

**Minutes of
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board
For Tracy Unified School District
Held on Tuesday, December 17, 2024**

5:45 PM: 1-3. Vice President Silcox called the meeting to order and adjourned to closed session.

Roll Call: 4. Board: O. Alexander, D. Cheeseman, R. Fagin, L. Hawkins, S. Secker, J. Silcox
Staff: R. Pecot, T. Salinas, T. Jaliq, Z. Boswell, S. Smith

7:00 PM 5. Vice President Silcox called the Tracy Unified School District Board of Education to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

6. Administer Oath of Office

Dr. Troy Brown, County Superintendent of Schools, administered the Oath to Trustees Denise Cheeseman, Lynn Dell Hawkins, and Scott Secker.

Trustee Silcox motioned to move Action Item #16.1.1 up on the agenda to have the full board in place for the organization process.

Vote: Cheeseman, Hawkins Yes-6, No-0

7. Board Organization:

7.1 Elect Officers:

President

Action: A motion was made by Trustee Fagin for Trustee Silcox to be President, seconded by Trustee Cheeseman.

Vote: Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.

Vice President

Action: A motion was made by Trustee Hawkins for Trustee Fagin to be Vice President, seconded by Trustee Secker.

Vote: Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.

Clerk

Action: A motion was made by Trustee Fagin for Trustee Hawkins to be Clerk, seconded by Trustee Secker.

Vote: Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.

7.2 Appoint Representatives to the following committees:

Budget: Alexander, Cheeseman, Hawkins, Secker (Alternate)

City Schools Liaison: Alexander, Silcox, Traina, Fagin (Alternate)

District Attendance Area: Fagin, Hawkins

Facilities Advisory: Fagin, Secker, Silcox

School Safety Committee: Alexander, Hawkins, Traina, Fagin (Alternate)

Special Education: Cheeseman, Secker, Traina

Tracy Learning Center/Ad Hoc Board Member: Alexander, Silcox (Alternate)

Tracy Parks: Fagin, Hawkins (Alternate)

Action: Hawkins, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.

7.3 Approve Board Meeting Calendar

Action: Fagin, Secker. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.

Closed Session:

8a Action Taken on Finding of Facts: 24/25#21, 24/25#26, 24/25#27,
3.2.1 24/25#28, 24/25#30, 24/25#31, 24/25#32

Action: Approved. Hawkins, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).

8b Report Out of Action Taken on Reinstatements: AR#24-25/#13, AR#24-
3.2.2 25/#14, AR#24-25/#15, AR#24-25/#16, AR#24-25/#17, AR#24-25/#18, AR#24-25/#19, AR#24-25/#20

Action: Approved. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).

8c Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Settlement Agreement with
3.3.1 Classified Employee

Action: Approved. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).

8d Report Out of Action Taken on Consider Unpaid Leave of Absence for
3.3.2 Certificated Employee #UC-1385 modified, pursuant to Article XX

Action: Approved. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).

Minutes:

9. Approve Regular Minutes of November 12, 2024.

Action: Hawkins, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-4; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-3 (Cheeseman, Secker, Traina).

Audience:

Lori Nelson, Jaime Quintana, Annabelle Lee, Bob Brownne, Lorraine Arranaga, Tanya Calderon, Dr. Troy Brown, Anthony Irizarry, Bobbie Etcheverry, Renee Etcheverry, Jacqui Nott, Stephanie Olsen, Michael Bunch, Jason Noll, Alayna Carter, Jason Cheeseman

Student Rep Reports:

10. None.

Recognition & Presentations:

11. None.

Information & Discussion Items:

12.1 **Administrative & Business Services:** None.

12.2 **Educational Services:**

12.2.1 **Arts, Music, & Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant**

Director of Continuous Improvement, State and Federal Programs, Dr. Bunch, and Annabelle Lee, Principal for the Tracy Charter School, presented an overview of the AMIM block grant. It is a one-time grant allocation in effect 2022 through June 2026. The total allocation was \$8,177,606. Its purpose is to mitigate learning loss, help with providing staffing for hard to fill positions, materials, and resources. It is based on AB185 to improve art education and resources, best practices and operational costs. Up until now, TUSD has not spent any of these dollars due to other grants that were provided by the state with sooner expiration dates. This year, we plan to spend approximately \$5.2 million with \$2.6 million being spent in the 25/26 school year. The majority of these funds

will be spent on personnel such as for Kinder Paras, Teacher Librarians, and additional high school and middle school Counselors. Annabelle Lee provided similar information for the Tracy Charter School. Their funding is geared towards professional development, instructional materials, diverse and culturally relevant book collections, and operational costs. The Charter has been allotted \$171,790 with the majority to be used towards retirement funding and health care increases, as well as instructional materials, professional development, and safety supplies.

