



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
September 27, 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 September 27, 2023, there were present Board Members Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, and Clerk Wittrup. Superintendent Dr. Nelson was also present.

For the record, Board President Islas was absent.

Board Clerk Wittrup CONVENED the Regular Board Meeting at 4:36 p.m.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Closed Session Items

For the record, the Board received one request to address the Board on Closed Session items. The individual's name with a summary of topic is as follows:

1. David Bishop: Commented on a Workers' Compensation claim and dismissal charges pertaining to a district employee.

Board Clerk Wittrup ADJOURNED the Regular Board Meeting to Closed Session at 4:39 p.m.

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

Board Clerk Wittrup 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 Jonasson Rosas, the Board acted in Closed Session on a Workers' Compensation claim for Kristie Keys, Case No. 2012-0791, by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Clerk Wittrup, ABSENT: Board President Islas.

- On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board approved in Closed Session dismissal charges for a certificated employee by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Board Clerk Wittrup. ABSENT: Board President Islas.
- On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Member Thomas the Board acted in Closed Session to promote Peter Pulos to Administrator, Alternative Education, by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Clerk Wittrup. ABSENT: Board President Islas.
- On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board Member Levine the Board acted in Closed Session to promote Philip Mcilhargey to Administrator, Human Resources/Labor Relations, by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Clerk Wittrup. ABSENT Board President Islas.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Paul Idsvoog led the Flag Salute.

ACKNOWLEDGE the 2023/24 Student Board Members and Alternates

The Board and Superintendent acknowledged the 2023/24 student board members and alternates and heard reports from student board representatives from Duncan Polytechnical High School.

HEAR Report from Superintendent

- On September 15, we kicked off National Hispanic Heritage Month and our schools and teams have been celebrating and learning ever since! National Hispanic Heritage Month is an opportunity for all to recognize the contributions made by Hispanic and Latinx Americans and to celebrate their heritage and culture. Hidalgo kicked celebrations off with the Mexican Consulate and Sunnyside's folklorico group has performed for Herrera, Storey, Olmos, and Terronez to name a few. Roosevelt's mariachi band and folklorico group has also been celebrating and performing at schools including Tatarian just last week. Let's take a quick look at this video with some of those celebrations. (Showed video)
- I cannot describe how disappointed I am to be having this conversation yet again, but unfortunately, we had another student hit by a vehicle on her way to school this morning. Thank goodness our student will be okay, but the accident was enough to transport her to the hospital this morning. This cannot continue to happen to our kids – our kids DESERVE to be safe as they travel to and from school each day. Keeping our kids safe is a joint effort and we need every driver in Fresno to be safe, attentive, and SLOW around our schools. We need parents to talk to our teenage drivers to ensure they are safe and smart around our schools.

HEAR Report from Superintendent - continued

- And of course, we're doing our part as a district investing in safe routes to schools' assessments, building public awareness and even bringing curriculum to our classrooms. Teachers, please take advantage of the pedestrian safety curriculum being provided by our Curriculum and Instruction department. You can reach out to Michele Pacheco directly with any questions. We all have a part, so please join us in helping our community to be street smart.
- I also want to provide an update regarding negotiations with our Fresno Teachers Association. You may have seen that things have been quiet on our end, and that is intentional. We completed the fact-finding panel on September 7 and have been working to respect that process as we await the fact-finder's final report. We expect to receive the report sometime next week and we look forward to meeting with the Teacher's union to work toward solutions using the fact-finder's recommendations. If following that conversation with FTA we have not reached a settlement, we will ensure the public is able to see the report and we will communicate next steps clearly with our staff, families, and community. As always, we are continuing to work toward a mutually beneficial agreement and avoiding a strike. However, if we are unable to avoid a teacher strike, I can assure you all that we are well prepared and that we will be doing everything in our power to ensure our schools stay open, safe, and full of learning for our students.
- In other updates, I'm excited to share that the development of our Every Child Is A Reader literacy plans in narrative form are in their final stages. The complete Fresno Unified Every Child Is A Reader literacy plan includes districtwide information with all seven regional literacy plans, all following our literacy framework. The regional plans will include SMART goals, budgets, specific strategies, assessment information, research and more. School site leaders have been collaborating, researching, and deeply analyzing their pre-k through first grade data prior to developing and submitting their SMART goals. Once the plan is finalized, it will be translated into Spanish and Hmong and shared with our community. Stay tuned!
- Our fall climate and culture survey is now open! This is a chance for our families and staff to tell us what's going well and what we could do better. It's a quick and easy way to make your voice heard! If you're signed up for ParentSquare, just follow the link we'll send out and answer a few questions. Your feedback is so important to us and helps us to continue improving
- Fresno Unified staff, it's that time of year again! Nominations are now open for this year's Excellence in Education! Take the time to nominate your colleagues! All employees, including certificated, classified, and management are eligible! Check your Employee Zone email for the link to nominate!
- This Friday, September 29th, individual tickets for the State of Education Gala go on sale! You can grab yours on Friday at the Foundation for Fresno Unified Schools website at foundation4fUSD.org. All proceeds benefit our student scholarships and last year we raised more than \$250,000! Can't wait to see you all there – we've got some great surprises for you!
- Students and families are invited to attend the eighth annual Feria de Educación on Saturday, October 14, at Fresno State from 10am-3pm!

