



BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
4480 N. BRAWLEY AVENUE
NUTRITION SERVICES
FRESNO, CA 93722
board.fresnounified.org

MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Fresno, California

October 23, 2024

Fresno Unified School District, Nutrition Services, 4480 N. Brawley Avenue, Fresno, CA 93722.

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held on October 23, 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 4:33 p.m.

For the record, Member Jonasson Rosas arrived at 4:34 p.m., Member Islas and Thomas arrived at 4:35 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Emily Epperley of Fresno High School led the Flag Salute.

For the record, Board President Wittrup announced staff pulled from the Consent Agenda item C-10, APPROVE Agreement with Community Responsive Education; therefore, no discussion or action took place on item C-10.

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.

A. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

For the record, the Board was in receipt of A-1, RECEIVE Proposed Revisions for Board Policies

Board President Wittrup ADJOURNED the Regular Board Meeting to Closed Session at 4:34 p.m.

Board President Wittrup RECONVENED the meeting to Open Session at 5:36 p.m.

For the record, Board President Wittrup announced staff pulled from the Consent Agenda item C-10, APPROVE Agreement with Community Responsive Education; therefore, no discussion or action took place on item C-10.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

- On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board President Wittrup, the Board acted in closed session on Resolution #25-22 approving the dismissal charges of a certificated employee by a vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Board Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup.
- On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board Clerk Davis, the Board voted in closed session to table a Workers' Compensation claim for Leticia Cervantes, Case No. 2016-0365, by a vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Board Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup.

At this time, Clerk Davis read the Board Shared Agreements approved at the October 09, 2024, board meeting and are a component of the Student Outcomes Focused Governance work with the Council of Great City Schools.

Below are the shared agreements:

- **Respect and Civility** – Honor our shared agreements.
- **Be Honest and Honorable** – Honor my word and do not lie, deflect, or disparage others.
- **Honor the Process and any Time Limits**
- **Honor Confidentiality**
- **Be Prepared and On Time** – Be on time. Read materials or share questions ahead of time. Share as early as possible if I will be late or miss a commitment.
- **Represent All Students** - Do not represent solely my region/area.

Before the presentation of agenda item B-2, Present and Discuss Quarterly Student Outcomes Data, Board President Wittrup shared a few words. A summary is as follows:

The Board has embraced student outcomes will not change until adult behaviors change and this is reflected in the Board approved shared agreements, the new agenda format, looking at data outcomes for students, and also with a Board self-evaluation which is on today's agenda.

Board President Wittrup, thanked staff for their work on the presentation and their fearless courage as this is something not done before but is embraced now, looking at where students are and what needs to happen to move them forward.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-2, PRESENT and DISCUSS Quarterly Student Outcomes Data

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests from the public to address the Board on agenda item B-2.

For the record, Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item B-2. A summary is as follows:

Member Jonasson Rosas Referenced slide no. 8 and commented it does not show how the system is doing but how incoming students are doing. Referenced slides no. 13 and 14 and asked what was learned from the criteria. Referenced homeless students progressing but foster youth are regressing. Asked how many parents are going the special education route to gain interventions and academic supports for students. Expressed confusion about percentage versus distance from standard points. Referenced slide no. 25 and commented that both homeless and foster youth should be Tier 1. Referenced slide no. 28 and commented on Ds and Fs and asked what the relationship between the decrease is and does it correlate with the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium.

Member Levine thanked staff for the thorough presentation and referenced slide no. 13 around Fall 2024 iReady for grade three and thanked staff for providing evidence of a correlation between iReady and the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium. Requested clarity related to the Foundational Skills Assessment (FSA) if CORE districts or other districts are using FSA and if there is a way to compare apples to apples.

Member Thomas commented that transitional kindergarten outreach may need to be different and suggested when outreach takes place parents be provided information on what students will need to know. Member Thomas thanked staff for the presentation and commented it has been a good buffer from what was missed the last few years.

Clerk Davis asked what districts participate in CORE, and if there are criteria for participation. Referenced slide no. 13 and asked if foster youth are in the same category as group home youth, asked if the district can support parents of foster youth to help the students and commented would like to see it organized. Referenced slide no. 31 and asked why not all 60 plus schools are participating in Break Through Results and asked if there is a roll out plan for all 60 plus schools to participate.