Hearing of Delegations

13. Anthony Irizarry, TEA President, informed that the TEA recently come to a tentative agreement that included a robust allotment to boost their salary cap and to help streamline things that elementary teachers do and break up combo classes. He would like to acknowledge the district team and thank everyone involved.

Public Hearing:

14.1 **Administrative & Business Services:** None.

Consent Items:

15. **Board approval of any agenda item requiring insurance is conditioned upon receipt of appropriate insurance by Tracy Unified. Action:** Hawkins, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0; Absent-0.

Item # 15.2.10 was approved as amended.

15.1 **Administrative & Business Services:**

15.1.1 Approve Accounts Payable Warrants (October 2024) (Separate Cover)

15.1.2 Approve Payroll Reports (October 2024)

15.1.3 Approve Revolving Cash Fund Reports (October 2024)

15.1.4 Accept the Generous Donations from the Various Individuals, Businesses, and School Site Parent Teacher Associations Listed Herein with Thanks and Appreciation from the Staff and Students of the Tracy Unified School District

15.1.5 Ratify Routine Agreements, Expenditures and Notice of Completions Which Meet the Criteria for Placement on the Consent Agenda

15.1.6 Authorize Associate Superintendent of Business Services to Enter into Agreement to Dispose of Damaged, Obsolete, and Surplus Furniture, Computers, and Equipment through Disposal Service

15.1.7 Approve Entertainment, Assembly, Service, Business and Food Vendors

15.2 **Educational Services:**

15.2.1 Approve Overnight Travel for Athletic Directors from Tracy High School, Kimball High School, and West High School to attend the California State Athletic Directors Association (CSADA) Conference in Reno, Nevada March 11-15, 2025

15.2.2 Approve Out-of-State Travel to Phoenix AZ for the Special Education Director to attend the LRP National Institute 2025 Conference

15.2.3 Approve Agreement for Contract Services between Hola Language Services and TUSD for the 2024-2025 School Year

15.2.4 Approve Purchase of Music Equipment to Provide Enhanced After-School Music Education to TUSD Students Through the TUSD/Boys and Girls Clubs After-School Programs ELOP Grant at George Kelly and Poet Christian Elementary

- 15.2.5 Ratify and Approve the Partnership Agreement with the Child Abuse Prevention Council of San Joaquin (CAPC) to Provide Infant and Child Care Services on the Stein/Duncan Russell Campus
 - 15.2.6 Agreement for Special Contract Services with Foundations Therapy Service for an Occupational Therapy (OT) Independent Education Evaluation (IEE) Assessment
 - 15.2.7 Approve Agreement for Contract Services between Valley Community Counseling Villalovoz Elementary for the remainder of the 2024-2025 School Year
 - 15.2.8 Approve and/or Ratify Routine Agreements which meet the Criteria for Placement on the Consent Agenda
 - 15.2.9 Approve Agreement for Contract Services between Smartpass and Williams Middle School to Provide Access for the 2024-2025 School Year
 - 15.2.10 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services Provided by Boys and Girls Club of Tracy
 - 15.2.11 Approve Agreement for Contract Services between Boys and Girls Club of Tracy and McKinley Elementary School for the 2024-25 School Year
 - 15.2.12 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with San Joaquin County Office of Education to Provide LETRS Early Literacy Training for Four Tracy Unified School District Teachers
 - 15.2.13 Approve Special Contract Services Agreement with Educational Professionals of Central California, LLC for Two (2) Independent Education Evaluations (IEEs)
 - 15.2.14 Agreement for Special Contract Services with Riverside Insights for a 2.5 Year Subscription and Training of the Woodcock-Johnson V Digital Test
 - 15.2.15 Ratify Memorandum of Understanding between Wanda Hirsch Elementary School and San Joaquin County Office of Education STEM Department
- 15.3 Human Resources:**
- 15.3.1 Accept Resignations/Retirements/Leave of Absences for Classified, Certificated, and/or Management Employment
 - 15.3.2 Approve Classified, Certificated, and/or Management Employment

Action Items:

16.1 Administrative & Business Services:

Prior to the start of the appointment process, two individuals requested to address the board regarding item #16.1.1.

Anthony Irizarry, TEA President, expressed the teacher's union support for Navi Kahlon as their preferred candidate for the school board. Navi has worked with the students and teachers of the Tracy area.

Alayna Carter was honored to speak on behalf of Diane Traina, former teacher and lifelong member of the community. As a former student and teacher, Diane is a person that understands Tracy Unified's strengths and challenges. Diane has always led by example, with the ability to listen,

empathize and act thoughtfully. She has served as a teacher mentor by being a member of TTIP and worked to support educators with the knowledge to succeed. She values input and values different perspectives to make thoughtful informed decisions. We need someone that will lead with passion, integrity and experience. She also lives in trustee area 7. If appointed, the school board would have a representative from each of the trustee areas.

