



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

October 27, 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 October 27, 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 4:30 p.m. and ADJORNED to Closed Session to address items one through six.

For the record, Board Member Jonasson Rosas arrived at 4:34 p.m.

For the record, Board Clerk Thomas arrived at 4:38 p.m.

Board President Davis RECONVENED the meeting to Open Session at 6:39 p.m.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

- On a motion by Board Clerk Thomas, seconded by Board Member Major Slatic, the Board took action in Closed Session on a Workers' Compensation settlement for Jennifer Nguyen, Case No. 2014-0540, 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.
- On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Clerk Thomas, the Board took action in Closed Session to promote Kristi Imberi-Olivares to Executive Director of Equity and Access, by a vote of 5-1-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Thomas, and Board President Davis. NOES: Board Member Major Slatic. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.
- On a motion by Board President Davis, seconded by Board Member Islas, the Board took action in Closed Session to promote Tashiana Aquino to Executive Director in Equity and Access, by a vote of 5-0-1-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, and Board President Davis. ABSENT: Board Clerk Thomas. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chief Equity and Access Officer Lindsay Sanders led the flag salute.

HEAR Report from Superintendent

- As October comes to an end, I've reflected on what a difficult month this has been across our system and across the nation. Unfortunately, we are not unique in our challenges or our staffing shortages. We know October is always a long month as an educator, and this year there are so many additional complexities on our teams and to navigate. Yet our teams continue to persevere and creatively engage and empower our students every day. Not only am I incredibly grateful, we are taking action to better the conditions and supports for our teams. Our Human Resources team has been in overdrive this year hiring over 90 new teachers for our eLearn Academy since the school year began, and actively recruiting high-quality substitutes to ensure we protect our teachers' prep time as we know that has been one of the biggest challenges. Just in the last couple of weeks our Teacher Development team and Human Resources team have put on two substitute teacher hiring events where fingerprint fees were waived, and interviews were conducted on the spot. Through those two events we have 260 additional substitutes currently moving through the hiring process and will soon be deployed to classrooms!
- Reminded everyone there will be a virtual town hall on Thursday evening at 5:30 p.m. This town hall is open to everyone and is focused on answering questions from our students and parents. We are currently taking your questions, so please submit those online at www.tinyurl.com/FUSDQuestion. On Thursday you can join us live by going to www.tinyurl.com/FUSDTownHall21. Closed captions will be available in English, Spanish and Hmong and the session will also be recorded and shared on our social media channels.
- Reminded Fresno Unified staff –open enrollment is going on now, so please review your benefits information and submit any changes by Tuesday, November 30, 2021. Also, our Excellence in Education nominations are now open! The link to the nomination form is posted on our staff portal and available through your Employee Zone newsletter as well. I encourage all staff to take a moment and nominate your coworkers who deserve to be recognized! There's truly nothing better than being recognized and honored by your peers. You have until November 19, 2021 to submit nominations.
- Shared a video highlight from our CTE department. Our teams have been working hard to highlight all of our schools and departments this year, as well as many of our amazing programs. Be sure you follow us on social media to see those highlights every weekday. Tonight, I want to share two of our amazing graduates from McLane's Union Bank program. Great job Matthew and Cheng! Thank you for continuing to support the Fresno Unified family even after graduation.

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 Clerk Thomas, seconded by Board Member Islas, the Consent Agenda, with the exception of Agenda Items A-16, A-19, A-20, and A-23, which were pulled for further discussion, was approved by a roll call vote of 6-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and 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 resulting from hearings on expulsion and readmittance cases conducted during the period since the October 13, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.

A-3, ADOPT Resolution Ordering the Date of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Governing Board

ADOPTED as recommended, a Resolution Ordering the Date of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Governing Board as December 15, 2021.

A-4, APPROVE Minutes from Prior Meeting

APPROVED as recommended, the draft minutes for the October 13, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.

A-5, ADOPT Variable Term Waiver

ADOPTED as recommended, a Variable Term Waiver for a teacher that has exhausted the Provisional Internship Permit and the Short-Term Staff Permit.

A-6, ADOPT Variable Term Waiver for Career Technical Education Credential Holders

ADOPTED as recommended, a Variable Term Waiver for Career Technical Education Credential holders.

A-7, ADOPT Variable Term Waiver for Bilingual Cross-cultural, Language and Development Authorization

ADOPTED as recommended, a Variable Term Waiver request for Bilingual Cross-cultural, Language and Development Authorization for the 2021/22 school year.

