



**Board of Trustees' Meeting
02/28/2023 06:00 PM**

MEETING MINUTES

**Closed Session: 5:15 P.M.
Open Session: 6:00 P.M.**

Voting Members

Patricia Singer, President (absent)
Gina Clayton-Tarvin, Vice President
Jack Souders, Clerk
Morgan Westmoreland, Trustee
Norm Westwell, Trustee

Administration

Michael Conroy, Ed.D., Superintendent
Julianne Hoefer, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services (absent)
Keith Farrow, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
Reagan Headrick, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

A. Call to Order

The Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Vice President Gina Clayton-Tarvin at 5:15 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Members present: Gina Clayton-Tarvin, Jack Souders, Morgan Westmoreland, Norm Westwell

Member absent: Patricia Singer

Vice President Clayton-Tarvin advised that President Singer will not be attending tonight's meeting due to illness.

She also noted that Dr. Julianne Hoefer, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, was absent tonight due to illness. As a result, Agenda Item Reports: L.1 - Overview of i-Ready Results, and L.2 - Special Education Study Overview, will be pulled from the agenda and placed on a future agenda.

C. Agenda Adoption- Regular Board of Trustees' Meeting of February 28, 2023

Motion by Gina Clayton-Tarvin, seconded by Norm Westwell, and carried by the following roll call vote to approve the Agenda for the February 28, 2023, Board of Trustees' Meeting, pulling Agenda Item L. Reports: L.1 - Overview of i-Ready

Results, and L.2 - Special Education Study Overview, from the agenda for placement on a future agenda:

Patricia Singer - Absent

Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes

Jack Souders - Yes

Morgan Westmoreland - Yes

Norm Westwell - Yes

D. Closed Session

Clerk Souders read aloud the items listed under Closed Session for consideration. There being no one present in the audience wishing to speak on these matters, the Board moved to Closed Session at 5:17 p.m.

- 1. Government Code Section 54957: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release**
- 2. Government Code Section 54957: Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Superintendent**

E. Reconvene in Open Session/Report of Closed Session Action

The Board of Trustees reconvened in Open Session at 6:00 p.m. The following action was taken in Closed Session:

Motion by Norm Westwell, seconded by Gina Clayton-Tarvin, and carried by the following vote to adopt Resolution No. 24:2223, to release and non-reelect 25 temporary certificated employees pursuant to Education Code Section 44954, effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year, and direct the Superintendent or designee to send out appropriate legal notices:

Patricia Singer - Absent

Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes

Jack Souders - Yes

Morgan Westmoreland - Yes

Norm Westwell - Yes

F. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice President Clayton-Tarvin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

G. Introductions

Dr. Conroy introduced Personnel Commissioner Bob Ewing and Teachers' Advocate Mónica Mora in the audience.

H. Minutes

- 1. Regular Board of Trustees' Meeting Minutes, February 14, 2023**

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Morgan Westmoreland

Motion seconded by: Jack Souders

Voting:

Patricia Singer - Absent

Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes

Jack Souders - Yes

Morgan Westmoreland - Yes

Norm Westwell - Yes

I. Time Certain

1. 6:05 p.m. Lake View Elementary School: Bulletin Board Presentation

Lake View Principal Jill Van Der Linden spoke about the school's innovative program: Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM), which is in its sixth year of implementation at the school. The various STEAM offerings for all students promote critical thinking, logic, collaboration, imagination, innovation, and creativity. Lake View Teacher and Science/Engineering Coach Sandi Lewis explained how students learn through the Project-Based Learning method, which involves real world applications and personally meaningful projects. One such area is the drone curriculum available to students in grades 3-5, which highlights basic aeronautical navigation and principles of physics. Student Peter Silberman shared how excited he was to attend Lake View and participate in the STEAM program. Along with fellow student Zoey Gonzalez, they demonstrated their mastery of programming and drone control, as they showcased their drone in action.

2. 6:15 p.m. Mesa View Middle School: Student Presentation

Mesa View Principal Jadyun Grunbaum shared the exciting growth her students have made on recent i-Ready assessments. She discussed the school's growing Industrial Technology and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) elective programs. Students are introduced to technology and science-based electives through STEM, Coding, Robotics, and more. Teacher Brett Hardy has revamped the Woodshop class into a 21st century career and technical introduction for students with web design, 3-D printing, and a variety of woodworking and carpentry skills. Student presenters Julie Do, Lincoln DeVries, and Lily Seif spoke about their interesting experiences in the Woodshop class and presented the Board with special gifts they made in class.

