



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
June 20, 2024

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 June 20, 2024, there were present Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup. Interim Superintendent Mao Misty Her was also present.

Board President Wittrup CONVENED the Regular Board Meeting at 4:31 p.m.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Closed Session Items

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests to address the Board on Closed Session items.

Board President Wittrup ADJOURNED the Regular Board Meeting to Closed Session at 4:33 p.m.

Board President Wittrup RECONVENED the meeting to Open Session at 5:50 p.m.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

- On a motion by Board Member Islas, seconded by Board Member Cazares, the Board acted in Closed Session to promote Carmela Teran to Principal II at Rowel Elementary School by a vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup.
- On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Member Levine, the Board acted in Closed Session on a Workers' Compensation Settlement for Stephan Cortez, WC21-0707-5495, by a vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, and Board President Davis.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Paul Idsvoog led the Flag Salute.

HEAR Report from Interim Superintendent

- Good evening to all joining us here in the Board Room and those watching online. Tonight's meeting is arguably one of the most important meetings of the year as our Board bangs the gavel on the budget and our local control and accountability plan. After many months of preparation, engagement, and discussion I am proud of our teams and this Board for coming together to put student achievement first. This budget, cutting \$24 million ongoing, prioritizes our students and our school sites as we responsibly right-size our district. But tonight is even more important as our Trustees additionally weigh the decision of putting a local bond measure on the ballot in November. I'm proud of the student-centered investments we have made through Measure X, Q, and M and know that we still have more than \$3 billion dollars' worth of need across our district. I appreciate this Board and our taxpayers for considering this investment as we move forward.
- I want to remind our Fresno community that our schools are currently serving free summer meals for all children ages 1-18. These hot meals can be enjoyed on-site every weekday from 11am-1pm. I have visited several sites and am so grateful to our teams for making this such a wonderful experience for our families. Every day we see full families join us for lunch, ensuring our kids continue getting a healthy, hot meal throughout the summer break. Check out our website at www.fresnounified.org and click Free Summer Meals to see all locations.
- While it feels like the school year just ended, our teams have been full steam ahead on preparing for the upcoming opening of schools for the 2024/25 school year. Thank you to our Chief Academic Officer and her team for leading our cross-functional opening of schools' team, who are working collaboratively to make sure this is the best opening of schools yet! We can't wait to see all our students back on Monday, August 19!
- I have also been able to visit some of our summer academies and summer programs and I have been blown away! We have summer academies happening all across the district, helping our students continue their learning as well as special programs like our A4 Figures program and our Quest program. I visited the A4 Figures program which is a summer program for African American girls to dive into the world of STEM. Our girls were coding robots in their class to help keep kids safe in crosswalks, pick up trash, and even feed stray animals. Their minds and hearts are unbelievable!
- I would like to also shout out to our Edison High History Day team who took fifth place in the National History Day competition for Group Performance. The team, made up of Cate Cheilpegian, Violet Mack, Matthew Pitcher, Mason Pitcher, and Kyle Mrkaich competed against other US teams as well as teams from China, South Korea, and Singapore at the University of Maryland. Way to go team and special thank you to Coach Gary Mrkaich.
- Congratulations to our Bullard Talent students who came home from a recent WorldStrides Hollywood Heritage Festival competition loaded down with trophies! Our amazing students received the Choral Sweepstakes Award, with a Festival of Gold Invitation for Concert Choir, the Adjudicator Award for Concert Choir, and eighth grader Addyson Brown received the Ovation Award! We are so proud of you all!

- Congratulations to our Teacher Residency program graduates! This year we graduated 105 new teachers with specialties in many different areas including special education, math, science, and bilingual education! Thank you to our amazing teacher development team for guiding and supporting these new teachers. And to our graduates, welcome to the Fresno Unified Family!
- Shoutout to our Information Technology and Curriculum Instruction and Professional Learning teams who hosted the 2nd annual Educational Technology Conference earlier this month! The day of learning brought together 170 teachers and staff focused on deepening learning experiences through technology. The feedback was fantastic with 99% of attendees sharing they learned something new from their sessions which were led mostly by our own teachers! Thank you all who made this happen and to all who invested in additional learning!

BOARD/INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS

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

Member Islas provided a shout out to all staff at schools within the McLane Region. Shared that McLane state testing shows double-digit gains putting them ahead of pre-COVID proficiency rates.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Consent Agenda items

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests to address the Board on the Consent Agenda.

Please note, staff pulled from the Consent Agenda item A-11, Approve the 2024/25 Special Education Local Plan Area Local Plan; therefore, no discussion or action took place for agenda item A-11.

On a motion by Board Clerk Davis, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board approved the Consent Agenda except for agenda items A-10, A-15, A-17, A-18, A-20, A-22, A-27, A-32 and A-45, which were pulled for further discussion, by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup.

