boys and girls soccer teams for making it to play offs and Micah Vilorio for making it to state for wrestling. National FFA week was last week, their program held many activities including a mini petting zoo. Spring Fest is a time for the West High clubs to interact with the community. There will be activities and items for purchase. The JROTC program held its annual Military Ball last weekend. The Met Gala themed prom is coming soon, and a multi-cultural rally is scheduled for May 3rd.

Tracy High: Olivia Orcutt and Jake Hallen conducted leadership and ASB interviews for next year. 50 students were interviewed, they will announce the class soon. Spring sports are underway, and track and field is in full swing. They've started the year with participants in every event on every level. The class of 2026 held their annual talent show last week, congratulations to all the winners of the event. Alyssa Noll and Aiden VanOs were announced as Mr. and Mrs. Bulldog, voted by their peers as the students that most represent Tracy High School. The Black Student Union held a spirit week and a door decorating contest.

8.2 North School: The 'Team Lions', Diega Cabrera, Yaretzi Hernandez Garcia, Jocelyn Grajeda Hernandez, Luisana Acevedo Rojas, Adelina Rosas, Adriana Vallejo, and Ariana Work, shared details of a typical day as a student at North School. They begin their day together with the school pledge, led by North 1st and 2nd grade students. Through AVID, they learn to organize their goals and believe in themselves. They have learned that collaboration is the key to learning. This year North had over 100 students participate in the spelling bee, North student Loveleen Rattu won the district 7th to 9th grade division of the spelling bee! After school, they have access to homework help and organized sports through the Boys and Girls Club. They have parent workshops in the evening and Parent Cafecito meetings during the school day.

Freiler School: Student Body Representatives McKenna Adamo, Sasha Rodriguez, and Valentina Villagomez provided a Freiler update. They have had many activities, including the back to school and Halloween dances, candy gram fundraisers for Valentines Day and Christmas, movie nights and spirit days. Over 120 kids attended their last movie night. In December they held holiday door wars, with the winning classroom receiving a hot coco party. Freiler has a communications committee that is run by ASB reps. The committee discusses what they want and do not want and information is shared by providing weekly marquee updates. A Character Counts

and honor roll assembly is held at the end of each trimester. Many more events are planned for the rest of the year such as a Read Across America Day, a spring social, and the 8th grade promotion dance.

Recognition & Presentations:

9.1 Hirsch Elementary School Principal

Principal, Elisavet Barajas, shared a PowerPoint accompanied by Assistant Principal Sophy Reese and, first grade teacher, Lisa Rodriguez. They provide a safe learning environment for their students while cultivating a collaborate culture to help students realize their potential and achieve their academic goals. Teachers work together for professional growth. They have implemented a lesson study where teachers plan a lesson together, come together to revise the plan, then implement it in the classroom. Every trimester they celebrate with a proud Patriot assembly. Gearing up for the assembly, the staff enjoying keep an eye out for students to nominate that are demonstrating positive character traits.

Information & Discussion Items:

10.1 Administrative & Business Services: None.

10.2 Educational Services:

10.2.1 Receive Report on Career Technical Education (CTE)

Sam Strube, Director of Adult Education and Career Technical Education was joined in his presentation by current and former students of the CTE program. CTE is a 300-hour sequence of courses that integrates academic, technical, and occupational knowledge. CTE classes are held at all three high schools to include floral design, videography, AG Science, biotech, and automotive, among others. The program is funded through the LCAP, the Perkins V Grant and the CTE Incentive Grant. Students in CTE participate in their field, go to competitions and, once they are finished here, they can transition into programs offered in community college. They also obtain employment opportunities through the program and take part in the Hire Me First Program through the City of Tracy. Students shared skills they have learned and how the courses are preparing them for careers they may pursue after high school.

Hearing of Delegations

11. Parent, Saadia, and her son, Abdullah, read a statement together regarding, what they feel to be, the unjust suspension of teacher, Mr. Murray. Students have a constitutional right to freedom of speech in an educational setting. Mr. Murray has a right to engage in thoughtful discourse without facing punitive measures. The suspension denies him the right to express his beliefs and it deprives students of an educator who has inspired critical thinking. Reconsider the suspension of Mr. Murray.

Deena spoke to defend Mr. Murrays suspension. For 29 years he has graced the classroom with transformative teaching skills. Mr. Murray did not teach from textbooks, he encouraged students to engage in critical thinking and empathy. He stands up for justice. Please reconsider and celebrate Mr. Murrays courage rather than penalize it.

Mina is a proud resident of Tracy, her girls attend school in Tracy. Mr. Murray has been a pillar of character for over 25 years. Recent events have cast a shadow over his record. Mr. Murray expressing his political views should not be considered an act of misconduct. The escalation of the situation to involve law enforcement raises more concerns. She demands clarification and a full investigation behind these allegations. She calls for his immediate reinstatement. The administration failed to exercise fair judgement.

Trustee Abercrombie reiterated the following statement: Mr. Murray is not on suspension; he is on paid administrative leave. This is not due to the displaying of a free Palestine flag.

