



**MINUTES - BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING  
Fresno Unified School District March 06, 2019**

**Fresno, California  
March 06, 2019**

Office of the Board of Education, Fresno Unified School District, Education Center, 2309 Tulare Street, Fresno, California 93721.

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held on March 06, 2019, there were present Student Board Members Samara and Casarubias, Board Members Davis, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatc, Thomas and President Cazares. Superintendent Nelson was also present.

President Cazares CONVENED the Regular Board Meeting at 4:32 p.m. in the Board Room and ADJOURNED to Closed Session to address items one through five. The Board RECONVENED in Open Session at 6:00 p.m.

**Staff Present**

Deputy Superintendent/CFO Quinto, Chief Academic Officer Mecum, Chief of Labor Relations and Human Resources Idsvoog, Chief Technology Officer Madden, Chief of Equity and Access Sanders, Chief of Operations Temple, Executive Director Constituent Services Plascencia, Executive Director McCulley, Administrative Analyst Jensen and Chief of Staff Chavez.

**Reporting Out of Closed Session**

- On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board took action in Closed Session to release two school counselors at the conclusion of the 2018/19 school year, which carried the following vote 7-0-0-0.
- On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, the Board took action in Closed Session to non-re-elect a probationary nurse at the conclusion of the 2018/19 school year, which carried the following vote 6-1-0-0. Trustee Major Slatc was the No vote.
- On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board Member Davis, the Board took action in Closed Session to non-re-elect a probationary nurse at the conclusion of the 2018/19 school year, which carried the following vote 6-1-0-0. Trustee Major Slatc was the No vote.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Carson Wood, Principal and Jodie Garabedian, Campus Culture Director at J.E. Young High School led the flag salute.

### **HEAR Reports from Student Board Representatives**

Martha Cerna Marquez, Iris Cisneros, Bryonna Rowe, and Kaylee Rowe, ASB representatives from JE Young High School shared the changes that have taken place at the Academic Center at JE Young. They are now a 100% online educational program, where students attend classes at least three days per week. On Mondays, all students participate in Project-Based Learning (PBL) and personalized learning with teachers. The first PBL resulted in a field trip to Fresno State's Gibson Market, and the Campus Cupboard. Martha also shared that by the end of the second quarter the number of credits earned was more than any other quarter in JE Young history at 13,769 credits. Regarding Campus Culture, students shared that this year they had their first Club Rush, resulting in forming 10 clubs. They had their first Harvest Festival in November. Tuesday's SAB meeting was held for the first time at JE Young and this year will be the first in which the school will have a senior field trip, to the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk.

Students from Computech Middle School were present and spoke about what they love about being a student at their school.

### **HEAR Report from Superintendent**

- The district had both middle and high school teams competing in the Fresno County Science Olympiad. Two middle schools finished in the top three among 24 teams. Computech, finished second, and Baird, finished third. Baird also had a second team that placed fifth. Upcoming events are the Tournament of Technology on April 6, Innovation Day on May 21, and the middle school Math-O-Rama competition May 28, 29 and 30.
- Edison Tigers girls' soccer team, recently won the Central Section Division II title against Liberty-Madera Ranchos. We also had three district wrestlers place at the state championships. Female wrestler Xanaysis Real from McLane placed seventh and Stanford-bound Dawson Siravong, who attends Patiño and wrestles for Bullard, took third overall with Kwabena Watson from Edison taking eighth.
- The annual conference of California Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, recognized Gaston Middle School. P.E teachers received the Physical Education Program of the Year Award for their outstanding professional contributions and achievements. Teachers Scott Brown, Minith "Adam" Real, Keith Travis, Tiffani Moore, Angelica Lopez, and Jeanne Sawali were present to be recognized. In addition, Nicole Evangelinos, a regional instructional manager -- or RIM -- with Special Education Department, was recently selected as a Central Valley Champion Awards recipient by the Central Valley Regional Center.
- Instructional Superintendent Misty Her, was honored at the state capital with the Woman of the Year award for the 31<sup>st</sup> Assembly District by Assemblyman Dr. Joaquin Arambula. Misty was the first vice principal of Hmong descent in Fresno Unified and the first Hmong female principal in the United States before she became an instructional superintendent.
- This week marks national "School Social Worker Week," recognizing the incredible work social workers do across the nation. This is a special group of people, who are especially skilled in providing services to students who face serious challenges.

## **OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items**

There were no members of the Public wishing to speak at this portion of the Agenda.

On a motion by Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Member Islas, the consent agenda, exclusive of agenda items A-5 and A-7, which was pulled for further discussion, was approved on a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Student Board Members Casarubias and Sarama, Board Members: Davis, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, Thomas and Board President Cazares.