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 regular Board meeting on June 12, 2024.
- A-3, APPROVE Meeting Minutes**
APPROVED as recommended, the draft minutes for the June 12, 2024, Board of Education regular meeting.
- A-4, APPROVE Annual Request to Hire Non-Credentialed Consultants for the 2024/25 School Year**
APPROVED as recommended, a request to hire non credentialed consultants who possess unique skills from business, performing arts and postsecondary institutions to provide instruction to students for the 2024/25 school year.
- A-5, APPROVE Retiree Contracts for the 2024/25 School Year**
APPROVED as recommended, seven retiree contracts for the 2024/25 school year. The retiree contracts are needed to provide part-time instruction at Fresno Adult School (FAS), target chronic absenteeism at King Elementary School, deliver intervention supports at Viking Elementary School, and provide translation services through the English Learner Services Department.
- A-6, APPROVE Revised Certificated Management Competitive and Negotiable Monthly Salary Schedule**
APPROVED as recommended, the revised Certificated Management Competitive and Negotiable Monthly Salary Schedule.
- A-7, APPROVE 2024/25 Salary Schedule Revisions Reflecting 3% Increase -- Operations Hourly Salary Schedule, Fresno Teachers Association – Trades, Confidential Hourly, Supervisory Hourly, Certificated and Classified Management, Nurses and Speech Language Pathologists, Teachers and Librarians, Teachers on Special Assignment, Designated Teachers, Career Technical Education/Vocational Education Teachers, Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps Instructors, Lori Ann Infant Center, Child Development Center and Pace Teachers, Adult Education, Pre-Kindergarten Teachers, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Crafts, Extra-Pay-Extra-Services Salary Schedule Reflecting 8.5% Increase, and Certificated Substitute Daily Salary Schedule**
APPROVED as recommended.

A-8, APPROVE Revised Job Description for Coordinator 1 – Purchasing
APPROVED as recommended, the revised job description for Coordinator 1 – Purchasing Department.

A-9, APPROVE the Development of the Clear Administrative Service Credential Program
APPROVED as recommended, the Fresno Unified School District Clear Administrative Service Credential (CASC) Program.

A-10, APPROVE the Fall 2024 California Dashboard Local Indicators
APPROVED as recommended, updated information regarding the Fall 2024 California Dashboard Local Indicators and associated local indicator mandates.

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

Clerk Davis requested a brief overview of the local indicators.

For the record, Zerina Hargrove, Ed.D., was available to provide an overview of the California Dashboard Local Indicators.

On a motion by Board Clerk Davis, seconded by Board Member Thomas, agenda item A-10 was approved by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, and President Wittrup.

A-11, APPROVE the 2024/25 Special Education Local Plan Area Local Plan
ITEM PULLED BY STAFF. No discussion or action.

A-12, APPROVE Agreement with A & A Crane Services
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Fresno Unified School District and A & A Crane Services. This agreement will provide Cal OSHA Certification for 19 general maintenance employees to operate the district's boom truck.

A-13, APPROVE Agreement with Break the Barriers for July 2024 Swim Lessons
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Break the Barriers, which is a Board approved Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 22-09 vendor. Break the Barriers will offer five swimming sessions off-site at their facility. Services will be provided to current Fresno Unified students in grades Transitional Kindergarten through grade 12.

A-14, APPROVE Agreement with the City of Fresno for July 2024 Swim Lessons and Recreational Swim
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with the City of Fresno Parks After School Recreational and Community Services (PARCS). The City of Fresno PARCS will offer three swim sessions at seven high schools and eight days of recreational swimming at five high schools. Service will be provided to Fresno Unified students in grades Preschool through grade 12.

A-15, APPROVE Agreement with Career Nexus

APPROVED as recommended, a sub-lease agreement with Career Nexus for a college and career experience and support center focused on industry-recognized certifications, dual enrollment, career themed field trips and summer and winter camps for students of all grade levels, college advising through connections with higher education and industry partners, and an on-ramp to high-skill, high-wage industry sectors.

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

Board Member Cazares commented did not want the item to pass without thanking staff for providing the extra push for students that will not attend college to have somewhere else to achieve their dream. Member Cazares commented that it is the old Caltrans property, a one-year lease with tenant improvements.

On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Clerk Davis, agenda item A-15 was approved by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, and President Wittrup.

A-16, APPROVE Agreement with California Office to Reform Education for Shared Principal II Services by Maria Lynn Rocha Salazar as a Fresno Unified Employee on Loan to California Office to Reform Education

APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with the California Office to Reform Education (CORE). The agreement is for shared Principal II services by Maria Lynn Rocha Salazar as a Fresno Unified Employee on loan to CORE as of August 01, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

**A-17, APPROVE Agreement with Consultant from EduLead, LLC
NOT APPROVED as recommended.**

For the record, Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item A-17. A summary is as follows:

Member Cazares commented that because the report is still under review and the process of gathering input is not complete, it would not be prudent for the district to spend additional funds on this item.

On a motion by Board Clerk Davis, seconded by Board President Wittrup, agenda item A-17 was not approved by a roll call vote of 1-6-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Clerk Davis. NOES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Board President Wittrup.

For the record, Member Cazares provided additional comments. A summary is as follows: commented the district has wonderful staff and asked if a member of staff could be identified to fulfill the request of this item.

**A-18, APPROVE Agreement with Recruitment Alley for Paraprofessional Support for Special Education
NOT APPROVED as recommended.**

For the record, Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item A-18. A summary is as follows:

Member Jonasson Rosas commented on understanding the importance of paraprofessional support to classrooms and teachers and this agreement goes to the need of increasing hiring within our staff. Commented on the need to figure out why the district is not able to recruit and retain paraprofessional staff, for continuity of support with students, instead of outsourcing jobs.