16.1.1 Conduct Interviews and Approve Provisional Appointment of Board Member for Unexpired Term

Each member was asked the following three questions and given up to three minutes to respond to each.

Question 1: Please introduce yourself and explain why you are interested in this position.

Question 2: Please describe your work experience or background that has prepared you to serve as a board member for Tracy Unified.

Question 3: What are two of the most important issues the district is facing that are unique to our district? What recommendation would you make to address it?

Candidate Navi Kahlon

1. Ms. Kahlon was born and raised in this community and is a former student of TUSD. She has been privileged to serve as a board trustee for the last year. She deeply appreciates the work educators do every day. She has been supporting organizations in the district, including the Foster Youth Committee and Anti-Bullying Committee. She has worked actively with organizations and teachers to impact student outcomes. She is a team leader that makes data driven decisions. Ms. Kahlon has been a board member for DARE and the Tracy Community Center. Recently, a student mentioned that she has impacted his life, this is why she is doing this. She believes she has the professionalism and integrity to serve this district.
2. Ms. Kahlon works as a transformation leader, working with team leaders to ensure they are championing the values of their company. As a district, we need to be strong with our educators and staff leaders to make sure they are successful. She has served in the community; building connections with the families of this community. She prioritizes mental health and the safety of the students.
3. Ms. Kahlon feels the issue we continue to face is the retaining of teachers. She is a strong voice for the teachers, to ensure that they have opportunities, and competitive wages. Another issue is closing the achievement gap for our students. We need to focus on this by creating more intervention programs. She had the privilege of working with our trade organizations to ensure students have access to apprenticeships.

Candidate Shilpa Garde

1. Ms. Garde has been a Tracy resident for 13 years. She has two kids in the Tracy GATE program that attend Williams and SWP. She has seen her kids go through school, she likes the community and feels it would be good to be involved with the board from a parent's perspective. Professionally she is an architect with Hewlett Packard and has strengths in project planning and financials. She feels strongly that TUSD is not well represented within the county. She would like to see how she can change that and make them aware of the opportunities they have for their growth. People don't understand what opportunities are out there. She has worked a lot with the Science Olympiad. It has been a pleasure to see the kids learn and see the excitement on their faces.
2. Ms. Garde has worked for HP in the telecom management division for 20 years. Her strengths are with planning and technology. She feels she has grown in the company and has seen how things work. She has a strength in making things happen. Providing structure and guidance is her job and she can bring this facet to the board. She is not exactly sure how the planning works, but she would like to see if she can make it better. From her parents' perspective, she is invested in making things better in TUSD.
3. When Ms. Garde goes to different events in the county, she feels our district is underrepresented. She feels the district needs more involvement in STEM programs. This is a main issue she sees today with her students. She likes that there are so many programs but feels the student need more encouragement. She would like to see how to address this together.

Candidate Diane Traina

1. Ms. Traina is interested in being a board member because she is passionate about education. She has always been a student advocate. She has worked in the district for 36 years, 25 of which she worked at Tracy High School teaching English. She was able to work in college prep, Ag Science, and IB and got to know the curriculum and philosophies of those programs which was important to her. She worked in Staff Development for 12 years as a Teacher on Special Assignment in the teacher induction program. Working on classroom management, curriculum design, and issues with colleagues was very fulfilling to reflect on the art of teaching. What is important to her is that she has spent her life in education; she loves it, believes in it and believes all students need access to a good program with a sound education foundation.
2. Ms. Traina started school when she was five and didn't leave school until she was 59. It has been the framework of her life, and it has offered wonderful opportunities in the community with students and families that she has met over the years.
3. In the wake of what has happened recently, Ms. Traina feels that keeping students safe in a healthy environment is most crucial. She knows the district has a plan in place for safety but, to keep intruders from coming into our schools, we need a sound budget, money for the

facilities and training and everything that goes with it. The budget needs to be sound, healthy and solid in order for other things to happen.

Action: Trustee Secker indicated his first choice as Traina.
Trustee Cheeseman indicated her first choice as Traina.
Trustee Alexander indicated her first choice as Kahlon.
Trustee Fagin indicated his first choice as Traina.
Trustee Hawkins indicated his first choice as Traina.
Trustee Silcox indicated his first choice as Traina.

Trustee Secker motioned for Diane Traina, with a second from Trustee Cheeseman. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0.

Dr. Troy Brown, County Superintendent of Schools, administered the oath to Diane Traina.