### **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 re-admittance cases conducted during the period since the February 27, 2019 Regular Board meeting

#### **A-3, APPROVE Agreement for Cultural Proficiency Training, Two Days (Phase I)**

**APPROVED as recommended**, an agreement with Randall Lindsey. The Randall Lindsey agreement is in partnership with Randall and Delores Lindsey of the Center for Culturally Proficient Education for providing two days of strategic training in cultural proficiency for three leadership groups in the district organization: Cabinet and Executive level leadership, the Dimensions of Equity (DofE) Steering Committee, and Regional Lead Principals volunteering to represent their regions and sites. The presenters are lifelong educators with combined experience and knowledge that spans all levels of education. This training is foundational in our charge to address persistent access and academic gaps faced by students in the district.

#### **A-4, APPROVE Amendment to Agreement with Fresno County Superintendent of Schools**

**APPROVED as recommended**, an amendment to the agreement with the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools to provide educational services to an identified group of expelled students through the Project HOPE program.

#### **A-5, APPROVE Grant Applications for the 2019/20 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program**

**APPROVED as recommended**, submission of applications for grant funding to the California Department of Education for the 2019/20 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP). The FFVP provides daily fresh fruit and vegetable snacks to elementary school students. Funding applications will be submitted for all 69, K-6 and K-8 schools that meet the eligibility criteria of 50% or more students eligible

for free/reduced-price meals, and grant awards will be based on these percentages. Fresno Unified has received FFVP grant funding for multiple years, and leads the state in the number of schools participating.

For the record, there were comments/questions from Board members to address Agenda Item A-5. A summary is as follows: The program supports students in grades K-6, is there a program funding opportunity for secondary students? Is there any way to make available fresh fruits and vegetables for secondary students? Local procurement policy. Does the district have an opportunity to adjust bid to ascertain where vegetables are grown?

Board Member Islas moved for approval, seconded by Member Mills which carried a 7-0-0-0 vote as follows: AYES: Board Members: Davis, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Cazares.

**A-6, APPROVE Purchase of Fitness/Weight Equipment and Related Facility Improvements for Hoover and McLane High Schools**

**APPROVED as recommended**, the purchase of new weight/fitness equipment for Hoover and McLane High Schools to provide expanded Physical Education (PE) opportunities for students of all abilities, promote more effective conditioning, support healthy fitness habits, and foster increased athletic competitiveness. Providing high quality, state-of-the-art equipment will increase equity among high schools. This is the third and final phase of the high school fitness/weight rooms improvement project. The total cost of equipment for all phases is \$1.356 million. The phasing approach aligned the financial commitment to additional one-time funds being recognized in the General Fund. The cost of facility improvements related to the projects (flooring and paint) is recommended to be supported by Measure X.

**A-7, APPROVE Proposed Revisions for Board Policies 5141.52, 5144, ~~6142.3 (New)~~, 6152.1 (New), and 6178**

**APPROVED as recommended**, proposed revisions for five Board Policies (BP); these revisions meet the legal mandates and are the recommendations made by the California School Boards Association. The Board Policies are as follows:

- BP 5141.52 Suicide Prevention
- BP 5144 Discipline
- ~~(New) BP 6142.3 Civic Education~~
- (New) BP 6152.1 Placement in Mathematics Courses
- BP 6178 Career Technical Education

For the record, there were comments/questions from Board members to address Agenda Item A-7. A summary is as follows: placement in mathematics courses, and a study by San Francisco Unified pertaining to placement of students in mathematics courses.

Board Member Mills moved for approval, seconded by Member Jonasson Rosas

which carried a 7-0-0-0 vote as follows: AYES: Board Members: Davis, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Cazares.

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA (ROLL CALL VOTE)**

**UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**Joyce Henderson** – Spoke about her grandson’s grades, teacher issues, and 504 Plan. District staff Katie Russell and Teresa Plascencia were available to talk with Ms. Henderson.

**B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA**

**Agenda Item B-8, PRESENT and DISCUSS the 2018/19 African American Academic Acceleration Task Force Presentation and ACCEPT the Recommendations**

Board ACCEPTED receipt of recommendations, included in the presentation. The A4 Task Force commenced on May 29, 2018 with six sessions through December 6, 2018 with the vision to bring together stakeholders from Fresno Unified and the surrounding community to reach shared consensus and direction for programmatic, policy and practice solutions for accelerating African American youth academically in Fresno. Presentation by Executive Director Wendy McCulley.

**OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Conference/Discussion Agenda Item B-8.**

**Jahmaal Sawyer** – Spoke about the African American Academic Acceleration Taskforce recommendations and being part of the process.

**Sharon Owens** – Spoke about the African American Academic Acceleration Taskforce recommendations and being part of the process.