HEAR Report from Superintendent - continued

- Feria de Educación provides an opportunity for Spanish-speaking families to learn about higher education institutions, college admission requirements, careers, and professions, and what is needed to earn a college degree. The event will include workshops, campus tours, Kids Zone, Reading Garden, photo booth, performances by los Danzantes de Aztlán, resource fair and the special appearance of Leo Gonzalez. Hope you can make it!
- Last but certainly not least, I want to recognize our Sunnyside region Trustee, Valerie Davis, for being selected as a finalist for the Council of the Great City Schools Green Garner Award! This award is highly selective and the nation's highest urban education honor. The recognition is so well-deserved, and we can't wait to honor Trustee Davis next month! Congratulations Trustee Davis!

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS

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

Member Cazares: Shared follow up items pertaining to emails sent last week. Shared that she and the principal at Hoover are working on items and would like Hoover staff to know the Board is listening to them. Commented that grounds keeping contracts for playing fields were approved but have not been filled and would like the district to stay on top of this so employees do not have to use their own money to prepare the fields for student use. Commented that the Hoover scoreboard has not yet been replaced. Made a request to allow administration to choose colors for the Hoover administration building. Requested regular status updates on the above items as well as the library reconstruction. Thanked Hoover regional principals who participated in the literacy planning meeting last week. Safe Routes to school request ensure whatever school is being planned parents are included in community meetings and Board Members as well.

Member Levine: Recognized and honored Dr. Francine Oputa and expressed gratitude for her life and service.

Clerk Wittrup: Echoed comments of Superintendent regarding Safe Routes to School. Emphasized the need for safety to drivers, parents, and students. Shared excitement for the Bullard Region Literacy Plan which was unveiled to her last week. Shared that the plan covered every aspect of what is needed to teach reading. Expressed gratitude for the investments and leadership around the Early Literacy Initiative. Thanked Mrs. Alcantara and all of the Bullard area principals for their commitment.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Consent Agenda items

For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board on the Consent Agenda.

On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board approved the Consent Agenda except for agenda items A-4, A-9, A-10, A-11, and A-15, which were pulled for further discussion, by a roll call vote of 6-0-0-1, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Clerk Wittrup. ABSENT: 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 September 13, 2023, Regular Board Meeting.

A-3, APPROVE Minutes from Prior Meeting

APPROVED as recommended, the draft minutes for the September 13, 2023, regular Board meeting.

A-4, APPROVE Agreement with Dynamic Learning Experiences LLC

APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Dynamic Learning Experience LLC to establish a High School Precision Drone Piloting after-school program for the 2023/24 academic year.

For the record Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item A-4. A summary is as follows:

Member Davis: Requested clarity as to if this item included repairs, license, refresh and the latest drone available.

For the record, Tami Lundberg was available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board approved agenda item A-4 by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Board Clerk Wittrup. ABSENT: Board President Islas.

- A-5, APPROVE Agreement with Marjaree Mason Center**
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with the Marjaree Mason Center. Marjaree Mason Center staff will train one advisor and up to two student ambassadors for the “kNOw MORE” program on each high school campus.
- A-6, APPROVE Agreement with Theodore Adams dba TR3 Studios**
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with TR3 Studios in the amount of \$49,400. The purpose of this agreement with TR3 Studios is to design interdepartmental quarterly reports and technical guides to be available for the 2023/24 school year for school site leaders.
- A-7, APPROVE Agreement with Delta Dental of California**
APPROVED as recommended, a renewal agreement with Delta Dental of California. Delta Dental of California currently provides dental care services on behalf of the district’s eligible active employees, retirees, and their respective dependents.
- A-8, APPROVE Agreement with ASM Global – Fresno Convention Center**
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with ASM Global to provide room rental space for Instructional Division Learning Sessions. Learning Sessions are for management’s ongoing cycles of review and professional learning.
- A-9, APPROVE Agreement with Pardini’s**
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Pardini’s. The Extended Learning Department will provide professional development for up to 1,300 after-school program staff. Pardini’s will provide catering services of food and beverage for all staff attending the event; services to include both breakfast and lunch.