Saifuddin Raniwala says the students in Gaza have nowhere to go and they are not receiving an education. It is our duty to stand for the children's education, here or anywhere else in the world. He would like to work with our staff to institute a resolution for the condemnation of the attack on the children of Gaza.

Tracy resident, Michael Winsat, brought up the recent bullying article in the Tracy Press and issues of safety. Employees are attacked on social media by parents that feel their children are being bullied on school property. The people in charge of implementing policies are doing their job and are doing them correctly. The Tracy Press should have included in their article that the increase in bullying nationally is tied to teen social media use and the lack of parental monitoring of cell phone use. Schools and districts do not have the capacity or legal authority to manage this incredibly large problem. Mr. Winsat asserted, if you are a parent concerned about bullying and you choose to post to Facebooks Rants and Raves to demean and threaten school officials and minors, you are not the hero of your perceptions, you are just a bullying hypocrite.

- Public Hearing:** 12.1 **Administrative & Business Services:** None.
- Consent Items:** 13. **Board approval of any agenda item requiring insurance is conditioned upon acceptance of appropriate insurance by Tracy Unified.**
Action: Silcox, Hawkins. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.
- 13.1 **Administrative & Business Services:**
- 13.1.1 Approve Entertainment, Assembly, Service, Business and Food Vendors
 - 13.1.2 Approve Accounts Payable Warrants (January 2024) (Separate Cover)
 - 13.1.3 Approve Payroll Reports (January 2024)
 - 13.1.4 Approve Revolving Cash Fund Reports (January 2024)
 - 13.1.5 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
 - 13.1.6 Approve Out of State Travel for Director of Food Services and Coordinator of Food Services to Attend the Annual National Conference of the School Nutrition Association in Boston, MA from July 12-17, 2024

13.2 Educational Services:

- 13.2.1** Approve Agreement for Professional Development for TUSD High School Drama and Theater Departments
- 13.2.2** Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with Quest Science Center at Louis Bohn School for the 2023 - 2024 School Year
- 13.2.3** Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with Faith in Action Community Education Services (F.A.C.E.S.) to Provide Mental Health Services to the TUSD School Readiness Preschool Program from March 18, 2024, through May 31, 2024
- 13.2.4** Approve Revised School Site Plan and Budget for Remainder of 2023-2024 School Year
- 13.2.5** Approve Agreement for Contract Services between Faith in Action Community Education (F.A.C.E.S.) and Art Freiler School for the Remainder of the 2023-2024 School Year
- 13.2.6** Approve Agreement for Contract Services between FACES and Monte Vista Middle School beginning March 9, 2024 and ending May 31, 2024

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
- 13.3.3** Approve Preliminary Administrative Intern Credential Agreement with Teachers College of San Joaquin
- 13.3.4** Approve Fieldwork Placement Agreement with Point Loma Nazarene University
- 13.3.5** Approve Student Teaching Clinical Practice Agreement with Point Loma Nazarene University
- 13.3.6** Approve Paid Student Internship Agreement with Point Loma Nazarene University
- 13.3.7** Approve Agreement with Teachers College of San Joaquin for Teachers Working on their Preliminary Administrative Credential

Action Items:

14.1 Administrative & Business Services:

- 14.1.1** Accept Revised Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 3551 Food Service Operations/Cafeteria Fund and Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 3553 Free and Reduced-Price Meals (Second Reading) (Separate Cover)

Action: Approved as Final. Kahlon, Silcox. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.

14.2 Educational Services: None.

14.3 Human Resources:

- 14.3.1** Approve a Variable Term Waiver for Administrative Services

Action: Alexander, Kahlon **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.

- 14.3.2** Approve Resolution 23-08, Authorizing Reduction and Elimination of Particular Kinds of Certificated Services for the 2024-2025 School Year.

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

14.3.3 Approve Resolution 23-10, Criteria for Determining Order of Seniority (Tie-Breaking) in the Case of Certificated Reduction in Force for the 2024-2025 School Year

Action: Fagin, Silcox. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.

14.3.4 Adopt Resolution 23-11, Authorizing Reduction or Elimination of Classified Services for the 2024-2025 School Year

Action: Approved as Amended. Silcox, Fagin. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-1 (Hoffert); Absent-0.

14.3.5 Approve a Declaration for a Provisional Internship Permit

Action: Kahlon, Silcox. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.

Board Reports:

Trustee Kahlon said it is a pleasure to see engagement from the community. She is proud of the North School Lions, being a former Lion herself. Trustee Hoffert thanked all for the presentations. He particularly enjoyed hearing from the CTE program. Trustee Fagin felt the North students were fantastic. He enjoyed seeing the enthusiasm from the students and staff at the schools. We have a great school district. Trustee Alexander enjoyed the presentations and being kept up with all the activities at the high schools. Trustee Hawkins was also a North School student, he attended in the 60's. He thanked everyone for coming out and he hopes to be able to take care of all the things needed, business wise. Trustee Silcox passed on comment. Trustee Abercrombie had the pleasure of going to Menchie's Frozen Yogart for the Annual Art Festival. The artwork is awesome. He was also a judge at West High for the Tank Town Lions speech competition.

Superintendent Report:

Dr. Pecot passed on commenting.

Adjourn: 8:08 PM

Clerk

Date