



BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
2309 TULARE STREET
BOARD ROOM, SECOND FLOOR
FRESNO, CA 93721-2287
board.fresnounified.org

MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Fresno, California

September 08, 2021

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 08, 2021, there were present Board Members Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. Superintendent Dr. Nelson was also present. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

Board President Davis CONVENED the Regular Board Meeting at 4:35 p.m. and ADJORNED to Closed Session to address items one through five.

Board Member Islas arrived at 4:55 p.m.

The BOARD RECONVENED in Open Session at 5:37 p.m.

For the record, at this time the Board recognized our newly elected student board members for the 2021/22 school year. Maise Aguilar from Fresno High School, Ishan Singh from Sunnyside High School. Also, Maria Herrera from DeWolf High School, has been elected as the alternate.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

- On a motion by Board Clerk Thomas, seconded by Board Member Cazares, the Board took action in Closed Session to promote Isaac Villanueva-Langdon to Principal II at Pyle Elementary School, on a vote of 6-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chief of Staff David Chavez led the flag salute.

HEAR Report from Superintendent

- Recognized September as Suicide Prevention Month and his gratitude to our team as we prioritize mental health across our system. Suicide, much like other mental health conditions, can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, or background. Every year thousands of individuals die by suicide, leaving behind their friends and family members to navigate the tragedy of loss. About 80% of teens who die by

HEAR Report from Superintendent – continued

suicide show warning signs, 90% of teens who die by suicide have another mental health concern, and suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death in people ages 10-34. In efforts to support our students and families we have a team of Fresno Unified School Psychologists and School Social Workers who are providing prevention information and training to our students and staff about suicide this month as well as providing ongoing crisis support and interventions during and after a tragedy. Our district has an after-hours crisis team to respond to immediate needs of students, we've steadily increased our staffing and social emotional supports across the district, and we've expanded partnerships with CareSolace, TalkSpace, and more to support students, families and staff. If you or anyone you know may be struggling with mental health, please don't hesitate to send a referral to our teams by clicking the "social emotional wellness" icon on our homepage at www.fresnounified.org, or by calling the Central Valley Suicide Hotline at 1-888-506-5991.

- Shared the district is actively hiring substitutes across the district. We need substitute teachers to help ensure our students have a high quality teacher each day, we need substitute bus drivers to get our students safely and efficiently to and from school, we need substitute nutrition services workers to keep our students fed whether they're learning in-person or at home, we need substitute paraprofessionals to help us in the classroom and as we expand our after school programs, and we need substitute clerical staff to help us keep up with contact tracing across the district. Our teams have been working incredibly hard in this area, both through recruitment and through partnering with outside organizations. Just to give some context, we have almost 1,800 substitutes in our system right now, with 1,000 being certificated and the other almost 800 being classified subs. Of that list, less than 1/3 are taking regular sub days with us this year. We are making it work and have been deploying certificated and classified managers to school sites and classrooms, but the need is real. If you've ever wanted to serve our students, we need you now more than ever. We need our "coalition of the willing" with us side by side as we serve our students, in yet another difficult year due to this pandemic. If you're interested in serving, or know someone who might be, please have them call or text us at (559) 289-4599 or head to our website to apply online.
- Announced the administration of this year's Confidential Family Survey (CFS) will begin later this month. This annual survey collects important household and income data from identified Fresno Unified families. While this information remains confidential, the results are crucial to determining district and school funding through the Local Control Funding Formula. This year, the CFS will be distributed electronically, and will be sent through a pre-populated URL through student email. So please keep an eye out in your student's email for that link and participate!