For the record Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item A-9. A summary is as follows:

Member Jonasson Rosas: Requested clarity pertaining to discrepancy in information provided on board communication and agenda item regarding the number of staff participating. Requested clarity as to if the amount of agreement is for food only.

For the record, Maiyer Vang was available to provide clarity.

For the record, Legal Counsel Bryan Martin called for a point of clarification. The record should reflect the clarification from 1300 staff served, which is the number listed on the agenda item to 1200 staff served.

On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Cazares, the Board approved agenda item A-9 with an amendment to the number of staff served from 1300 to 1200, by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Board Clerk Wittrup. ABSENT: Board President Islas.

A-10, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-16, Roeding Elementary School Confidential Spaces and Administration Building Modernization

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-16, Roeding Elementary School Confidential Spaces and Administration Building Modernization. The project consists of an Administration Building modernization that includes a new Nurse's suite, air conditioning in the multi-purpose room kitchen and the installation of permanent walls in existing rooms to provide confidential spaces for student support.

For the record Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item A-10. A summary is as follows:

Member Davis: Requested clarity as to whether all schools have confidential space.

For the record, Paul Idsvoog was available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board approved agenda item A-10 by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Board Clerk Wittrup. ABSENT: Board President Islas.

A-11, APPROVE Rejection of Bid 23-55, Tehipite Middle School New E-Sports Arena

APPROVED Rejection as recommended, for information on Bid 23-55, Tehipite Middle School New E-Sports Arena. Staff recommend rejecting all bids due to bid prices being significantly higher than the estimated amount.

For the record Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item A-11. A summary is as follows:

Member Jonasson Rosas: Requested staff to clarify what led to the decision to change the scope of work and what the new project will look like.

For the record, Paul Idsvoog and Tami Lundberg were available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Member Davis, the Board approved agenda item A-11 by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Board Clerk Wittrup. ABSENT: Board President Islas.

A-12, APPROVE Supplemental Award of Request for Proposals 23-52R, USDA Commodity Prepared Foods

APPROVED as recommended, information on Request for Proposals 23-52R, USDA Commodity Prepared Foods to establish fixed pricing for USDA commodity processed beef, chicken, and pork products for delivery to the Nutrition Center.

A-13, DENY Claim GL23-0818-9522

DENIED as recommended, a Claim for Damages by a minor, case GL23-0818-9522.

A-14, RATIFY Agreements for the Joint Apprenticeship Training Funds

RATIFIED as recommended, an agreement for The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office released an update that includes Joint Apprenticeship Award funding for Local Educational Agencies receiving Related and Supplemental Instructions.

A-15, RATIFY Agreement with Scout Island – Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

RATIFIED as recommended, an agreement with Scout Island, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools. Scout Island will provide facilities and instructors for outdoor science day enrichment trips. This enrichment trip supports classroom instruction in water cycle, plant science, animal habitats, social studies, and conservation.

For the record Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item A-15. A summary is as follows:

Member Levine: Requested staff to provide clarity as to if there are specific sites that will participate, and if there is a plan to expand. Asked Superintendent and team to keep their eyes open for opportunities for Fresno Unified to acquire its own property to develop a similar program.

For the record, Bryan Wells was available to provide clarity and offered to provide a board communication with further details.

On a motion by Board Member Levine, seconded by Board Member Davis, the Board approved agenda item A-15 by a vote of 5-0-0-2 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Board Clerk Wittrup. ABSENT: Board President Islas and Board Member Cazares.

A-16, RATIFY Amendment to Agreement with KLS Design

RATIFIED as recommended, an amendment to the agreement between the Extended Learning Department and KLS Design. KLS Design will provide digital arts-based enrichment opportunities for students in the after-school program.

A-17, RATIFY Amendment to Agreement with Teocalli Cultural Academy
RATIFIED as recommended, an amendment to the agreement with Teocalli Cultural Academy.