Member Jonasson Rosas commented that the district has had to outsource in the past and ran into trouble with various scopes of services. Member Jonasson Rosas commented that there is a plan to improve recruitment and Member Jonasson Rosas is strongly in favor for paraprofessionals to be actual staff of Fresno Unified that can be in classrooms, verses more of these agreements, and urges staff to get to the root of the paraprofessional recruitment and retainment problems.

Member Jonasson Rosas motioned to table this item until the beginning of the year.

Member Cazares commented on having similar thoughts as Member Jonasson Rosas. Member Cazares commented on being excited about the summer recruitment fairs that will take place to have paraprofessionals in the system for the start of school in August. Member Cazares shared concern that this item went forward on the agenda with three other similar actions and commented there are a lot of employees not being hired, it is a lot of money going out the door, people not getting benefits, children not getting continued services.

Member Cazares commented that what is more concerning is that there is not only this \$3.9 million dollar contract on the agenda but two others as well.

Member Cazares commented on being in favor of tabling agenda item A-18, and seconded Member Jonasson Rosas's motion to table the item until the beginning of the year.

Member Islas shared full support of Member Jonasson Rosas and Cazares' comments. Commented on having not only students, but parents as well, because we live in a community with limited employment opportunities some of our parents would be exceptional in these roles, if there were different criteria in requirements to be a paraprofessional. Commented that maybe a different reclassification is needed.

Member Islas commented on being in favor of tabling agenda item A-18 and waiting to see the outcome of the summer recruitment fairs.

Member Thomas commented on hearing from paraprofessionals that there are not enough hours and the hours available are sporadic. Member Thomas asked for the average number of hours paraprofessionals receive, and if the district is able to expand on hours.

Member Levine supported the sentiments of fellow Board colleagues and would like to figure out how to fill positions internally. Commented on hope the recruitment fairs will be a big step towards filling positions but does have some anxiety that this is the last meeting of the Board before the start of the next school year and does not want to have any laps in services to students. Asked if the recruitment fair does not yield enough paraprofessionals if there is a way to have a safeguard in the agreement without committing toward the entirety of the contract.

For the record, Member Cazares requested to speak. Commented that agenda item A-18 is being discussed but agenda item A-21 (which I forgot to pull) for a similar request has been approved at \$4.1 million, and asked if that is something to consider?

Member Jonasson Rosas echoed Member Cazares's sentiments and also misheard and thought all three agreements related to paraprofessionals were pulled. Commented that since one agreement has passed at \$4.1 million that should be plenty.

Member Levine asked if the one agreement that passed will provide the district with what it needs to make sure there are no laps in services to students at the beginning of the school year no matter what happens with the recruitment fairs.

Member Jonasson Rosas commented on appreciating the efforts being made to fill vacancies and that great steps in the right direction are being taken but part of Member Jonasson Rosas's hesitation is that the district has done this before, has hired contractors to do work and have then faced issues. Commented the focus and expediency should be to fix the issue as it has been an issue as long as Member Jonasson Rosas has been on the Board; and we owe it to the community to hire those paraprofessionals.

Member Thomas commented that Member Thomas's only problem with not voting is does not want students to be left behind; it is more important, especially in the district's state of transition, for students to be successful from the beginning and offered that the Board take that into consideration. Member Thomas suggested that recruitment happen not only at designated recruitment fairs but also at community events as well.

Clerk Davis commented that it almost feels as if the district is working against itself, in regard to the number of agreements on the agenda versus the waivers in place and the recruitment fairs that will take place. Commented that with the approval of A-21 there is a backup plan, so the district will not start a school year without proper services to students in place.

President Wittrup commented that the elephant in the room is the SELPA plan which was pulled because it was embarrassing, it was cut and pasted from Clovis Unified; we have had budget over runs and for President Wittrup it creates a lack of confidence in voting in support of these items. President Wittrup requested to see improvement in what comes across the dais and then it will improve confidence.

Member Levine commented on wanting to accurately look back at the calendar. Asked if the Board tables the item tonight and waits to see how many paraprofessionals are hired at the summer recruitment fairs and finds there are still vacant paraprofessional positions; with the first board meeting of the new school year August 14 and the first day of school August 19 is there still time for the item to be brought to the August 14 meeting for the start of the school year.

On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Member Cazares the Board approved the tabling of agenda item A-18 by a roll call vote of 5-2-0-0 as follows: AYES: Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Clerk Davis, and President Wittrup. NOES: Board Members Islas and Thomas.

A-19, APPROVE Agreement with the State Center Community College District
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with the State Center Community College District (SCCCD) and Expanded Learning Department. SCCCDC will provide seven different programs during summer camps in July 2024. SCCCDC will serve 340 Fresno Unified students in grades 1 through 12. Programs are focused on STEM and College and Career Discovery.

A-20, APPROVE Agreement with Stepping Stones to Provided Extra Support for Special Education
NOT APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Stepping Stones for the 2024/25 school year. The Stepping Stones group will contract with the Special Education Department to provide 82 extra paraprofessionals to address the individual needs of students.

For the record, Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item A-20. A summary is as follows:

Member Cazares commented on having the same issues with this agreement as with agenda item A-18 and moved to table agenda item A-20.

On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, the Board approved to table agenda item A-20 to the beginning of the year on a roll call vote of 6-1-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup. NOES: Board Member Thomas.

A-21, APPROVE Agreement with Stepping Stones for Paraprofessional Support in Special Education

APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Stepping Stones. The Stepping Stones group will contract with the Special Education Department to provide up to 100 paraprofessionals to address the 205 paraprofessional and paraeducator vacancies within the district.

