



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

March 16, 2022

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 March 16, 2022, there were present Board Members Cazares, Davis, Islas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Jonasson Rosas. Superintendent Dr. Nelson was also present. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

Board President Jonasson Rosas CONVENED the Regular Board Meeting at 4:47 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 Jonasson Rosas RECONVENED the meeting to Open Session at 5:26 p.m.

For the record, Board Member Thomas left the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

There were no items to report out of Closed Session.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Patrick Jensen led the flag salute.

HEAR Report from Superintendent

- Congratulated our colleague, Phil Neufeld, for being named a Top Dog by Fresno State this year! Phil, an Executive Officer in our Information Technology Department, was selected as a Top Dog by the Division of Research and Graduate Studies. Way to go Phil!
- Congratulated our Communications team for being recognized with three awards from CalSPRA, or the California School Public Relations Association. The Communications team received a DEI award of excellence for our district's multilingual outreach and multilingual materials in the development of our district's new strategic plan. The team also received awards of excellence for Kimeka Simmons episode of Faces of Fresno Unified and our Communications Student Advisory Group's Mental Health Public Service Announcement. Congratulations team!

HEAR Report from Superintendent - continued

- Reminded folks, this week begins early voting for the special election for Trustee Area 5, the Fresno High Region. Voters in the Fresno High Trustee voting area can vote in person at the Fresno County Clerk's Office or should be receiving their ballot by mail by April 5. We encourage all who are eligible to vote!
- Shared, on Monday's buy back day our team will hold a Substitute Symposium! Certificated substitutes who join for the full day, 9am-4pm, will be compensated for the professional learning day. Register this week on iAchieve and reach out to Edith Navarro with any questions.
- Reminded students, families, and staff – please make sure to complete your Climate and Culture survey by the end of this week! Our spring Climate and Culture 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. The data we collect will help our schools to take action toward improving student outcomes and ensure 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 information for all sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The Teacher Academy Summer Program is looking for students who want to explore the teaching profession during a paid internship opportunity. Students will engage in professional learning about teaching practices and gain experience in PreK through grade six classrooms during the summer. High school graduates who meet the requirements may be eligible to apply for a paraprofessional position with the district! Applications are due by Friday, so head over to the College and Career webpage or talk to your counselor about how to apply.
- Shared this past weekend, Fresno High hosted The Girl Build Competition as part of the Fresno Unified effort to encourage more female students to pursue careers in construction-related fields. Special thanks to Kei Shabazz and the entire Career Technical Education team for making this happen for our students! Providing these real-world and hands-on learning experiences for our students is crucial!

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 Thomas, seconded by Board Member Major Slatic, the Consent Agenda, with the exception of Agenda Items A-5, A-8, and A-11, which were pulled for further discussion, was approved by a roll call vote of 6-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Islas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and President Jonasson Rosas. 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. 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.

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 draft minutes for the March 09, 2022 Regular Board meeting.

A-4, ADOPT Resolution Proclaiming April 2022 as Remembrance of the Existence of the Armenian Genocide Month
ADOPTED as recommended, a resolution proclaiming the month of April 2022 as Remembrance of the Existence of the Armenian Genocide.

A-5, ADOPT Resolution Proclaiming April 2022 as School Library Month
ADOPTED as recommended, a resolution proclaiming April 2022 as School Library Month.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item A-5. A summary is as follows: Expressed appreciation for school libraries. Commented that not all schools have libraries and asked staff to assess.

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

A-6, ADOPT Variable Term Waiver for Bilingual Cross-Cultural, Language and Development Authorization
ADOPTED as recommended, a Variable Term Waiver for Bilingual Cross-Cultural, Language and Development (BCLAD) Authorization for the 2021/22 school year.

A-7, ADOPT Variable Term Waiver for Career Technical Education Credential Holders
ADOPTED as recommended, a Variable Term Waiver for Career Technical Education (CTE) Credential holders.

A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued

A-8, APPROVE Provisional Internship Permits

APPROVED as recommended, Provisional Internship Permit (PIP) recommendations to rehire or hire upon Board approval.

For the record, Agenda Item A-8, Approve Provisional Internship Permits was pulled for discussion by Board Member Thomas; as Board Member Thomas left the meeting at 6:59 p.m. the item went directly to a vote.