A-18, RATIFY Amendments to Agreements for Extended Learning Programs
RATIFIED as recommended, amended service agreements between the Extended Learning department and their community-based partners. The partners increased their roster and/or service sites to accommodate students who wanted to participate in summer learning opportunities.

A-19, RATIFY Change Orders
RATIFIED as recommended, information on Change Orders for projects as follows:

Bid 22-01, Addams Elementary School Building Additions and Modernization
Change Order 10 presented for ratification: \$130,725

Bid 22-40, Hoover High School Library Modernization
Change Order 4 presented for ratification: \$63,369

Bid 23-08, Yosemite Middle School Classroom Modernization and Interim Housing
Change Order 2 (Classroom Mod) presented for ratification \$-73,004

Bid 23-15 Section A, Holland and Wishon Elementary Schools Heating,
Ventilation, Air Conditioning Energy Management Replacement Project
Change Order 1 presented for ratification \$-49,801

Bid 23-15 Section B, Del Mar and Roeding Elementary Schools Heating,
Ventilation, Air Conditioning Energy Management Replacement Project
Change Order 1 presented for ratification \$-48,548

Bid 23-58 Section A, Exterior Painting at Various Sites, Ayer Elementary School
Change Order 1 presented for ratification: \$8,400

Bid 23-58 Section C, Exterior Painting at Various Sites, Vinland Elementary School
Change Order 1 presented for ratification: \$4,800

A-20, RATIFY the Filing of Notices of Completion
RATIFIED as recommended, Notices of Completion for projects, which have been completed according to plans and specifications as follows:

Bid 23-59A, Exterior Painting at Various Sites, Ayer Elementary School
Bid 23-59C, Exterior Painting at Various Sites, Vinland Elementary School
Bid 23-59D, Exterior Painting at Various Sites, Storey Elementary School

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-21, HOLD a Public Hearing and ADOPT Resolution in the Matter of Sufficiency of Instructional Materials

ADOPTED as recommended, a Resolution in the Matter of Sufficiency of Instructional Materials. The governing Board of each district is required to hold a public hearing and adopt a resolution stating whether each pupil, including English Learners, has standards-aligned textbooks and instructional materials in these subject areas; English Language Arts, Mathematics, History/Social Science, Health in grades seven through twelve, Foreign Language in grades seven through twelve, and science equipment in grades nine through twelve. A survey to determine sufficient instructional materials at each school site was administered to all schools (Transitional kindergarten through grade twelve).

For the record, Board Clerk Wittrup opened the public hearing in the Matter of Sufficiency of Instructional Materials

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment

For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board regarding the Matter of Sufficiency of Instructional Materials.

For the record, Board Clerk Wittrup closed the public hearing in the Matter of Sufficiency of Instructional Materials.

On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board adopted agenda item B-21 by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Board Clerk Wittrup. ABSENT: Board President Islas.

B-22, PRESENT and DISCUSS the California Assessment of Student Progress Results, Data Analysis, and Next Steps

Staff presented the results of the 2022/23 California Assessment of Student Progress with an analysis for areas of improvement, highlights of bright spots, and goal setting to reach the targets for the 2023/24 school year.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment

For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board on agenda item B-22.

For the record, Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item B-22. A summary is as follows:

Member Jonasson Rosas: Expressed appreciation for the district looking at outcome-based contracting (OBC). Requested to know when the Board will hear more about the OBC process. Asked district staff to look at what situations may hinder students from gaining proficiency. Requested clarity as to how the district will use the data to address academic interventions for homeless and foster youth students.

Member Davis: Expressed appreciation for this report. Requested clarity of when the assessment is given. Commented on the need to stabilize the education of homeless and foster youth students. Commented on the importance of attendance.

Member Cazares: Shared information for community partners that may be a good resource to help the district with this work.

Clerk Witttrup: Shared appreciation for the presentation and expressed this is what she has asked for. Commented not all interventions are equal and there may be interventions at all schools, but they may not all be effective, and if interventions are showing growth the intervention should be replicated. Commented on looking forward to seeing more.

Member Jonasson Rosas: Suggested district staff work with community-based service providers to discuss student attendance; commented on hours available for service and also the provision by service providers of notes for students to be excused from school.

For the record, Zerina Hargrove-Brown, Edgar Pelayo, Carmen Rodriguez, Deputy Superintendent Her, and Superintendent Nelson were available to provide clarity.

OPPORTUNITY FOR UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board during Unscheduled Oral Communications.

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

For the record, there were no items for the Board to receive.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Islas ADJOURNED the meeting at 7:47 p.m.