HEAR Report from Superintendent – continued

- Shared Fresno Unified is currently surveying families, staff, and students in grades 3-12 on a handful of school climate and culture indicators. This survey is an opportunity for you and your student to tell us about your experiences with their school and how we can better support your student’s learning. Promoting a positive school climate is central to our district’s vision of success for each student. Students will complete their surveys during class during the weeks of late September and early October. Families and staff will complete their surveys online between September 27 and October 15. We look forward to receiving important input from you, your students, and our staff about the climate and culture of our schools. The data we collect will help our schools to take action toward improving student outcomes and ensuring that your child feels connected to their school. For more information, check your email or contact your child’s school directly. Additionally, you may visit our District and school websites for more information, including videos on “Family Voice Matters” and a “How-To” walkthrough of the survey experience.
- Shared the district is gathering feedback from our Fresno Unified Family to help support our planning for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III funds and additional Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) funds – take a look at this quick video to find out how to make your voice heard. (Watch the video here). Thank you to our State and Federal office for conducting this outreach – and please teachers, staff, students, and parents, head over to the ThoughtExchange to share your ideas.

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 along with a summary of topic are as follows:

1. Carmen T. Mendoza: Spoke to the importance of local food procurement, Agenda Item A4.

On a motion by Board Clerk Thomas, seconded by Board Member Cazares, the Consent Agenda, was approved with the exception of Agenda Items A-4 and A-6a which were pulled for further discussion, by a vote of 6-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

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 so requests, in which event, the item(s) will be considered following approval of the Consent 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.
- A-3, APPROVE Minutes from Prior Meeting**
APPROVED as recommended, the August 25, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.
- A-4, ADOPT Resolution 21-02 to Promote Local Participation in Procurement of Food Products for District Student Meal Programs**
ADOPTED as recommended, Resolution 21-02, promoting increased participation of local growers and businesses in procurement of food products for district student meal programs provided by the Nutrition Services Department.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item A-4. A summary is as follows: Thanked those who worked to make this a reality. This work helps to make sure we take care of our own, this is one more step towards that goal. Requested clarity as to the 200 versus the 250 miles listed in the resolution. Asked if the miles should be amended back to 200 miles. Shared some of the benefits this resolution will support such as the local economy, student meals, environmental justice, a valued workforce, and animal welfare. Chief Operations Officer Karin Temple was available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Clerk Thomas, and seconded by Board Member Islas, Agenda Item A-4 was approved by a vote of 6-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

- A-5, ADOPT Variable Term Waiver for Bilingual Cross-cultural, Language and Development Authorization**
ADOPTED as recommended, Variable Term Waiver requests for Bilingual Cross-cultural, Language and Development (BCLAD) Authorization for the 2021/22 school year.
- A-6, APPROVE Independent Contractor Services Agreement with NRS Staffing, LLC**
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with NRS Staffing, LLC to provide support to Fresno Unified School District licensed vocational nurses (LVNs) at school sites.

A. CONSENT AGENDA - continued

A-6a, APPROVE Agreement with Fresno Building Healthy Communities
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Fresno Building Healthy Communities as the lead agency in the Immigrant Refugee Coalition (IRC).

For the record, Board Member Islas read a statement as follows:

“Item A-6Aa on tonight’s Consent Agenda concerns an agreement with Fresno Building Healthy Communities as the lead agency. I am an unpaid member of the Board for the Fresno Building Healthy Communities which is a nonprofit corporation. As an unpaid Board member, I have no financial interest in this contract and did not participate in the making of this agreement. Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution, I am recusing myself to avoid any appearance of impropriety and abstaining from this vote pursuant to Board Bylaw 9270.”

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item A-6a. A summary is as follows: Commented on the significance of this item for our community. Acknowledged and thanked district staff and the Building Healthy Communities staff for their work and quick pivot to this project. Thanked President/CEO Sandra Celedon for attending the board meeting. Commented that this agreement will help with contact tracing, the entering of data, and staff training.

On a motion by Board Member Cazares, and seconded by Board Clerk Thomas, Agenda Item A-6a was approved by a vote of 5-0-1-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. ABSTENTIONS: Board Member Islas. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

A-7, APPROVE Credentialed Teachers to Coach One Period of Competitive Sport for Physical Education Credit for the 2021/22 School Year

APPROVED as recommended, a request to approve credentialed teachers to coach one period of competitive sport for physical education credit.