A. CONSENT AGENDA - continued

- A-8, APPROVE Provisional Internship Permits**
APPROVED as recommended, Provisional Internship Permit recommendations to rehire or hire upon Board approval.
- A-9, APPROVE Appointment of Annaliese Herms to the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee**
APPROVED as recommended, the appointment of Annaliese Herms to the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee .
- A-10, APPROVE Appointment of Pablo Villagrana to the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee**
APPROVED as recommended, the appointment of Pablo Villagrana to the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee.
- A-11, APPROVE Budget Revision No. 2 for Fiscal Year 2021/22**
APPROVED as recommended, Budget Revision No. 2 for fiscal year 2021/22.
- A-12, APPROVE Retiree Contract with Ralph Meza to Provide Extra Support to the Transportation Department**
APPROVED as recommended, a contract with Ralph Meza, who retired as the district's Transportation Director in 2012.
- A-13, APPROVE Agreement between Fresno Unified School District Early Learning Department and Orchid Interpreting, Inc.**
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement between Fresno Unified School District Early Learning Department and Orchid Interpreting, Inc. from October 28, 2021 through June 30, 2021.
- A-14, APPROVE Agreement with Center for Leadership Equity and Research**
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Center for Leadership Equity and Research.
- A-15, APPROVE Agreement with College Board - Advanced Placement**
APPROVED as recommended, agreement with College Board – Advanced Placement.
- A-16, APPROVE Addendum to Agreement with Intellias, Inc.**
APPROVED as recommended, an addendum to the consulting agreement with Intellias, Inc. to expedite new hire onboarding.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item A-16. A summary is as follow: Requested clarity as to what improvements to expect from this agreement.

A. CONSENT AGENDA - continued

On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Clerk Thomas, Agenda Item A-16 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.

A-17, APPROVE Amendment to Agreement with Learning Genie

APPROVED as recommended, an amendment to an agreement with Learning Genie that was approved on June 24, 2020.

A-18, APPROVE Amended 2019/20 Agreement with WestEd

APPROVED as recommended, an amended agreement with WestEd to continue services from the Board Approved 2019/20 contract agreement.

A-19, APPROVE Renewal Agreement with Physmetrics, LLC

DENIED as recommended, a renewal agreement with Physmetrics to administer chiropractic and acupuncture services on behalf of benefit eligible employees and retirees.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item A-19. A summary is as follows: Requested clarity as to how many people in a typical year receive chiropractic or acupuncture care. Requested clarity as to cost per patient. Requested clarity as to if there is a time limit for this item. Requested clarity as to if the district will have Anthem next year. Requested clarity as to if the new vendor will not offer chiropractic or acupuncture services. Chief Financial Officer Santino Danisi was available to provide clarity.

For the record, Board Member Major Slatic motioned that Agenda Item A-19, Approve Renewal Agreement with Physmetrics, LLC be tabled until more information is provided pertaining to the cost per patient and then the agenda item be returned to a future Board agenda.

On a motion by Board Member Major Slatic, seconded by Board Member Cazares, Agenda Item A-19 was denied and will return to a future Board agenda, 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.

A-20, APPROVE Use of Individual Piggyback Contracts

DENIED as recommended, a list of 11 piggyback contracts for use during 2021/22 for efficient and cost-effective procurement.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item A-20. A summary is as follows: Requested more support material be provided with specific details of the products, specifically to modular buildings, energy efficiency and sustainability. Chief Operations Officer Karin Temple was available to provide clarity.

A. CONSENT AGENDA - continued

For the record, Board Member Jonasson Rosas motioned for Agenda Item A-20, Approve Use of Individual Piggyback Contract be tabled until more information is provided pertaining to specific details of the products, specifically to modular buildings, energy efficiency and sustainability.

On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Member Major Slatic, Agenda Item A-20 was denied and will return to a future Board agenda, by a vote of 6-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

A-21, APPROVE Memorandums of Understanding with Partner Organizations Involved in the Equity-Centered Pipeline Initiative

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

A-22, APPROVE Award of Additional Vendors for Request for Qualifications 20-14, Professional Services – Construction Related Consultants

APPROVED as recommended, additional qualified vendors, provided in the Board binders, to the pool previously approved under Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 20-14 in support of the district's new construction, modernization, modular, and deferred and general maintenance projects.

A-23, APPROVE Award of Bid 22-10, Cambridge High School Installation of Privacy Plus Fencing

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 22-10, for new privacy plus chain link fencing at Cambridge High School to improve safety and security for students, staff and visitors.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item A-23. A summary is as follows: Requested clarity on height of fence and if this is typical at high schools. Requested clarity as to local jurisdiction on design guidelines for fencing. Requested clarity as to timeline for project. Suggested landscaping be considered to help beautify and provided privacy for the campus to help avoid institutional feel. Requested clarity as to the process to bid a project. Chief Operations Officer Karin Temple was available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board President Valerie Davis, seconded by Board Member Cazares, Agenda Item A-23 was approved by a vote of 6-0-0-0, as follow: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-26. A summary is as follows: Requested clarity as to changes made to the plan, based on feedback, in the area of programing. Requested clarity as to where the recommendation for additional instructional time originated. Requested clarity as to feedback pertaining to improvement of student meals. Commented on the opportunity to use one-time funding on equipment and salad bars, and the development of a school wellness policy. Requested clarity as to the allowance of use of funding on the above-mentioned items. Requested a brief summary be created to show what funding can and cannot be used for and the timeline for expenditure. Chief Financial Officer Santino Danisi and Executive Officer Tammy Townsend were available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Clerk Thomas, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, Agenda Item B-26 was adopted 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-27, PRESENT and DISCUSS Redistricting of Trustee Areas within Fresno Unified School District and ADOPT Criteria for Preparation of Alternative Draft Redistricting Plans

For the record, Chief of Staff Chavez shared with the Board information pertaining to an additional opportunity to provide feedback at redistricting@fresnounified.org which is now a live email address.

