



BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
2309 TULARE STREET
BOARD ROOM, 2nd FLOOR
FRESNO, CA 93721
board.fresnounified.org

MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Fresno, California
August 23, 2023

Fresno Unified School District, Education Center, 2309 Tulare Street, Fresno, CA 93721.

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held on August 23, 2023, there were present Board Members Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Wittrup, and Board President Islas. Superintendent Dr. Nelson was also present.

Board President Islas CONVENED the Regular Board Meeting at 4:37 p.m.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Closed Session Items

For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board on Closed Session items.

Board President Islas ADJOURNED the Regular Board Meeting to Closed Session at 4:38 p.m.

For the record, Trustee Thomas arrived at 5:05 p.m.

For the record, Closed Session extended to 6:10 p.m.

Board President Islas RECONVENED the meeting to Open Session at 6:15 p.m.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

- On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Levine, the Board acted in Closed Session on a Workers' Compensation claim for Anthony Ambra, Case No. WC19-0503-3102, by a vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Wittrup, and Board President Islas.

Reporting Out of Closed Session – continued

- On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Clerk Wittrup, the Board acted in Closed Session to promote Xee Yang to Director, Human Resources, by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Clerk Wittrup, and Board President Islas. ABSENT: Board Member Thomas
- On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board President Islas the Board acted in Closed Session to promote Manila Yang to Director, Human Resources, by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Clerk Wittrup, and Board President Islas. ABSENT: Board Member Thomas.
- On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Clerk Wittrup, the Board acted in Closed Session on dismissal charges for a certificated employee by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Clerk Wittrup, and Board President Islas. ABSENT: Board Member Thomas.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Wendy McCulley led the Flag Salute.

ADOPT Resolutions Honoring Former Fresno Unified Board Members

Adopted Resolutions 24-08 through 24-11 and recognized former Fresno Unified School District Board Members, Patricia Barr, Mary Curry, Lindsay “Cal” Johnson, and Nancy Richardson as Trustees Emeriti.

RECOGNIZE Staff Member for Contributions to the Council of Great City Schools

Dr. Raymond Hart, Executive Director of the Council of Great City Schools with Mr. Willie Burroughs presented the Distinguished Service Award to Tami Lundberg, Chief of Technology of Fresno Unified School District.

HEAR Report from Superintendent

- Good evening and welcome all joining us here in the Board Room and online this evening. What a wonderful kick-off it has been to the 2023/24 school year! I know no first week of school goes off without any issues, but in my 32 years this was definitely one of the best ones yet! I got to visit dozens of schools, sharing love and gratitude with our staff and students, and seeing lots of our new student investments in action! Not only did I see amazing things happening in our classrooms, but I got to see our investments beyond the classroom as well! I got to see younger siblings enjoying breakfast with their school-aged siblings in our cafeterias, met some of our new Campus Safety Assistants helping us to ensure every elementary school has a full-time safety person, and saw some of the 22 clothing closets our schools have started to support our students.

HEAR Report from Superintendent - continued

A day in the life of a Fresno Unified student is filled with opportunities, support and love inside and outside the classroom. Let's check out some of that first week excitement in this quick video.

- Even though it is the start of the new school year, we already have some great things to celebrate! Our very own Trustee Keshia Thomas has been selected as one of Marjaree Mason's Top 10 Professional Women this year! Congratulations Trustee Thomas, this is a well-deserved honor, and we look forward to celebrating you!
- I also could not be prouder of my dear friend Tami Lundberg, who you all just saw recognized on a nationwide scale! Such an honor and it truly speaks to the amazing work she is doing. But not only that, she's had a big week! Just a few days ago Tami was recognized by Fresno State as the Distinguished Alumnus from the school of Math, Science and Technology! Way to go Tami! Keep leading the way and showing our girls across the world what they can do in STEM!
- Did you hear? Congratulations are in order as Manchester GATE claimed the impressive No. 4 spot in the Best California Elementary Schools by U.S. News! We could not be prouder of our incredible students, talented teachers, and the entire school community that makes Manchester GATE shine so brightly.
- I also need to shout out our incredible Foundation for Fresno Unified Schools and Office Depot for showering our Del Mar staff and students with so much love on the first day of school! Del Mar students all received new backpacks with \$120 worth of school supplies, the school received \$20,000 worth of merchandise and gift cards, and one lucky teacher, Sara Bozkurt, was surprised with \$2,000 in new equipment and supplies! Del Mar was just one of 18 elementary schools selected across the country for Office Depot's Start Proud community investment program!

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS

Board Members had the opportunity for Board/Superintendent communications. A summary is as follows:

Clerk Wittrup: Thanked staff for taking time to clarify a confidential board communication. Reiterated her request for information regarding how much the district has paid in legal fees for the past 11 years. If fees are added into construction fees, would Davis Moreno still be lowest bid. Why are the largest shares of construction projects going to a company that has been suing the district for the past 11 years. Requested to see a rundown of student academic achievement and test score data, gains and losses, by year, by region.