Tania Salinas, Associate Superintendent of Business Services and Director of Finance, Lori Nelson, provided an update on the 2024/2025 First Interim Report. District goals were reviewed. The First Interim Report is a snapshot in time for July 1st through October 31st. It is a forecast of the current year and the next two years to come. The report must include a certification that the district can meet their financial obligation; our certification is positive, meaning the District can meet its financial obligation for this year, next year, and the following year.

As of October 31st, 24/25 shows a 1.07% COLA with revenues expected to be \$164 million, with a net increase of \$2.8 million. The third year out is a guess, at which we are projecting a 3.08% COLA with a net increase of \$16.2 million. However, some things have changed since October 31st. The 4% salary presented to TEA is now incorporated, resulting in a net decrease of \$5 million, with 2026/2027 showing a positive of \$8.1 million. However, there are many positions being paid out of grant funds that are expiring June 30, 2028, at a total cost of \$6 million. These positions will need to be reflected, which will reduce our 26/27 revenue to \$1.9 million. This is a projection which is subject to change. The Legislative Analyst Office and the County Office of Education asks Districts to closely monitor state revenues and budget proposals to maintain fiscal solvency.

16.1.2 Certify 2024-2025 Fiscal Year First Interim Report (Separate Cover)

Action: Alexander, Cheeseman. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).

16.1.3 Approve the Purchase and Installation of a Commercial Dishwasher for West High Kitchen

Action: Secker, Hawkins. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).

16.1.4 Adopt Revised Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 3311 Bids (Second Reading)

Action: Fagin, Hawkins. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).

- 16.1.5** Adopt Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 7214 General Obligation Bonds (Second Reading)
Action: Secker, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).
- 16.1.6** Adopt Resolution No. 24-09 of the Board of Education of Tracy Unified School District Certifying to the Board of Supervisors of San Joaquin County all Proceeding in the November 5, 2024, General Obligation Bond Election for the School Facilities Improvement District No. 3
Action: Hawkins, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).
- 16.1.7** Adopt Resolution 24-10 to Accept the Annual Developer Fee Report & Five-Year Findings for 2023-2024 Fiscal Year
Action: Cheeseman, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).
- 16.1.8** Adopt Resolution No. 24-11 to Award and Approve the RFQ/RFP for Lease-Leaseback Construction Services for the Merrill F. West HS Agriculture CTE Building Project (Separate Cover)
Action: Secker, Fagin. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).
- 16.1.9** Accept the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Annual Financial Audit
Action: Hawkins, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).
- 16.2 Educational Services:**
- 16.2.1** Approve Revised McKinley School Site Plan and Budget for 2024-2025 School Year (Separate Cover)
Action: Fagin, Secker. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).
- 16.2.2** Approve the Arts and Music Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant (AMIM) Plans for All TUSD Schools
Action: Hawkins, Cheeseman. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).
- 16.2.3** Approve the Arts and Music Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant (AMIM) Plans for Tracy Independent Study Charter School
Action: Cheeseman, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).
- 16.2.4** Approve Revised Central School Site Plan and Budget for Remainder of 2024-2025 School Year (Separate Cover)
Action: Alexander, Secker. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).
- 16.2.5** Approve CCAP Agreement between TUSD and Las Positas Community College beginning January 2025 (Separate Cover)
Action: Fagin, Hawkins. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).
- 16.3 Human Resources:**
- 16.3.1** Approve Hourly Training Rate for Certificated Substitutes
Action: Cheeseman, Alexander. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).
- 16.3.2** Approve a Declaration for a Provisional Internship Permit
Action: Alexander, Cheeseman. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-0; Absent-0; Abstain-1 (Traina).

Board Reports:

Trustee Traina thanked everyone. She is very pleased to be selected on the board. She looks forward to working with everyone in a collaborative way. Trustee Secker mirrored the words of Trustee Traina and Trustee Cheeseman said it was a pleasure

to be here. Trustee Alexander welcomed the new board members and thanked all for coming out. Trustee Fagin is looking forward to working with the new trustees. He thanked Lori Nelson and her crew for all they do. Trustee Hawkins welcomed our new trustees Secker, Traina, and Cheeseman. He feels they will all do well together. Trustee Silcox also welcomed the new trustees. He is sure they will all work together well.

**Superintendent
Report:**

Dr. Pecot thanked Dr. Bunch and Ms. Lee for their presentation. Measure O passed so there are decisions to make regarding facilities. He congratulated the new board members and Trustee Hawkins for being reelected. He is excited to work with all of them. The Finance Department had zero findings in the last audit, which is extremely rare. He appreciates Mr. Irizarry for thanking the team, it takes everyone working together. Because of the districts fiscal responsibility last year, they were able to frontload a 4% pay increase, where other districts are giving 1%. Tania Salinas does an excellent job in her position.

Adjourn: 8:17 PM.

Clerk

Date