For the record, Dr. Jeff Tilton, Senior Consultant with National Demographics Corporation provided the presentation to the Board.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment

For the record, the Board received one request to address the Board on Agenda Item B-27. The individual's name along with a summary of topic is listed as follows:

1. Andrew Fabela: Requested when maps are drafted that dividing elementary schools into more than one area should be avoided.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-27. A summary is as follows: Requested clarity as to the Boards action for this item. Requested redistricting boundaries be matched to attendance boundaries. Requested to have one-on-one meetings with Mr. Skinnell and Dr. Jeff Tilton. Commented that education population subgroups are important to consider because they represent a constituency. Requested clarity on incorporation of the prison population and how many states have this law. Provided feedback pertaining to the tools, specifically to digital literacy of users. Requested safeguards be in place to ensure anonymous maps are not considered.

Shared ideas to help create a more equitable process. Requested clarity as to information provided on slide 4, specifically population of voting age percentages. Commented on the importance of ensuring equal access to data for all constituents. Requested clarity as to if constituents will have access to paper kits. Requested clarity as to where constituents will find the tools/information. Recommended to have an easily identifiable button to access tools/information online. Requested information be provided in Hmong. Requested clarity as to how information will be messaged to the community. Requested clarity as to magnet schools and voting location. Suggested using QR codes as a means of providing feedback Mr. Skinnell, Dr. Tilton, and Chief of Staff Chavez were available to provide clarity.

For the record, Board Clerk Thomas motioned to table Agenda Item B-27, Present and Discuss Redistricting of Trustee Areas within Fresno Unified School District and Adopt Criteria for Preparation of Alternative Draft Redistricting Plans, until one-on-one meetings with Mr. Skinnell are held.

For the record, Chief of Staff Chavez commented on the potential for delays to the January 12, 2022 timeline if waiting to draft maps until one-on-one meetings are held, and advised, if at the Board's pleasure, that National Demographics Corporation continue drafting the maps while receiving feedback simultaneously then bring item back for adoption.

For the record, Board Clerk Thomas amended her motion to table Agenda Item B-27, Present and Discuss Redistricting of Trustee Areas within Fresno Unified School District and Adopt Criteria for Preparation of Alternative Draft Redistricting Plans, until November 17, 2021 and to allow drafting of maps while receiving feedback from one-on-one meeting with Trustees.

On a motion by Board Clerk Thomas, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, Agenda Item B-27 was not adopted by a vote of 6-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatik, Thomas, and Board President Davis. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

The Board was in receipt of one Receive item as follows:

C-28, RECEIVE Resolution 21-10 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of 2021 Refunding General Obligation Bonds to Refund Outstanding General Obligation Bonds of the District and Approving Related Documents and Actions

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION

Member Major Slatic: Commented on lack of referees. Requested if possible, to certify student athletes to referee. Requested specific detailed information pertaining to Panorama and what service the district receives from Panorama and for how long; requested detailed support documents be provided.

Member Cazares: Notified the Board and Public that she will not be in attendance at the Pig Game as she will be attending the Revolutionary Bowl for Hoover. Commented on how exciting it is to see the parent and community support for the senior high students. Shared example of our Chief of Human Resources, Paul Idsvoog, filling in at a school to help clean cafeteria tables and how people are stepping up to fill gaps. Asked for patience during this time as the district continues efforts to hire more staff.

Member Islas: Celebration of Counselor Yia Lee at McLane for receiving the Arthur S. Marmaduke Counselor Award. Commended Birney for donation of their jog-a-thon proceeds to the Pulmonary Hypertension Fund. Shared COVID-19 information and commented we need to protect each other and work together to help minimize the spread.

Board Clerk Thomas: Commended Member Major Slatic for his recommendation to certify student athletes to referee. Requested to make sure student referees understand the code of conduct, referenced an incident of racism by a referee at a recent Edison game.

Board President Davis: Requested Superintendent to thank Jeremy Ward for presenting at the Council of the Great City School's (CGCS) virtual conference. Reference the report received from the CGCS and their return on investment. Requested the Board to look at the National School Boards Association, if the district is a member, and if membership should be continued.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Davis ADJOURNED the meeting at 8:33 p.m.