A-22, APPROVE Agreements for Expanded Learning After School Program Enrichment Services

APPROVED as recommended, a matrix of Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 22-09 prequalified vendors that will lead enrichment services in the 2024/25 After School Programs at 68 school sites.

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

Member Cazares commented this is the same thing--the district is hiring temps to do contracted work and the district should be looking at if we need those persons why are we not expanding our recruitment efforts. Commented this is a huge amount and does not feel comfortable moving this forward.

Member Jonasson Rosas commented on knowing this item is a lot and next year Member Jonasson Rosas will be looking for the accountability piece. Commented that there has been much discussion about measurements and accountability. Commented that the after-school program is an underutilized resource for a lot of kids and what is going to be key next year is really looking at metrics, there needs to be accountability for progress and growth in whatever we are investing in, and I do not see a lot of that in our afterschool program yet. So, I am skeptical. I do think there needs to be enrichment, so I am in favor of the expansion in the afterschool program, but I want to see higher accountability.

Member Islas agreed in terms of hiring but commented this item is a little different because it is community-based partners not just a vendor bringing on temps to fill positions, but local residents as employees, it is an area where the district has funds that are to be dedicated to enhancing resources and services. Member Islas commented that this item feels a little different and offered support for the item.

Clerk Davis moved to approve the item and commented it was for the simple reason the afterschool programs are the envy of the community and would rather pay to keep students on district property until 5:30 p.m. than to go home not

knowing what awaits them. Clerk Davis stated it is money well spent to keep students on district property with district staff.

Member Thomas shared appreciation for staff and the work they contribute to the summer school programs, they have done a phenomenal job with expansion and does not want the district to get to a place where that growth is hindered.

On a motion by Clerk Davis, seconded by Board Member Thomas, agenda item A-22 was approved by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine Thomas, Clerk Davis, and President Wittrup.

- A-23, APPROVE Agreements for Legal Services for the 2024/25 School Year**
APPROVED as recommended, a list of legal firms recommended for approval to provide legal services to Fresno Unified School District during the 2024/25 fiscal year. The list includes the firm name, location, and the 2023/24 and 2024/25 attorney hourly rate(s).
- A-24, APPROVE Amendment to the Agreement with Tyler Technologies, Inc.**
APPROVED as recommended, information on an amendment to an agreement with Tyler Technologies, Inc. to allow for additional on-site training.
- A-25, APPROVE Renewal Agreement with Halcyon Behavioral, LLC**
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Halcyon Behavioral, LLC, the district's mental health and substance abuse provider for the Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) health plan members on PPO Plans A and B. Renewal is for three years through June 30, 2027.
- A-26, APPROVE Memorandum of Understanding with the State Center Community College District for College and Career Access Pathways**
APPROVED as recommended, a Memorandum of Understanding between Fresno Unified School District and the State Center Community College District for the College and Career Access Pathways. This agreement will expand opportunities for students and develop seamless pathways from high school to community college for career technical education or preparation for transfer by offering dual enrollment courses. This will result in students earning a college degree in less time by eliminating duplication of coursework between high school and college.
- A-27, APPROVE Vendor Designation Per Request for Qualifications 23-30S5, Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Learning Services**
APPROVED as recommended, information regarding proposed vendors selected through the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 22-30S4, Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Learning Services. The current RFQ is intended to support the District's Every Child is a Reader literacy initiative.

The RFQ establishes a list of prequalified vendors that may be used for these services. The term will begin upon Board approval through June 30, 2024, with the option of up to four one-year renewal terms for a maximum end date of June 30, 2028.

For the record, Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item A-27. A summary is as follows:

Member Cazares commented on understanding this item is for the literacy initiative of which she is a big supporter. Commented on wanting to be sure district staff are used as much as possible as outside vendors do not have the same buy in to the literacy initiative as we would like them too.

Member Cazares requested staff to explain this item as the dollar amount seems very high. Member Cazares commented that the hiring of consultants is happening too much, and dollar amounts are getting out of control. Member Cazares commented that accountability and transparency of how these vendors are used will be a high priority for the Board, having good guardrails on how money is spent with reports back to the Board as well.

Member Jonasson Rosas addressed the conversation keeps going to per region but from an equity standpoint per region does not matter, it is per need and asked staff to get away from using per region because it is inequitable and does not address the actual needs of students. District dollars always need to be driven by need and students first not by region.

Clerk Davis commented that the per region is because every region has a different strategy.

Member Islas commented that each region has varying needs and how dollars are invested should be based on need. Member Islas referenced the number of vendors for each category and commented that some are very focused on certain ethnic populations that are hard to reach so is glad the district includes diverse vendors.

Member Islas commented that the district needs to support local vendors whether by capacity building or showcasing successful vendors. Commented this is how to ensure dollars stay local, there is a lot of expertise here and community-based partners that can rise to the occasion and Member Islas suggested it would be in our favor to explore how we do that more concertedly.

President Wittrup concurred with everything that was said about this item and commented that the district is changing and transforming the way it teaches in reading and literacy and every region has a strong need. President Wittrup expressed appreciation for the way staff look at every region to be sure every child gets what they need, it is a big lift, and it is going to change the trajectory of this community if it is done will.

On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Member Thomas, agenda item A-27 was approved by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, President Wittrup.