President Islas: Congratulated former Board members and Tami Lundberg for her exceptional work.

For the record, Board President Islas called a recess at 6:56 p.m.

For the record, Board President Islas reconvened the Board meeting at 7:04 p.m.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Consent Agenda items

For the record, the Board received one request to address the Board on the Consent Agenda. The individual's name and a summary of topic are as follows:

1. Andrew Fabella: Requested to know what funds will be used to pay for the position mentioned in agenda item A-5.

Legal counsel advised the Board that Mr. Fabela's comments regarding the person and any charges he mentioned are his own.

On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board approved the Consent Agenda except for agenda item A-7, which was pulled for further discussion, by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Wittrup, and Board President Islas.

ALL CONSENT Agenda items are considered routine by the Board of Education and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of items unless a Board member requests, in which event, the item(s) will be considered following approval of the Consent Agenda. Pulled Consent Agenda items will be considered for approval after the Conference/Discussion Agenda.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

A-1, APPROVE Personnel List

APPROVED as recommended, the Personnel List, Appendix A, as submitted.

A-2, ADOPT Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Board

ADOPTED as recommended, the Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Panels resulting from hearings on expulsion and readmittance cases conducted during the period since the August 09, 2023, Regular Board Meeting.

A-3, APPROVE Minutes from Prior Meeting

APPROVED as recommended, the draft minutes for the August 09, 2023, regular Board meeting.

A-4, ADOPT Resolution 24-07, Certifying Course-Based Independent Study at eLearn Academy

ADOPTED as recommended, Resolution 24-07 Certifying Course-based Independent Study at eLearn Academy for the 2023/24 school year.

A. CONSENT AGENDA - continued

A-5, APPROVE Position and ADOPT Job Description of Manager, Grounds and Landscape Services and Classified Management Salary Schedule 261 Duty Days

APPROVED as recommended, the job description of Manager, Grounds and Landscape Services and the Classified Management Salary Schedule 261 Duty Days with Manager, Grounds and Landscape Services placement on E-24.

A-6, APPROVE the 2023/24 Spring Release Consolidated Application to the California Department of Education

APPROVED as recommended, a budget summary for the Consolidated Application (Con App). The Con App is a tool used by the California Department of Education (CDE) to distribute funds from federal programs to school districts across California.

A-7, APPROVE Addendum to Provide an Additional Student Resource Officer Supervisor

APPROVED as recommended, an addendum with the City of Fresno and the Fresno Police Department to add a School Resource Officer (SRO) Sergeant, bringing the total to three supervisors that support 34 student resources officers at Fresno Unified, Central Unified, Sanger Unified and a new SRO for Fresno County's Office of the Superintendent.

For the record, Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item A-7. A summary is as follows:

Member Jonasson Rosas: Requested clarity as to if the backlog of officers is resolved. Commented it is important first for schools to be supported. Requested clarity as to if the district has input in the interview process. Requested clarity as to if the district determines what constitutes overtime. Believes the agreements need to be tightened and state something similar to, "at the direction of Fresno Unified."

Member Levine: Thanked Amy Idsvoog for making time to discuss this item. Requested clarity as to if the addition of the new SRO was planned from the beginning. Commented on the report received pertaining to student perception of interactions with SROs and commented not comfortable supporting this item until numbers improved.

President Islas: Commented the information regarding the other districts was not clear. Commented on Fresno Unified paying 50% of cost and it is not divided equitably between the three districts. Commented on the cost of the vehicles. Shared concern about the impact/profiling of students of color and stated no student should be at a disadvantage. Requested to see cultural proficiency training and evidence it resolves concerns and is hesitant to invest until evidence is provided.

On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Thomas, agenda item A-7 was approved by a vote of 5-2-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Thomas, and Clerk Wittrup. NOES: Board President Islas and Board Member Levine.

A-8, APPROVE Multiyear Agreement with K12 Strategic Technology Advisory Group for the Continuous Improvement Leadership Cohort for Digital Transformation and Growth

APPROVED as recommended, the multiyear agreement with K12 Strategic Technology Advisory Group for the Continuous Improvement Leadership Cohort for digital transformation and growth.

A-9, APPROVE Memorandums of Understanding with Partner Organizations Involved in the Equity-Centered Pipeline Initiative

APPROVED as recommended, Memorandums of Understanding with Partner Organizations involved in the Equity-Centered Pipeline Initiative. Approval is requested for the three Memorandums of Understanding with the partner institutions involved in the Equity-Centered Pipeline Initiative awarded by The Wallace Foundation.

A-10, APPROVE Award of Request for Qualifications 24-08, Health Professionals Staffing Services

APPROVED as recommended, information on Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 24-08, Health Professionals Staffing Services, to qualify vendors in the categories of Licensed Vocational Nurse and Registered Nurse.