J. Public Comment

The following speakers expressed their opposition to teacher layoffs, potential adverse effects of such an action, and suggestions to grow our student community:

Lori Zone, staff member;

Megan Kicklas, parent/staff member;

Denise Claycomb, staff member;

Karen Sanford, staff member;

Mary Abbott, staff member;
Shawn Hume, community member;
Meghan Balsillie, staff member;
Janelle Axton, community member;
Erika Hartman, parent;
Crystal Mayer, parent/community member;
Keeley Pratt, parent.

Robert Espinoza, parent, expressed his gratitude to the Board for listening to the concerns expressed at the recent community meetings; is looking forward to working with the Board, staff, and community to address the issues highlighted at these meetings; thanked former Circle View Principal Kristi Hickman for her 37 years of service in education as she retires this year.

Heidi Vea, parent, spoke about losing parental rights to the state; asked the Board's stance on allowing a District representative to take a student to get contraceptives, an abortion, puberty blockers, or hormone therapy without the parent's knowledge or consent.

Brian Vea, parent, talked about critical race theory curriculum, and asked Administration and the Board where they stand on critical race theory and California sexual education; commented on former Trustee John Briscoe's attendance at City Council meetings.

K. Communications

1. *Written Communications to the Board

Vice President Clayton-Tarvin advised that 91 written communications had been received. Subject areas included RFP and Board Bylaw 9130; Reintroducing Good Governance; Opposing School Consolidation; Support in Creating Opportunities; Impacts to Staff Employment; Recommendations; Consolidation Feedback; California Public Records Act; Volunteering for Committee; Advertising School Programs; Postponing Decision; Appreciation for Listening; Teacher Layoffs; PTO & Civility Clause; Consolidation Suggestions; Offering to Help Find Solutions; Advertising OVSD Schools; Impacts of Reducing Staff; School Safety; Consolidation Suggestions; and Teacher Retention.

Copies of the above referenced communications have been provided to the Board of Trustees and are available for public review at the District Office.

2. Board/Committee Reports: None.

3. Personnel Commissioner Report (Three Minutes)

Bob Ewing, Chair, Personnel Commission, read aloud an email he had previously sent to President Singer and Dr. Conroy about giving a Personnel Commission Report at every Board meeting; advised he will be attending the Board meetings, but the Personnel Commission will not be giving any future Personnel Commissioner Reports during the Board meetings.

Vice President Clayton-Tarvin emphasized how critical these reports are to the Board, especially during this time of staffing shortages that are adversely affecting the education of our students.

4. Trustees' Communications (Three Minutes per Board Member)

Trustee Westmoreland thanked the Principals, teachers, and students from Lake View and Mesa View for their informative presentations; appreciated all the staff and community members speaking and reaching out with thoughtful ideas about viable long term solutions; noted she does not want to see any schools close, but difficult discussions have to occur about decisions that will do the most good for the most people, based on facts, numbers, budgets, and many unknowns; pledged to listen to others' perspectives, with full engagement of our community on this matter.

Clerk Souders shared his takeaways from the recent community meetings of which he concurs, including slowing the process down, finding other options to address the issue, and the love for our teachers; mentioned there is a tremendous amount of misinformation in the community and lack of communication; agreed with the need to communicate better, possibly having town hall type meetings where a two-way dialog can take place with the public; stated his plans to visit the schools more often to see the great work occurring at the sites.

Vice President Clayton-Tarvin thanked Lake View and Mesa View for their wonderful presentations tonight; mentioned she visits the schools whenever she can, but like her colleagues who have other jobs and commitments, it can be difficult to visit sites as much as she would like; appreciated all the public comments tonight; reiterated her opposition to school closures, but realizes this leaves the District in a financial quagmire.

5. Superintendent's Communications

Dr. Conroy commented on the community meetings recently held and the Board's subsequent decision to slow down and re-evaluate the process based on the concerns expressed by the community. He stated that the revised process will involve the school communities, noting he has already reached out to some of the parents who spoke to be involved in the process. He agreed with the need to market our schools, and reminded the Board that this is being done at every Board meeting with our school and students' presentations. He shared a video showcasing Vista View that was made by a Vista View parent, Peter Chaney, who wanted to give back to the school using his marketing and media production skills; he will be working with Mr. Chaney to possibly develop videos for other school sites as well.

Dr. Conroy praised the four students who spoke at the recent community meetings: Village View students Abby Jimenez, Blake Burda, and Santiago Medina; and Circle View student Alex Machado. These students are representative of the outstanding teaching and learning and the quality education received at any of our Ocean View schools.