A-8, APPROVE Hiring Noncredentialed Consultants for the 2021/22 School Year

APPROVED as recommended, a request to hire noncredentialed consultants who possess unique skills from business, performing arts and postsecondary institutions to provide instruction to students.

A-9, APPROVE College Board Service Agreement for PSAT/SAT

APPROVED as recommended, a College Board Service Agreement for PSAT/SAT. PSAT/SAT:

A. CONSENT AGENDA - continued

- A-10, APPROVE Independent Contractor Services Agreement with Intellias Inc.**
APPROVED as recommended, a consulting agreement with Intellias Inc. to assist with the upgrade of the technology infrastructure that runs the Lawson Human Resources system.
- A-11, APPROVE Award of Bid 22-06, Mobile Hotspots for Private LTE Citizens Broadband Radio Service Network**
APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 22-06, to establish fixed unit pricing for hotspots to connect students to the internet using the district's private LTE network.
- A-12, RATIFY Independent Contractor Services Agreement with Davis Education**
RATIFIED as recommended, an Independent Contractor Services Agreement with Davis Education to provide students and staff with the unique opportunity to ensure pathway experiences align to current industry best practices.
- A-13, RATIFY Independent Contractor Services Agreement with Nearpod, Inc.**
RATIFIED as recommended, an Independent Contractor Services Agreement with Nearpod, Inc. for unlimited access to Nearpod's platform which includes lessons, videos, and activity creations.
- A-14, RATIFY Change Order**
RATIFIED as recommended, information on a Change Order for the following project: Bid 21-16, Mayfair Elementary School Masonry Block Wall; Change Order 1 presented for ratification \$18,537.
- A-15, RATIFY the Filing of a Notice of Completion**
RATIFIED as recommended, a Notice of Completion for the following project, which has been completed according to plans and specifications; Bid 21-16, Mayfair Elementary School Masonry Block Wall.

OPPORTUNITY FOR UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

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

1. Andrew Fabela: Concerned with teacher instruction within the eLearn program.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-16, OPPORTUNITY for PUBLIC DISCLOSURE and RATIFICATION of the 2021-2024 Negotiated Collective Bargaining Agreement between Fresno Unified School District and California School Employees Association, Chapter 143

For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board on Agenda Item B-16.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-16. A summary is as follows: Shared background as to reason for a no vote on this item; stated due to the needs still in the district and those that are as of yet still unknown Board Member believes the community would want the funds to be used to directly support students.

On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded Board Clerk Thomas, Agenda Item B-16 was approved by a vote of 5-1-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. NOES: Board Member Jonasson Rosas. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

B-17, PRESENT and DISCUSS Renaming of Facilities

Presentation by Saul Mendoza and comments by Pastor Criner.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment

For the record, the Board received three requests to address the Board on Agenda Item B-17. The individual's names along with a summary of topic are as follows:

1. Andrew Fabels: Shared poem by Aeschylus.
2. Marshall Moushigian: Commented on the importance of parent involvement, changing a name, and support for renaming Forkner in honor of H. Roger Tatarian.
3. Mark Arax: Shared information of J.C. Forkner and his system of racial coding. Support of renaming Forkner Elementary in honor of Roger Tatarian.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-17. A summary is as follows: Appreciated the opportunity to address this issue and the patience of our presenters. Timely manner to discuss, in a systematic way, policy and bylaws of the naming process and creation of a renaming process. Community involvement is indicative of how communities see themselves and is needed in this process. Requested the creation of an ad hoc committee comprised of community members and residents of Fresno Unified to advise on best practice for naming facilities. Referenced comments from previous meeting in support of naming a facility in honor of Roger Tatarian. Commented that the politics at that Board meeting prevented the naming of a facility in honor

of Roger Tatarian in the very community in which people of Armenian heritage were made to live. Stated the politics overwhelmed community voice. Commented the injustices the Armenian community have faced due to redlining support the move of changing the name before a formal process is in place. Shared interest of moving forward with the renaming of Forkner Elementary School sooner rather than later. Thanked the community for sharing the merits of Roger Tatarian and the dubious nature of J.C. Forkner. Supported the renaming of Forkner Elementary School before a formal process is established due to the information shared pertaining to J.C. Forkner. Supports the renaming of Forkner Elementary School but cautions against moving before a process is in place, does not think it is a good precedent. Requested from staff a list of district buildings yet named. Requested clarity as to how soon a committee could be created, and a process completed in order to have the renaming in place by the beginning of the next school year. Commented on the need for an established process. Chief of Staff Chavez was available to provided clarity.