A-28, APPROVE Excess Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance for 2024/25

APPROVED as recommended, a quotation received from the district's insurance broker, Marsh & McLennan Agency, for the district's Excess Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability coverage. The policy period will extend from July 01, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

A-29, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-82, Heaton Elementary School Confidential Space Installation

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-82, Heaton Elementary School Confidential Space Installation. The project consists of adding permanent walls in existing spaces to create five confidential spaces for student support. Permanent wall construction will also be constructed around the library and staff dining room to create a single point of entry for increased safety. Staff recommend award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: BDM, Inc. (Hanford, California) \$1,250,785.

A-30, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-83, Figarden Elementary School Confidential Space Installation

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-83, Figarden Elementary School Confidential Space Installation. The project consists of an interior renovation of the administration office to install new interior walls and doors to create a confidential space for student support and American with Disabilities Act upgrades to the staff restrooms and nurse's station. The main entry doors will be relocated for a single point of entry to increase student and staff safety. Staff recommend award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: Better Enterprises, Inc. (Fresno, California) \$661,000.

A-31, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-84, Scandinavian Middle School Sitework and Portable Improvement

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-84, Scandinavian Middle School Sitework and Portable Improvement. The project consists of installing two modular buildings, associated sitework and fencing to create a single point of entry. One modular building consists of four offices for counseling and student support along with a space for tutoring and a staff breakroom. The other modular building will serve as a classroom for formal tutoring to enhance student academics. Staff recommend award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: BDM, Inc. (Hanford, California) \$1,680,785.

A-32, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-86, Nutrition Center Facility Upgrades
APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-86, Nutrition Center Facility Upgrades. The project will install six owner furnished dock levelers, replace automatic rollup doors, extend forklift charging station, and remodel the conference room at the Nutrition Center. Staff recommend award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: Better Enterprises, Inc. (Fresno, California) \$1,097,500.

For the record, Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item A-32. A summary is as follows:

Member Cazares thanked staff for their work and the ten construction items on tonight's agenda and commented on wanting to provide staff an opportunity to share why so many construction items are on the agenda and take place over the summer.

Paul Idsvoog was available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Clerk Davis, the Board approved agenda item A-32 by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, President Wittrup.

A-33, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-87, Gaston Middle School Sitework and Portable Improvement

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-87, Gaston Middle School Sitework and Portable Improvement. The project consists of installing a modular building and associated sitework. The new modular building consists of four offices for counseling and student support along with a space for tutoring and a staff breakroom. Staff recommend award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: GCB1, Inc. dba GC Builders (Fresno, California) \$ 938,700.

A-34, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-89, Service Center Bus Lift Replacement

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-89, Service Center Bus Lift Replacement. The project consists of replacing a bus lift in the Service Center bus shop. Staff recommend award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: Viking Enterprises (Fresno, California) \$359,999.

A-35, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-92, Cambridge High School Sitework and Portable Improvement

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-92, Cambridge High School Sitework and Portable Improvement. This project will provide infrastructure and site improvements for the placement of a new portable building to serve as a library. The project also includes minor fencing upgrades to create a secure single point of entry to the school administration building for increased campus safety. Staff recommend award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: BDM, Inc. (Hanford, California) \$989,775.

A-36, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-93, Computech Middle School Sitework and Portable Improvement

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-93, Computech Middle School Sitework and Portable Improvement. This project will provide infrastructure and site improvements for the placement of one new portable building with nine office spaces, a workroom, staff restrooms and custodial space. Staff recommend award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: BDM, Inc. (Hanford, California) \$899,975.

A-37, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-94, Burroughs and Sunset Elementary Schools Playground Replacements

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-94, Burroughs, and Sunset Elementary Schools Playground Replacements. The project consists of the replacement of the play equipment, installation of rubber surfacing, and associated sitework at Burroughs and Sunset Elementary Schools. Staff recommend award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: Harris Development Corp., dba HBC Enterprises (Clovis, California) \$669,475 for Section A - Burroughs Elementary School and BDM, Inc. (Hanford, California) \$929,875 for Section B - Sunset Elementary School.

A-38, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-95, Addicott Elementary School Shade Structures and Site Improvements

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-95, Addicott Elementary School Shade Structures and Site Improvements. This project includes the installation of play equipment, three new shade structures and associated sitework to enhance student comfort. Staff recommend award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: Harris Development Corp., dba HBC Enterprises (Clovis, California) \$757,449.

A-39, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-97, Tehipite Middle School Fresno Unified School District Technology Hub

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-97, Tehipite Middle School Fresno Unified School District Technology Hub. The project scope consists of converting the existing wood shop space into a state-of-the-art technology hub. The space will be utilized districtwide as a competitive e-sports gaming league center that will provide equal access to modern computer equipment for our students. Staff recommend award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: Quiring General, LLC (Fresno, California) \$3,565,015.

A-40, APPROVE Award of Formal Quote, King and Lincoln Elementary Schools and Cesar Chavez Adult School Playground Equipment Replacement

APPROVED as recommended, information on Formal Quote, King and Lincoln Elementary Schools and Cesar Chavez Adult School Playground Equipment Replacement.

A-41, APPROVE Rejection of Bid 24-90, Safety and Security Fencing at 13 Sites, Sections A-D

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-90, Safety and Security Fencing at 13 Sites. Staff recommend rejecting all bids due to bid prices being significantly higher than the estimated amount.