Clerk Davis referenced slide no.28 and asked if parent communications are sent home for students receiving Ds and Fs and referenced past communications that included attendance information and student supports offered.

President Wittrup commented on enjoying the presentation as it was comprehensive and provided a lot to think about. President Wittrup commented on it being one of the first times the Board has looked at data on how students are doing. Commented that the infrastructure being built with special education is vital and it has not been in place and looks forward to seeing the outcome. President Wittrup requested the definition of RFEP (Reclassified Fluent English Proficient).

Member Islas reiterated a request previously provided, would like documents to be created with a glossary of terms and in such a way that all people can access and understand. Member Islas commented on the readability of the font used on slide no. 33 and requested staff not to use fonts where it is hard to distinguish between where a word ends and the next begins.

Member Islas commended and thanked staff for presenting the data and commented that in six years on the Board this is the first year it feels like the Board is focused and rising to the mission of the Board, appreciated examples of Ds and Fs and not just celebrating success but looking at missed opportunities and where we can improve.

Member Cazares thanked staff for a great presentation, and commented it is good to see the Board's feedback implemented in the presentation. Referenced slides no. 13 and 14 and commented would like to have seen the same grades presented. Member Cazares referenced a conversation where a parent at Hoover told Cazares that the parent's child is doing well in English but not Physics because child does not have the same supports, and the parent has received differing information on why. Member Cazares commented on believing it is because there is no district-wide standard.

Member Cazares asked how the district expects students to meet stretch targets if schools are not given baseline budgets and commented that a cost analysis similar to what is being done in special education should be conducted for all schools. The school principal or counselor should not have to decide which student receives help based on the school budget.

President Wittrup commented on attending a conference where it was presented that some districts are identifying schools as Tier 1 or Tier 2 schools based on their need for intervention, support, and resources. Just an idea.

For the record, Interim Superintendent Her, Natash Baker, Ed.D., Carmen Rodriguez, Ed.D., Zerina Hargrove-Brown, Ed.D., Marie Williams, Ed.D., Rebecca Wheeler, and Sandra Aguayo were available to provide clarity.

B-3, PRESENT, DISCUSS, and HOLD a Public Hearing in the Matter of the Aspen Valley Prep Academy Charter Renewal Petition

For the record, Board President Wittrup opened the public hearing at 7:16 p.m.

For the record, the Board received six (6) requests to address the Board on agenda item B-3. The individuals' name and a summary of topic are as follows:

1. Scott Bergstrom: Spoke in support of Aspen Valley Prep. Spoke about role as an employee at Aspen Valley Prep.
2. Carlos Huerta: Spoke in support of Aspen Valley Prep. Spoke as the vice-chair of Aspen Valley Prep.
3. Alicia Varela: Spoke in support of Aspen Valley Prep.
4. Adrianna Trevino: Spoke in support of Aspen Valley Prep. Spoke as a former student of Aspen Valley Prep
5. Nicole Rivera: Spoke in support of Aspen Valley Prep. Spoke as the Academic Officer of Aspen Valley Prep.
6. Azul Villagrana: Not present when name called.

For the record, Board President Wittrup closed the public hearing at 7:45 p.m.

B-4, PRESENT, DISCUSS, and CONDUCT the Quarterly Board Self-Evaluation

For the record, Sue Deigaard with the Counsel of the Great City Schools facilitated the quarterly Board Self-Evaluation.

For the record, Board President Wittrup called for a brief recess at 7:53 p.m.

For the record, Board President Wittrup Reconvened open session at 7:58 p.m.

On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board Member Cazares, the Board approved the quarterly Board self-evaluation by a vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: Board Members Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, and President Wittrup.

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.

On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas seconded by Board Clerk Davis, the Board approved the Consent Agenda except for agenda item C-9 which was pulled for further discussion and agenda item C-10, which was pulled from the consent agenda, 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.

C. CONSENT AGENDA

C-5, APPROVE Personnel List

APPROVED as recommended, the Personnel List, Appendix A, as submitted

C-6, 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 meeting of the Board held October 09, 2024.

C-7, APPROVE Meeting Minutes

APPROVED as recommended, the draft minutes for the October 09, 2024, regular meeting of the Board of Education.

C-8, ADOPT Resolution No. 25-21, Continued Funding from California Department of Education for California State Preschool Programs

ADOPTED as recommended, Resolution No. 25-21, Continued Funding from California Department of Education for California State Preschool Programs.