On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Islas, Agenda Item A-8 was approved by a vote of 5-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Islas, Major Slatic, and Board President Jonasson Rosas. ABSENT: Board Member Thomas. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

A-9, ADOPT Resolution 21-36, Requesting an Exemption Renewal from the Education Code Definition of “School Building” for a Tutoring Center through the African American Academic Acceleration Program

ADOPTED as recommended, Resolution 21-36, and Exemption Request Form, State Allocation Board (SAB) 406 to request an exemption renewal from the definition of a “school building” for the Bethesda Apostolic Church buildings, located at 3723 E. Dakota Avenue in Fresno, for use as a Suspension Tutoring Center by the Office of African American Academic Acceleration.

A-10, APPROVE Property, Liability, and Cyber Insurance for 2022/23

APPROVED as recommended, a summary of quotations received from the district’s insurance broker, Marsh & McLennan Agency, for the district’s various forms of coverage.

A-11, APPROVE Proposed Revisions for Board Policies

APPROVED as recommended, proposed revisions for eight (8) Board Policies BP 1312.3 Uniform Complaint Procedures; BP 5111 Admission; BP 5125 Student Records; BP 5141.52 Suicide Prevention; BP 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment; BP 5145.9 Hate-Motivated Behavior; BP 5146 Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students; BP 6173 Education for Homeless Children. **DENIED**, (BP): BP 0410 Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities;

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item A-11. A summary is as follows: Expressed concern pertaining to proposed revisions to BP 0410 Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities. Chief of Staff O’Connor was available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Member Major Slatic, seconded by Board Member Cazares, the Board approved to table Board Policy 0410 Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities, by a vote of 5-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board

A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued

Members: Cazares, Davis, Islas, Major Slatic, and Board President Jonasson Rosas. ABSENT: Board Member Thomas. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Islas, the Board approved the remaining eight board policies in Agenda Item A-11; BP 1312.3 Uniform Complaint Procedures; BP 5111 Admission; BP 5125 Student Records; BP 5141.52 Suicide Prevention; BP 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment; BP 5145.9 Hate-Motivated Behavior; BP 5146 Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students; BP 6173 Education for Homeless Children; by a vote of 5-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Islas, Major Slatic, and Board President Jonasson Rosas. ABSENT: Board Member Thomas. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

A-12, RATIFY Riverside County Superintendent of Schools Agreement for Preschool Local Assistance Grant

RATIFIED as recommended, the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools agreement for the Preschool Local Assistance Grant.

A-13, RATIFY Change Orders

RATIFIED as recommended, information on Change Orders for the following projects: Bid 21-10, Ewing Elementary School Early Learning Buildings and Parking Lot Improvements, Change Order 3 presented for ratification (\$14,818); Bid 21-35, Jackson Elementary School Multipurpose Building Reconstruction, Change Order 3 presented for ratification \$92,007; Bid 20-49, Juan Felipe Herrera New Elementary School, Change Orders 6 and 7 presented for ratification \$919,542.

A-14, 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 21-28, Sunnyside High School Boiler Replacement.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-15, DISCUSS and ADOPT High School Physics Curriculum

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Agenda Item B-15

For the record, the Board received one request to address the Board on Agenda Item B-15. The individual's name along with a summary of topic is as follows:

1. Andrew Fabela: Inquired how many teachers teaching Physics courses have a credential in science, if they are permitted to look elsewhere for teaching methods, and if adequate resources are provided to classes.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA - continued

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-15. A summary is as follows: Requested clarity as to if students and teachers were included in review of the curriculum and offered the opportunity to provide feedback. Requested the Board members be provided the opportunity to review the materials virtually, when possible. Requested clarity as to which site the materials will be used, specifically if used at the alternative high schools. Requested lessons be reviewed individually to evaluate ease of use online versus if lesson is better taught in person. Requested clarity as to if curriculum is available in other languages. Requested clarity as to if the curriculum will be used in dual immersion classes. Requested hands on learning, activities, and field trips be included to enhance student learning.

On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Thomas, Agenda Item B-15 was adopted by a vote of 6-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Islas, Major Slatich, Thomas, and President Jonasson Rosas. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

B-16, PRESENT and DISCUSS the 2022/23 Local Control and Accountability Plan Educational Partner Input

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Agenda Item B-16

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: Commented on the number of responses and requested clarity as to number of responses of surrounding districts. Requested staff be proactive to receive more responses; shared disappointment in lack of response. Complimented staff on collaboration with non-profits. Expressed gratitude for in-depth language sessions provided to families. Requested staff to look toward taking themes to action; how the district will set goals, based on community feedback, to implement and make themes actionable. Expressed appreciation for the incentives provided to families for participating. Requested staff to look toward meetings on a different level, spring/fall, virtual, partner with open house or back to school. Requested clarity as to if there is a statutory minimum of required responses. Requested clarity as to the language acquisition theme. Shared the Foster Parent Association might be a good resource to provide valuable feedback. Commented providing the LCAP survey as part of a statistics class might be an option to gather student feedback. Executive Officer Townsend was available to provide clarity.