A-42, APPROVE Rejection of Bid 24-98, Sunnyside High School Theater Lighting and Sound System Replacement

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 24-98, Sunnyside High School Theater Lighting and Sound System Replacement. Staff recommend rejecting all bids due to bid prices being significantly higher than the estimated amount.

A-43, APPROVE Proposed Revisions for Board Bylaw 9321

APPROVED as recommended, proposed revisions for Board Bylaw 9321, Closed Session Purpose and Agendas. These revisions meet the California School Boards Association recommendations and best practices.

A-44, APPROVE Proposed Revisions for Board Policy BP 5141.52

APPROVED as recommended, proposed revisions for Board Policy BP 5141.52 Suicide Prevention. The Board approved BP 5141.52 on April 24, 2024; however, feedback from the Federal Program Monitor (FPM) auditor requires additional changes for compliance.

A-45, APPROVE Proposed Revisions for Board Policy 7310

NOT APPROVED as recommended, proposed revisions for Board Policy 7310, Naming of Facility. These revisions meet the California School Boards Association recommendations and best practices.

For the record, Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item A-45. A summary is as follows:

Member Jonasson Rosas provided proposed amendments for Board Policy 7310 as follows: nominations for deceased individuals only; other criteria are considered like a flower, bird, or geographical areas; the number of required signatures be formulaic as a percentage of those over the age of 18 living in the trustee area; a comment should be added to the survey that states if a specific renaming is put forward via survey results then a public hearing is held.

Member Jonasson Rosas questioned the verification process, asked who will check addresses? Suggested adding acts of moral turpitude to the area that speaks about criminal or unlawful acts because there may be something morally offensive that an individual is engaged in that is not a criminal offense.

Member Jonasson Rosas suggested the committee consider the proposed amendments and bring the item back to the Board.

Member Thomas commented in support of Member Jonasson Rosas's proposed amendments except for the amendment regarding the consideration of only deceased individuals should be considered. Member Thomas commented if the Board only considered deceased individuals the district would not have the Farber Campus or Delores Huerta building. Member Thomas thanked the community members for their participation on the committee. Member Thomas would like to honor people while they are living.

Member Cazares commented that the committee discussed this at length a few times in the subcommittee meeting. Expressed her desire to honor our living community members and she would want to leave that in there. Commented that she also agreed with Member Jonasson Rosas regarding adding language inclusive of other elements of nature (i.e. flowers). Shared that the committee discussed at length the signature requirement and that the intent was to be inclusive and not exclude those that were not registered voters. Member Cazares requested clarification regarding the survey.

Member Jonasson Rosas commented that she wasn't necessarily suggesting limiting to registered voters and suggested it could be a percentage of people living in the district to avoid having to come back to the Board to change every time. Suggested a percentage of population over the age of eighteen, not voters. Requested update to the survey language; specifically, to include the staff and community in the event of naming of a new school where students and families are not yet enrolled. Shared that it is truly our community's facilities, and it should be about the families and the people attending the school. Survey links should ensure that the link can't be accessed by non-community members to participate.

At this time Member Cazares commented that it is more like book verification, got it and commented that she agrees.

Member Levine requested to comment as a member of the committee. Shared that the reason for the "and/or" is flexibility as some proposals are for specific school sites in specific regions and some may be district buildings.

Clerk Davis commented that she truly appreciated the hard work that the committee has done and appreciates them trying to get the community together as their input is important. Fresno Unified was building schools as fast as they could and naming them after trustees. Commented that verification is important as we had people living in Southern California giving input the last time a school was named. Agreed with Trustee Thomas with her smelling flowers analogy and shared the importance of first honoring school personnel type of people who have lived in the community or served the community and gave the example of Tim Liles, who didn't live in the community but served the community. Shared that living or deceased, there is that opportunity to honor somebody. Shared the importance of basic verification, so we don't rack up a lot of duplicates.

Member Islas commented that as the third Board member of the committee the feeling is the committee vetted and is happy with some of the amendments the only exception would be about the living or not and would like to keep it as is and would like to call the question and motion to approve with the amendments that were suggested.

At this time legal counsel Bryan Martin advised the Board to table the item to allow amendments to be made, this will provide fair notice of the changes being made, then return Board Policy 7310 to the Board for action.

For the record, Members Cazares and Islas withdrew their earlier motions.

Member Cazares motioned to table agenda item A-45 to August pending if the committee sees each other's faces again before then and to consider the recommendations.

For the record, legal counsel Bryan Martin advised the Board that if the item is tabled it is basically tabling the same item and what the Board should do is take no action or vote the item down with instruction to staff to bring the item back with the right revised format.

For the record, Member Cazares withdrew the motion to table the item.

Member Jonasson Rosas voted there be no motion and to move to the next item. Member Cazares seconded.

A-46, RATIFY Agreement with Mark T. Harris

RATIFIED as recommended, an agreement with Mark T. Harris to provide services to the Bullard High School Social Justice Project for Black Student Union students in the 2023/24 academic year. The A4 Office received a Provident National Corporation Foundation Grant, enabling the Bullard BSU students to join a Reparations Project.