He acknowledged the District's Accountant, Jose Velazquez, for his work behind the scenes to make sure District programs and school sites are fully supported. He also recognized Purchasing Buyer Sara Cardenas, who recently implemented a new system feature that allows purchases to be approved by responding to a detailed email accessible by cell phone, thus expediting the process.

6. **PTA/PTO/PTSA/PTSO Presidents' Roundtable (Five Minutes):** None.
7. **Employee Associations' Communications (CSEA, OVTA) (Five Minutes per Association)**

CSEA President Phi Tran asked everyone to acknowledge the amazing work being done by the District's classified professionals on a daily basis to care for our students, and those classified professionals in partnership with their certificated colleagues who work to ensure every student has a chance to succeed; noted that classified professionals have endured many changes, but continue their commitment to the students; spoke about the high quality and experience of our certificated staff, as well as our classified professionals, and urged everyone to find a way to retain these essential individuals; requested the community be here for both certificated educators and classified professionals, as these professionals have been here for the students through many challenges; noted the District has passionate, talented classified professionals that are indispensable, inspiring, and invincible.

OVTA President Heidi Webb expressed the Association's gratitude to the Board for their leadership, and thanked them with small gifts; expressed appreciation to the voters for electing Trustees that are willing to listen and conscientiously represent our constituency; spoke in opposition to the agenda item regarding teacher layoffs that the Board will consider later in this meeting; specifically noted that if approved, up to 17 highly qualified, veteran teachers would be adversely affected; asked the Board to support our highly qualified staff members; thanked them for their time and efforts put forth in advocating for public education.

L. Reports

1. Overview of i-Ready Results

This item was previously removed from the agenda, and will be placed on a future agenda.

2. Special Education Study Overview

This item was previously removed from the agenda, and will be placed on a future agenda.

M. Consent Calendar

1. Administrative Services: Gifts to the District

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Norm Westwell
Motion seconded by: Morgan Westmoreland

Voting:
Patricia Singer - Absent
Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes
Jack Souders - Yes
Morgan Westmoreland - Yes
Norm Westwell - Yes

2. Administrative Services: Payroll Check Registers from January 11, 2023, through February 10, 2023

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Norm Westwell
Motion seconded by: Morgan Westmoreland

Voting:
Patricia Singer - Absent
Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes
Jack Souders - Yes
Morgan Westmoreland - Yes
Norm Westwell - Yes

3. Administrative Services: Purchase Orders for all Funds from February 2, 2023, through February 16, 2023

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Norm Westwell
Motion seconded by: Morgan Westmoreland

Voting:
Patricia Singer - Absent
Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes
Jack Souders - Yes
Morgan Westmoreland - Yes
Norm Westwell - Yes

4. Administrative Services: School District Check Registers from January 18, 2023, through January 31, 2023

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Norm Westwell
Motion seconded by: Morgan Westmoreland

Voting:

Patricia Singer - Absent
Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes
Jack Souders - Yes
Morgan Westmoreland - Yes
Norm Westwell - Yes

5. Educational Services: Listing of Conferences, Meetings, Workshops, and Consultants

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Norm Westwell
Motion seconded by: Morgan Westmoreland

Voting:

Patricia Singer - Absent
Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes
Jack Souders - Yes
Morgan Westmoreland - Yes
Norm Westwell - Yes

6. Human Resources: Certificated Employee Personnel Activity List - January 25, 2023, through February 14, 2023

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Norm Westwell
Motion seconded by: Morgan Westmoreland

Voting:

Patricia Singer - Absent
Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes
Jack Souders - Yes
Morgan Westmoreland - Yes
Norm Westwell - Yes

7. Human Resources: Classified Employee Personnel Activity List - January 25, 2023, through February 14, 2023

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Norm Westwell
Motion seconded by: Morgan Westmoreland

Voting:

Patricia Singer - Absent
Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes
Jack Souders - Yes
Morgan Westmoreland - Yes
Norm Westwell - Yes

N. Old Business: None.

O. New Business

1. Administrative Services: Contract Change Orders for Various Contractors for the Star View Elementary Modernization Project (Action)

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Jack Souders

Motion seconded by: Morgan Westmoreland

Voting:

Patricia Singer - Absent

Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes

Jack Souders - Yes

Morgan Westmoreland - Yes

Norm Westwell - Yes

2. Administrative Services: Contract Change Orders for Various Contractors for Vista View Middle School Measure R Modernization Project (Action)

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Morgan Westmoreland

Motion seconded by: Norm Westwell

Voting:

Patricia Singer - Absent

Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes

Jack Souders - Yes

Morgan Westmoreland - Yes

Norm Westwell - Yes

3. Educational Services: Amendment No. 1 to the Independent Contractor Agreement Between Ocean View School District of Orange County and KYO Autism Therapy for Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) Services (Action)

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Gina Clayton-Tarvin

Motion seconded by: Norm Westwell

Voting:

Patricia Singer - Absent

Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes

Jack Souders - Yes

Morgan Westmoreland - Yes

Norm Westwell - Yes

4. Educational Services: Comprehensive School Safety Plans for 2022-2023 (Action)

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Morgan Westmoreland

Motion seconded by: Jack Souders

Voting:

Patricia Singer - Absent

Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes

Jack Souders - Yes

Morgan Westmoreland - Yes

Norm Westwell - Yes

5. Educational Services: Amendment No. 1 to the Independent Contractor Agreement between Ocean View School District of Orange County and Strategic Kids, LLC for Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) at Westmont (Action)

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Jack Souders

Motion seconded by: Morgan Westmoreland

Voting:

Patricia Singer - Absent

Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes

Jack Souders - Yes

Morgan Westmoreland - Yes

Norm Westwell - Yes

6. Educational Services: Independent Contractor Agreement between Ocean View School District of Orange County and Boys and Girls Clubs of Huntington Valley to Provide Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) During Spring Break at Oak View Elementary School (Action)

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Morgan Westmoreland

Motion seconded by: Jack Souders

Voting:

Patricia Singer - Absent

Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes

Jack Souders - Yes

Morgan Westmoreland - Yes

Norm Westwell - Yes

7. Human Resources: Resolution No. 25:2223 - Reduction or Elimination of Particular Kinds of Services (Action)

Erinn Chavez, staff member, thanked the Board for pausing on possible school consolidation; expressed her opposition to the proposed teacher layoff, as she mentioned the dedication, training, and traditions these veteran teachers bring to our District.

Assistant Superintendent Farrow narrated a PowerPoint presentation regarding the adverse effects of declining enrollment on the District's budget and its impact on staffing. Following the budget presentation, Dr. Conroy stated that while the information and numbers were accurate, they do not show the dedication and training the teachers have received to be able to provide the best instruction for student achievement. He encouraged the Board to consider how reducing our permanent teachers might impact teaching and learning.

The Board of Trustees discussed the cumulative effect of not addressing this situation.

Motion by Gina Clayton-Tarvin and seconded by Norm Westwell to approve.

Trustee Westwell talked about the fiscal responsibility the Board has as the fiduciary of the District, and noted that staff has shared this issue with the Board and community for the past six years; mentioned that the District is a people business, with 87% of the budget related to personnel, which leaves very few areas to trim; noted the decision to release staff is not easy, but the Board is tasked with making these decisions.

Trustee Westmoreland shared her support of lower classroom sizes, but noted the Board must be fiscally responsible and work within a budget; urged engagement of the community to utilize our resources and market the programs in the District to attract new students and get back students who have left the District; stated she is willing to look at this in the future as a combination of school consolidation and overstaffing; expressed understanding of the value of teachers, noting that teachers would follow students if a move to a different site is financially necessary.

Clerk Souders stated his support of lower class sizes for effective learning, based on his own experience in teaching; suggested we take the time to find other financial solutions, as we have done in the past.

President Clayton-Tarvin explained she is having a difficult time with this issue, as she has always supported the employees; agreed that we have a major problem with overstaffing, resulting in unequal class sizes for teachers; talked about the dilemma of having small class sizes and small schools while continuing to give sizable raises, noting something has to change; indicated she has never been in favor of selling property, although the District is property-rich, but would be willing to possibly change her stance about this if it would save people's jobs.

Trustee Westwell advised he will be supporting this agenda item, because if the Board does not address this now, the future will be much worse; spoke about the difficult decisions that past Boards have had to make that resulted in furlough days for staff in order to retain their colleagues.

In response to Board members' questions, Dr. Conroy shared that if this process goes through, the District will probably have double the amount of combination classes for elementary students, which is not in the best interest of student achievement; stated his recommendation that this Resolution not be approved.

President Clayton-Tarvin expressed her reliance in Dr. Conroy to make the best decision for the staff and students as the Superintendent of Ocean View School District; referenced Mr. Farrow's presentation that showed the adverse effects overstaffing has had and will continue to have on the District, and asked Dr. Conroy to find another way to solve this problem.