B-17, PRESENT and DISCUSS the 2022/23 Strategic Budget Development

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Agenda Item B-17

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA - continued

For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board on Agenda Item B-17.

For the record, Board members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-17. A summary is as follows: Requested staff to place reading specialists as a priority in next budget discussion. Expressed appreciation for staff listening to Board Member requests and bringing forward a proposal for a Translation Service Department. Commented it is detrimental to the productivity of a bilingual employee when their work is interrupted by a request to translate something outside their regular duties. Commented it is important to centralize services to create a uniformity of messages. Commented it is important to expedite the translation of messages produced in English, as the time between translation creates a disadvantage for non-English speaking families to sign up for services which may have a limited number of spaces. Requested clarity as to the provision of Career Technical Education classes to alternative education sites. Requested technology support to adult education students to ensure adult education students receive the same opportunities as other students. Requested books used in English Language Arts classes be available online as well. Requested staff to look at using Teaching Fellows to help teach Algebra I and help with class size reduction. Expressed excitement regarding professional learning being offered to substitute teachers. Requested staff to consider how to better serve Native American families in our community and better support staff in the district's Native American Services Office. Requested staff to be proactive in planning support for Ukrainian refugees. Requested clarity as to the duties of the budget technician position requested by the Instructional Division. Requested clarity as to when the truck bay at Duncan will open to students at the adult school. Commented on promises made to the community and the need for the district to fulfill those promises. Commented on the need to address crossing guards and requested staff to follow-up. Requested to see data on the effectiveness of the Rosetta Stone program. Inquired as to what percentage of the budget increase is statutory salary health and welfare benefits. Requested clarity as to how long Teachers on Special Assignment (TSAs) will be maintained. Expressed concern pertaining to pulling Science teachers to fill TSA positions. Expressed the need for the district to be much more aggressive in building our own teachers. Requested clarity as to the job descriptions of positions in the proposed Translation Services Department. Requested to see proposed translation department job descriptions before positions are posted. Requested clarity as to what languages will be posted in the job description. Requested clear and healthy parameters be created for the proposed translation department. Requested staff to look for paid opportunities when placing students in community internships. Requested clarity as to how the district determines a base language and at what point language support is provided. Stressed the importance of top-quality translation skills when filling the proposed translation department positions. Chief Communications Officer Henry, Instructional Superintendents Castillo and Gomes, and Executive Officer Kelstrom were available to provide clarity.

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

For the record, the Board was in receipt of two items as follows:

C-18, RECEIVE Proposed Board Meeting Dates for 2022/23 and 2023/24

C-19, RECEIVE Proposed Revisions for Board Policies

OPPORTUNITY FOR UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

For the record, the Board received 19 requests to address the Board during Unscheduled Oral Communications. The individual's name along with a summary of topic are listed as follows:

1. Kevin Hall: Not present when called to the podium.
2. Andrew Fabela: Commented on fight at Fresno High School
3. M.C.: Commented on how one language may have several dialects. Support for Andrew Fabela.
4. Eric Rollins: Commented students are not reading at grade-level and asked what plan the district has in order to fix the situation.
5. Erin Schurrman: Commented on fear and consequences of fear.
6. Tammy Rae: Commented on fight at Fresno High School.
7. Mrs. Bailey: Commented on fight at Fresno High School.
8. Gloria Hernandez: Commented on the need for parent liaisons at school sites.
9. Kay Bertken: Thanked the Board for adhering to public health guidelines.
10. Thomas Sabatino: Yielded time to the next speaker.
11. B.N.: Requested the Board look towards providing resources to help raise student reading levels.
12. Griffin Duncan: Commented on his experience when he chose not to wear a mask at school.
13. Alicia Duncan: Commented on parent duties and responsibilities.
14. Todd Duncan: Commented on a conversation he had with a student regarding completing assignments.
15. Marcos Pacheco: Commented on his grades dropping due to COVID quarantine when sent home with allergy symptoms.
16. Mia Pacheco: Commented on how her friends feel without masks.
17. Matthew Pacheco: Parent played video of Matthew talking about how he feels not wearing a mask.
18. Marycela Pacheco: Commented on what she did to teach her children during the COVID school closures.
19. Hayden Sthol & Trae Bojorquez: Commented on how she feels not wearing a mask. Commented on information regarding the Pfizer vaccine.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Jonasson Rosas ADJOURNED the meeting at 8:31 p.m.