For the record, Chief of Staff Chavez recommended to the Board, based on their comments, for staff to bring in October 2021 an action item pertaining to renaming Forkner to H. Roger Tatarian, which will allow time for community comment, and at the same time work on establishing a committee to create a policy for renaming and naming of facilities.

B-18, DISCUSS and APPROVE the 2020/21 Unaudited Actual Financial Report, 2020/21 Year-End Budget Revision and 2021/22 Gann Limit

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment

For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board on Agenda Item B-18.

On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Member Cazares, Agenda Item B-18 was approved by a vote of 6-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

B-19, DISCUSS and PROVIDE Direction Regarding the Use of a Project Labor Agreement or Traditional Bid Approach for Construction of the Francine and Murray Farber Educational Campus

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-19. A summary is as follow: Requested clarity as to who created the PowerPoint presentation. Referenced reading studies on Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) and commented on opinion, as an economist, that number one disadvantage of using a PLA is the removal of salaries from the local economy, anywhere from 6% to 19%. Requested clarity as to why that information was not contained in the presentation. Requested clarity as to if the use of the PLA with Herrera Elementary can help answer questions of discrimination against

apprentices, percentage of wages going out of state, and the use of local companies. Interested in knowing the percentage of wages going out of town in comparison to non-PLA projects. Commented being proud of the district's work with the CTC. Commented that our PLA uses local unions. Requested a breakdown of information pertaining to females in the Trades. Requested clarity as to local hire provisions and for information to be provided in a board communication. Chief of Operation Karin Temple, Assistant Superintendents Jeremy Ward and Alex Belanger 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-19. The individual's name and summary of topic are as follows:

1. Richard Markuson: Commented on disadvantages of using a traditional PLA.

For the record, the Board directed staff to move forward to bid under the use of a Project Labor Agreement.

B-19a, DISCUSS Potential Censure of Trustee Major Slatic, refer to an Ad Hoc Committee for Recommendation, and APPROVE Suspension of Procedure Number 8 in Board Bylaw 9005.1

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment

For the record, the Board received two requests to address the Board on Agenda Item B-19a. The individual names and summary of topics are as follows:

1. Jessica Mahoney: Supported the censure of Trustee Major Slatic.
2. Andrew Fabela: Spoke against censure of Trustee Major Slatic.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-19a. A summary is as follows: Requested clarity as to the action of suspension of procedure number 8 in Board Bylaw 9005.1. Commented does not support suspension of procedure. Commented on need to follow normal procedure. Commented on why board member felt item should be processed expediently. Commented on the use of a filibuster. Chief of Staff Chavez and Legal Counsel Shawn Van Wagenen were available to provide clarity.

For the record, a motion by Board Member Islas to approve the Suspension of Procedure Number 8 in Board Bylaw 9005.1 did not receive a second and did not pass.

On a motion by Board Member Cazares, to not approve the suspension of procedure number 8 in Board Bylaw 9005.1 and to follow normal censure process and seconded by Board Clerk Thomas, was approved by a vote of 4-1-1-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Thomas, and Board

President Davis. NOES: Board Member Islas. ABSTENTIONS: Board Member Major Slatic. The seat in Trustee Area 5 is vacant.

For the record, the Board directed staff to move forward with the censure of Trustee Major Slatic but to follow normal process.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

The Board was in receipt of Agenda Item C-20, RECEIVE the Fresno Unified School District Fourth Quarter Investment Report for Fiscal Year 2020/21

D. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Davis ADJOURNED the meeting at 8:30 p.m.