**Jenelle Pitt** – Spoke about the African American Academic Acceleration Taskforce recommendations and being part of the process.

**Pam Taylor** – Spoke about the African American Academic Acceleration Taskforce recommendations and being part of the process.

**Adonai Howard** – Spoke about the African American Academic Acceleration Taskforce recommendations and being part of the process.

**Kehinde Solwazi** – Spoke about the African American Academic Acceleration Taskforce recommendations and being part of the process.

For the record, there were comments/questions from Board members regarding Agenda Item B-8. A summary is as follows: Words of support and gratitude for staff and the program. What is the rollout plan for the program? Would like to see an increase of awareness and attribution levels. In general, what are the goals attached to this plan in the short and long term? High expectations for dramatic change. What is the vision? How to

hold staff accountable? Executive Director Wendy McCulley was available to provide clarification.

Member Thomas moved for approval of the 2018/19 African American Academic Acceleration Task Force recommendations, seconded by Member Davis, which carried a vote 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Davis, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Cazares.

**Agenda Item B-9, PRESENT and DISCUSS the 2019/20 Strategic Budget Development**

The 2019/20 Governor’s Proposed Budget was released on January 10, 2019. The Board of Education has discussed the Governor’s proposal and the potential impacts on Fresno Unified, as well as the strategic budget development process, at the following Board of Education meetings:

- January 16, 2019
- February 13, 2019
- January 30, 2019
- February 27, 2019

On March 6, 2019, staff and the Board will continue budget development discussions. Presentation by Deputy Superintendent/Chief Financial Officer Ruth F. Quinto.

**OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Conference/Discussion Agenda Item B-9.**

No members of the Public came forward to speak to Agenda Item B-9.

For the record, there were comments/questions from Board members regarding Agenda Item B-9. A summary is as follows: Increasing the number of vice principals. Waiving the ratio. Transportation and number of relief bus drivers. Fragrance-free products at schools, and work sites. The district can be more aggressive in routine restrictive maintenance. Implementing breakfast in the classroom. Site restrooms and daily cleanings. Work order application. Safe to School crossing guards. First Student delay in dropping off students, is there an action plan in place to address? Purchasing additional vans (eight passenger) to help with transportation. Public transportation and partnership with the City. Meals for field trips. How to mitigate problem with geese? Untied State Immigration and Citizenship grant. Deputy Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer Ruth F. Quinto, Chief Operations Officer Karin Temple, Director Reginald Ruben, Executive Directors Jason Duke, Jose Alvarado, Santino Danisi and Ambra Dorsey were available to provide clarification. No action required on this item.

**Agenda Item B-10, PRESENT and APPROVE the 2019/20 Second Interim Financial Report with a Positive Certification**

California school districts are required to approve interim financial reports twice each fiscal year. Fresno Unified School District’s 2018/19 Second Interim Financial Report is presented for approval and reflects a positive certification of the district’s financial condition. The report is based on the January 31, 2019 year-to-date revenue and expenditures as required by state law. The Superintendent recommends approval of the Second Interim Financial Report for submission to the County Superintendent of Schools.

Fiscal impact: A positive certification reflects the district has the required reserve for economic uncertainties (2%) and has a positive cash balance for the current year and two subsequent years. In addition, the support material reflects a multi-year projected budget for the Unrestricted General Fund and utilizes the state assumptions developed by the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association.

**Opportunity for Public comment on Conference/Discussion Agenda Item B-10.**

No members of the Public came forward to speak to Agenda Item B-10.

For the record, there were comments/questions by Board members regarding Agenda Item B-10. A summary is as follows: Thanked staff for work and positive certification. Design Science funding? Dr. Superintendent Nelson was available to provide clarification.

Member Jonasson Rosas moved for approval, seconded by Member Davis, which carried a vote 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Davis, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Cazares.

**C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS**

There were no items received by the Board.

**BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION**

**Member Islas** – Encouraged attendance to Duncan Polytechnical High School’s Open House.

**Member Major Slatic** – Requested follow-up to his questions pertaining to the February 15, 2019 Board Communication: OS-2, Termination of Agreement for Dark Fiber Project.

**Member Jonasson Rosas** – Requested meeting with Fresno Unified Board and Fresno City leadership. What movement has there been on the air quality process and communication?

**Board President Cazares** – In process of scheduling a joint meeting of Fresno Unified Board and City leadership. Working with Councilmember Esparza to schedule and will communicate once completed. Congratulations to Goal II team and the Elementary Girls Holland Locker Basketball Championship.

**Member Davis** - She will be a person to communicate to every student, regardless of color, that they are kind, smart and beautiful.

**D. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board of Education, Board President Cazares declared the meeting adjourned at 10:13 p.m.