A-47, RATIFY Amendment to the Agreement with the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools to Administer the California Statewide Early Math Initiative Grant

RATIFIED as recommended, an amendment to the agreement between Fresno Unified School District and Fresno County Superintendent of Schools to administer the California Statewide Early Math Initiative grant. The initial grant of \$200,000 from Fresno County Superintendent of Schools has been increased by \$50,000. The additional grant funds will allow for implementation of an early math family and community engagement program to support families and children in engaging in early math at home and in the community. The amended agreement extends the termination date to December 31, 2024.

A-48, RATIFY Amendment to an Agreement with Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz, and Associates (FM3) to Conduct a Community Survey Regarding a Potential Bond Measure

RATIFIED as recommended, an amendment to the agreement for Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz, and Associates (FM3) to conduct an additional survey in three languages, English, Spanish and Hmong. Staff is requesting \$41,500 to support the additional services conducted to gauge voter continued interest in a potential 2024 bond measure to continue school facility improvements post Fresno Teachers Association Negotiations October 2023.

A-49, RATIFY Application for Learning Community School Success Program Grant

RATIFIED as recommended, the Learning Community School Success Program grant application for Fresno Unified School District. The proposed grant actions target strengthening Tier I practices and enhancing Discipline Guidelines implementation at 13 secondary schools through coaching, professional learning, and implementation supports. Additionally, increasing targeted social emotional, attendance, and behavior interventions by providing a Tier II Intervention Specialist, one teacher, and one Behavior Intervention Specialist. The \$1,995,614 grant award would be implemented over three years from 2024/25 to 2026/27.

A-50, RATIFY Change Orders

RATIFIED as recommended, information on Change Orders for the following projects: Bid 22-01, Addams Elementary School Building Additions and Modernization, Change Order 14 presented for ratification: \$10,553; Bid 22-21, Francine and Murray Farber Educational Campus, Change Order 10 presented for ratification: \$184,864; Bid 23-23, Ericson Elementary School New Multipurpose Building and Interim Housing, Change Order 5 (Multipurpose Building) presented for ratification: \$55,691; Bid 23-64, Bullard Talent K-8 School Office Portable Project, Change Order 3 presented for ratification: \$3,903; Bid 24-16, Roeding Elementary School Confidential Spaces and Administration Building Modernization, Change Order 2 presented for ratification: \$8,297.

A-51, RATIFY the Filing of a Notice of Completion

RATIFIED as recommended, a Notice of Completion for the project which has been completed according to plans and specifications as follows: Bid 23-17, Fremont Elementary School Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning Energy Management System Replacement.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-52, DISCUSS and ADOPT Resolution 24-87: Ordering an Election to Authorize the Issuance of School Bonds, Establishing Specifications of the Election Order, and Requesting Consolidation with Other Elections Occurring on November 05, 2024

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests to address the Board on agenda item B-52.

On a motion by Board Clerk Davis, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board adopted agenda item B-52, by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup.

B-53, DISCUSS and ADOPT the Fresno Unified School District 2024/25 Local Control and Accountability Plan

For the record, the Board received one (1) email request to address the Board on agenda item B-53. A copy of the letter from Emma Villa is attached to the minutes.

On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, the Board adopted agenda item B-53, by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup.

B-54, DISCUSS and ADOPT the Fresno Unified School District 2024/25 Proposed Budget and Education Protection Account

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests to address the Board on agenda item B-54.

On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board adopted agenda item B-54, by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup.

B-55, DISCUSS and APPROVE Annual Agreements for the 2024/25 School Year – Primary Report

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests to address the Board on agenda item B-55.

For the record, Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item B-55. A summary is as follows:

Member Jonasson Rosas requested a column be added to the annual agreement matrix to denote the goal of each agreement.

On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board Clerk Davis, the Board approved agenda item B-55, by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup.

B-56, DISCUSS and APPROVE Annual Agreements for the 2024/25 School Year – Supplemental Report

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests to address the Board on agenda item B-56.

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

“Agenda item B-56 on tonight’s Conference and Discussion agenda contains agreements with Hands-On Central California. Hands-On of Central California, operates as the fiscal agent for the Fresno Street Saints.

I am a member of the Board of Directors of the Fresno Street Saints. I did not participate in the making of the agreements related to this agenda item; however, in the interest of full transparency, I am abstaining from this vote pursuant to Board Bylaw 9270.”

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

“Agenda item B-56 on tonight’s Conference and Discussion agenda, contains purchase orders for California Teaching Fellows Foundation, California State University, Fresno, and CSU Fresno Foundation. I am currently employed by California State University, Fresno.

Additionally, item B-56 contains purchase orders with the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission, and I have been employed by Fresno County EOC, which is a nonprofit corporation.

I did not participate in the making of the purchase orders related to this agenda item; however, because of my employment with both Fresno State and Fresno County EOC I have a remote financial interest in those purchase orders.

Therefore, in the interest of full transparency, I am abstaining from this vote pursuant to Board Bylaw 9270.”

On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board Member Cazares, the Board approved agenda item B-56, by a roll call vote of 5-0-2-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Thomas, Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup. ABSTENTIONS: Board Members Jonasson Rosas and Levine,

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

For the record, the Board was in receipt of agenda items C-57, Receive the California School Employees Association, Chapter 143, 2024-2027 Reopener Proposal to Fresno Unified School District, and C-58, Receive the Fresno Unified School District 2024-2027 Reopener Proposal to California School Employees Association, Chapter 143.