A-11, APPROVE Award of Request for Proposals 24-10, Air Purifier Upgrades for Various Sites

APPROVED as recommended, information on Request for Proposals 24-10, Air Purifier Upgrades for Various Sites, to establish fixed pricing for air purifiers, filters, cells, lamps, catalysts, etc. and services related to changing out filters and consumables.

A-12, DENY Claim GL23-0608-9292

DENIED as recommended, a Claim for Damages by a minor, case GL23-0608-9292.

A-13, RATIFY Agreement with Elite Event Center

RATIFIED as recommended, an agreement with Elite Event Center. Elite Event Center hosted science instructional materials adoption professional learning for kindergarten through sixth-grade elementary teachers.

A-14, RATIFY Agreement with Nightingale Dispute Consultants, Inc.

RATIFIED as recommended, an agreement with Nightingale Dispute Consultants, Inc. to provide certain conflict resolution services, including, without

limitation, certain assessment, consulting, facilitation, training and other related products and services as delineated in the attached consulting agreement.

A-15, RATIFY Change Orders

RATIFIED as recommended, information on Change Orders for the projects as follows:

Bid 21-41, Duncan Polytechnical High School Career Technical Education (CTE) Medical Science Building
Change Order 7 presented for ratification \$40,391

Bid 23-02, Edison High School Career Technical Education (CTE) Building and Interim Housing
Change Order 1 (CTE Building) presented for ratification \$3,603
Change Order 1 (Interim Housing) presented for ratification \$12,486
Change Order 2 (Interim Housing) presented for ratification \$27,041

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-16, PRESENT and DISCUSS Bulldog Bound Partnership with Fresno State

Staff presented a new partnership with Fresno State to launch a program called Bulldog Bound. Bulldog Bound is Fresno State's guaranteed admissions program that will provide high school students from partnering school districts who meet the minimum California State University requirements a guaranteed spot after graduation.

For the record, Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item B-16. A summary is as follows:

Member Thomas: Requested clarity as to if students have already been opted in. Requested to see this promoted at the seventh and eighth grades to show students what will be available, something to look forward to. Recommended all students be treated as equal. Requested information pertaining to the demographics of students for Uni-track and dual enrollment.

Member Levine: Echoed the request of Trustee Thomas as to messaging to seventh and eighth grade students. Proposed students opted in to the CALKIDS program when opted into the Bulldog Bound Program, asked if this could be built into the system. Commented on numbers of students who have signed up for CALKIDS, underscored the importance of the district getting the word to students.

Member Cazares: Thanked Fresno State staff for attending, asked Senior Recruitment Officer Jesse Farias to introduce himself. Commented on the need to be creative with opportunities to promote the program. Commented the field trip to the Fresno State Farm is a good opportunity to talk to students about the Bulldog Bound program. Suggested the Fresno State mascot attend district school sites to

encourage participation in the Bulldog Bound program. Requested the message be pushed out especially to ninth graders via Parent Square. Suggested Fresno Unified CTE pathway students be partnered with similar pathways at Fresno State.

Member Davis: Asked if there could be a fall or spring field trip for parents.

Member Jonasson Rosas: Commented on possible misuse of Fresno State identity cards. Asked if there was a way to tie the Steve Scholars program to the Bulldog Bound program. Requested clarity on Uni-track and dual enrollment, asked if Uni-track credits transfer from community college to university. Requested district staff to help counseling staff build and strengthen relationships with Fresno State in order to provide a warmer handoff of students.

President Islas: Shared excitement for this program and requested staff to be sure to message course opportunities. Commented on the need to create infrastructure to keep students in Fresno State, provided suggestions as follows: transportation, affordable housing, childcare, help remove barriers to keep students in school, engaging parents in culturally competent ways, underscored the importance of engaging parents, and mentorship opportunities. Commented on the desire to see the program grow and see it be mutually beneficial.

Jeremy Ward, Nancy Witrado, Phoung Yang, and Jesse Farias were available to provide clarity.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment

For the record, the Board received one request to address the Board on agenda item B-16. The individual's name and a summary of topic are as follows:

1. Andrew Fabela: Commented, would like to see the program expanded further.

OPPORTUNITY FOR UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

For the record, the Board received four requests to address the Board during Unscheduled Oral Communications. The individual's name with a summary of topic are as follows:

1. Andrew Fabela: Commented on newspaper article pertaining to transparency and the Freedom of Information Act.
2. Alicia Crispin: Commented on her son's special needs program not being implemented. Requested the Board to help her and to support her child.
3. Kay Berkin: Commented on citizenship and proposed citizenship be added to graduating college and career ready students. Commented on youth voter registration days, Ed Code section 2148, distributing voter registration materials.
4. Maritza Mota: Not present when name was called.

For the record, Board President Islas requested a board communication regarding what the district is doing to support/encourage voters.

For the record, legal counsel commented on the inaccuracies of Mr. Fabela's comments.

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

For the record, the Board was in receipt of C-17 and C-18.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Islas ADJOURNED the meeting at 8:29 p.m.