C-9, APPROVE Student Outcomes Focused Governance Timeline

APPROVED as recommended, the revised Student Outcomes Focused Governance timeline established by the Board of Education and the Council of the Great City Schools.

For the record, Board Members had comments and questions pertaining to agenda item C-9. A summary is as follows:

Member Jonasson Rosas commented on trying to stay faithful to what the Board has learned and to register the implementation timeline is ambitious. Member Jonasson Rosas commented she will be away for work at the time of the proposed Board workshop.

Board President Wittrup asked if Member Jonasson Rosas had a suggestion.

Member Cazares commented the Board proposed several community meetings and workshops and it is the responsibility of the Board to schedule, and it is up to the Board to prioritize getting this done and understands work and family conflicts, there are 31 days in December let us pick a different date.

Member Islas commented in a perfect world all of the Board should be at the workshop but thinks it is impractical given the holidays and work commitments that all will be available, and it seems at this point we have six of the seven Trustees available on December 13.

Member Thomas asked if a trustee is not available can they participate via teleconference.

Member Jonasson Rosas requested to talk details as she is working on December 13.

Chief of staff O'Connor commented that the Board will have an opportunity to discuss when the Board adjourns to Closed Session.

On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board Member Islas, the Board approved agenda item C-9 by a vote of 5-1-1-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members Islas, Levine, Thomas, Board Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup. NOES: Board Member Cazares. ABSTENTIONS: Board Member Jonasson Rosas.

Member Islas asked as a follow-up if confirmed dates could be held on calendars as soon as possible so times are blocked.

C-10, APPROVE Agreement with Community Responsive Education
ITEM PULLED BY STAFF, no discussion or action held on this item.

C-11, APPROVE Agreement with Focus Five Inc
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Focus Five Inc to provide virtual artist residencies at 40 elementary sites. The residencies, facilitated by professional teaching artists, include creative movement, drama, media arts, music, and visual art. Grade level teachers will also receive six optional virtual professional learning sessions on how to integrate art into their content to increase creativity and student achievement.

C-12, APPROVE Agreement with WOW Productions
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with WOW Productions to provide lighting and sound design and technical support for productions and ensemble performances at Bullard TALENT K-8, a performing arts magnet school for students from all regions of Fresno Unified School District.

C-13, APPROVE Agreement Renewal with KnowBe4
APPROVED as recommended, a 32-month agreement renewal with KnowBe4 to provide cybersecurity awareness training for staff.

C-14, APPROVE State Center Adult Education Consortium Alternate Representative

APPROVED as recommended, a recommendation to appoint Michael Robinson as the Fresno Unified School District alternate representative on the State Center Adult Education Consortium Executive Board.

C-15, RATIFY Change Orders

RATIFIED as recommended, information on Change Orders for the following projects:

Bid 23-02, Edison High School Career Technical Education Building and Interim Housing

Change Order 4 (CTE Building) presented for ratification: \$245,480

Bid 23-65, Robinson Elementary School Portable Relocation

Change Order 1 presented for ratification: \$46,680

Bid 24-16, Roeding Elementary School Confidential Spaces and Administration Building Modernization: \$ - 6,878

Bid 24-28, Lowell Elementary School Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Energy Management System Replacement

Change Order 1 presented for ratification: \$9,260

Bid 24-61, Kirk Elementary School Sitework and Portable Improvements

Change Order 1 presented for ratification: \$31,790

Bid 24-84, Scandinavian Middle School Sitework and Portable Improvement

Change Order 1 presented for ratification: \$17,886

Bid 24-87, Gaston Middle School Sitework and Portable Improvement

Change Order 1 presented for ratification: \$15,717

Bid 24-94 Section A, Burroughs Elementary School Playground Replacements

Change Order 1 presented for ratification: \$10,941

C-16, 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 24-69 Section C, Exterior Painting at Various Sites, Kratt Elementary School.

OPPORTUNITY FOR UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests to address the Board during Unscheduled Oral Communications.

For the record, Board President Wittrup ADJOURNED the regular meeting to closed session at 8:50 p.m.

For the record, Board President Wittrup RECONVENED to open session at 9:16 p.m.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

For the record there were no reports from Closed Session.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Wittrup ADJOURNED the meeting at 9:16 p.m.