Dr. Conroy expressed his complete trust in Mr. Farrow, as he noted that he was also a Chief Business Official for 20 years and has weathered many economic uncertainties over the years; shared that we have an opportunity to work with community and staff collaboratively to find optional solutions; mentioned that the stakeholders understand the challenges that the District faces, and are open to having conversations to find some solutions; noted that we will be better for having gone through this to get to a successful conclusion for our students, families, and community; discussed his role to lead the District with the primary goal of student achievement, and he sees this as an opportunity/challenge to address; he reiterated his recommendation to not support the Resolution now, with the understanding this issue may return in future years if the issues remain or worsen; promised the Board he will bring more frequent budget and staffing update presentations at Board meetings so that the public, as well as the Board, will be better informed with the latest information.

A motion was made by Jack Souders, seconded by Gina Clayton-Tarvin, and carried by the following roll call vote to extend debate on this issue:

Patricia Singer - Absent
Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes
Jack Souders - Yes
Morgan Westmoreland - Yes
Norm Westwell - Yes

In response to Trustee Westwell's question of why he agendized this item, Dr. Conroy explained that this is an emotional topic that has gained everyone's attention, and the conversations that have resulted never would have occurred had this item not been placed on the Agenda; shared that his recommendation to approve the item changed as he received and evaluated updated information after the Agenda was published; specifically, retirement notifications submitted from teachers taking advantage of the retirement notification incentive offered; additional information regarding staff demographics and timelines for spending COVID-19 funds were discussed.

Trustee Westmoreland expressed her appreciation to Dr. Conroy for his transparency on this issue and his explanation for his new recommendation.

Vice President Clayton-Tarvin stated for transparency, she wanted the public to know that President Singer did not want to place this item on the Agenda, but Vice President Clayton-Tarvin did want it agendaized.

She asked Dr. Conroy if he was absolutely sure the District can afford to do this, and Dr. Conroy responded in the affirmative.

Vote on motion to approve:

Patricia Singer - Absent
Gina Clayton-Tarvin - No
Jack Souders - No
Morgan Westmoreland - No
Norm Westwell - No

Motion failed.

8. Human Resources: Williams Settlement Legislation Second Quarter Report 2022-2023 (Information)

Received for information.

9. *Superintendent's Office: 2023 California School Boards Association - CSBA Delegate Assembly Election (Action)

Motion by Gina Clayton-Tarvin, seconded by Morgan Westmoreland, and carried by the following roll call vote to nominate Bonnie Castrey to move forward in the process of the Delegate Assembly Election:

Patricia Singer - Absent
Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes
Jack Souders - Yes
Morgan Westmoreland - Yes
Norm Westwell - No

P. Any Other Public Comments to the Board of Trustees

Meghan Balsillie, staff member and OVTA Bargaining Chair, appreciated hearing all the perspectives from the public speakers, and thanked the Board for their decision to not lay off any teachers at this time; is looking forward to participating in the next steps in the process.

Q. Future Agenda Items (As Requested by Board Members)

Clerk Souders:

-Clarification on the purpose and role of a Board Subcommittee

R. Board of Trustees' Roundtable (Three Minutes per Board Member)

Trustee Westmoreland urged everyone to stay engaged; commented on the misinformation in the community, noting that as an active parent for the last three

years, she kept herself well-informed and was aware of the District's issues with declining enrollment, so this is not the first time this matter has been discussed; suggested the community stay informed, as she noted the Board meetings are recorded for public access; recommended we tap into the resources and skill sets of our community members.

Clerk Souders commended the Board for making the right decision in slowing down the process and looking at all options involving potential school consolidation; stressed the need to find a way where Board members can have conversations with the community so that problems can be resolved by working together.

Vice President Clayton-Tarvin shared information about the limitations which the Board must follow as outlined in the Brown Act regarding two-way conversations; concurred with Clerk Souders' comments about the Board making the right decision; noted one positive outcome of the community meetings is that a dialog was opened for future discussions.

- S. Closed Session (If Needed):** None.
- T. Reconvene/Report of Closed Session Action:** n/a
- U. Adjournment**

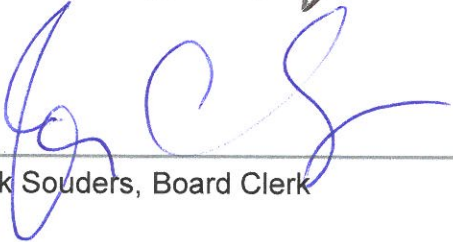
Time: 9:15 p.m.

Motion made by: Morgan Westmoreland
Motion seconded by: Jack Souders

Voting:
Patricia Singer - Absent
Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes
Jack Souders - Yes
Morgan Westmoreland - Yes
Norm Westwell - Yes



Michael Conroy, Ed.D., Superintendent



Jack Souders, Board Clerk

March 14, 2023
Date