OPPORTUNITY FOR UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

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

For the record, at this time Clerk Davis requested Interim Superintendent Her to provide the reports for the past six years from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges for the School of Unlimited Learning.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Wittrup ADJOURNED the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

June 20, 2024

To: Fresno Unified School District Board of Education

From: Emma Villa; Parent, Community Member, Advocate

SUBJECT: Public Comments on the Proposed Adoption of Fresno Unified School District 2024-25 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) - Follow-up to my Public Comment on 6/12/2024, Agenda Item B-29.

Please ensure that the full Board gets a copy of this “Public Comments” and any responses and that a copy is also included in the June 20, 2024 FUSD Board Agenda packet to ensure the public has access to the information, in compliance with the Brown Act.

Dear FUSD Board of Education:

I remain very concerned that the LCAP **discriminates, is disparate** and **not equitable** towards **Students with Disabilities (SWD)**, who are “first” General Education Students within the FUSD community. It does not go far enough to include Students with Disabilities, nor address the various academic needs of SWDs; **specifically literacy - learning to read.**

SWDs are part of FUSD’s 70,000 students and have the same civil rights to an education as non SWDs, and that includes literacy - learning to read. However, FUSD does not include SWDs in FUSD LCAP Academic Goals as a High Needs group the same as it does the other FUSD High Needs groups identified in the LCAP; African American (AA), English Learners (EL), Foster Youth (FY), and Low Income (LI).

The proposed LCAP appears to reiterate the same approaches as have been implemented in the past which have produced little benefit, if any. In my opinion, if we want to change the current trajectory of our students and improve education outcomes, a drastic new approach is needed.

There seems to be a “**culture of not providing reading services to students with disabilities**” until they are ordered by a Hearing Officer or Court. this culture is also embedded in the SELPA Local Plan which specifically states that Reading Services are “Not” provided by FUSD SELPA. This same culture is perpetuated throughout FUSD. It is in the LCAP, as well as in FUSD’s Every Child Is A Reader Comprehensive Literacy Plan 2023-24 to 2027-28.

According to FUSD’s Every Child Is A Reader Comprehensive Literacy Plan 2023-24 to 2027-28; Page 22, the FUSD Cohort results for the 2022-23 Grade 4 students on the i-Ready Reading Spring 2023 Diagnostic data show that only 8% of Students with Disabilities (SWD) are at or above grade level in reading. **However, SWD are NOT targeted/funded as a High Needs group for literacy intervention in the 2024-25 LCAP.**

Page 12 further states the following:

-Research strongly points to the fact that **students who are not reading at or above grade level by 3rd grade have difficulty catching up later in school.**

-**Reading on grade level is necessary for future success in school across all disciplines and helps prepare students to be college-and-career ready.** The current state of reading achievement in Fresno Unified establishes the urgency and need for this literacy plan

-The California Comprehensive State Literacy Plan states, “In the United States, **education is a civil right, and literacy in particular has the power to open doors for historically underserved communities.**”

-Fresno Unified serves more than 70,000 students. According to S.L. Hall and L.C. Moats (1999), “**Reading is the most important skill for success in school and society. Children who fail to learn to read will surely fail to reach their full potential.**”

As a parent and advocate of Students with Disabilities (SWDs), **I do not support the currently proposed LCAP as it stands.** I believe it fails vulnerable Students with Disabilities. I urge the Board to propose an amendment to the proposed LCAP language that will give SWDs equal access and equity to their civil right to an education which includes learning to read, to improve their academic proficiency, increase college readiness and future employment opportunities.

The suggested motion would be a motion to initiate the process of soliciting a bid and ultimately awarding a contract to Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes for their Learning Center on Campus Program to provide intensive reading, remediation to SWDs and other High Needs students.

The Lindamood-Bell program is research based and has been validated. It will help the District meet its goal of strengthening the District's literacy programs by developing a more inclusive comprehensive literacy program.

This will also serve as a proactive approach in getting FUSD SELPA to implement the Lindamood-Bell Learning Center on Campus program in FUSD.

Simply use LCAP funding to enter into an agreement with Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes to implement their Learning Center on Campus program for SWDs and other High Needs students.

I hope that FUSD will embrace a partnership with Lindamood-Bell for a pilot project rather than continue to discriminate, exclude SWDs, and experiment with programs that may or may not work. For Example:

Please clarify for me why/how one group (A4) is funded with approximately \$6 million for Academic Acceleration in the 2024-24 LCAP, while our SWDs are ignored?

Please clarify for me why/how one group (A4) is funded with approximately \$3 million per year for 5 years in the FUSD Every Child Is A Reader Comprehensive Literacy Plan 2023-24 to 2027-28, while our SWDs are excluded?

What data are you using to determine approximately \$3 million per year to target Literacy for A4 and \$0 for SWDs?

SWD's do not have time to waste as the trajectory of their future, like all FUSD students, is on the line. When (ALL) students (including SWDs) are more successful in school, they have increased graduation rates, reduced suspensions, and increased attendance, which are all goals in the 2024-25 LCAP.

Sincerely,
Emma Villa, MS.Ed
Parent, Community Member, Advocate

References:

- FUSD 2024-25 LCAP (Proposed)
- FUSD's Every Child Is A Reader Comprehensive Literacy Plan 2023-24 to 2027-28, <https://instructional.fresnounified.org/wp-content/uploads/FUSD-Comprehensive-Literacy-Plan-English-1.pdf>
- FUSD 2024-25 SELPA Local Plan (Proposed)