

# ***Santiago Charter Middle School***

## **Charter Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday, December 4, 2024**

The Santiago Middle School Charter Board met in-person December 4, 2024. Directors present at the meeting are noted with an “X”.

X	John Haug	X	Susan Gibb (Certificated Rep)
	John Besta (Chairperson/Community Rep)	X	Desiree Ortiz (Vice Chairperson/Parent Rep)
X	Alicia Abifadel (Teacher Rep)	X	Julia McCuistion (Parent Rep)
X	Pat Connolly (Teacher Rep)	X	Steve Arnett (Certificate & Classified Rep)
X	Ashley Pedroza (Secretary/Curriculum Rep)	X	Cynthia Robles (Classified Rep)
X	Eric Philips (Parent Rep)	X	District Representative: Ken Miller

An “\*” indicates directors who were not present for the entire meeting.

A meeting notice, together with an agenda packet, was provided to each director by December 4, 2024. On the same date, a meeting agenda – including date, time and place – was posted at the entrance to the school office, on the office bulletin board and on Santiago’s website.

- 1. Call to order:** Desiree Ortiz called meeting to order at 4:35p
- 2. Quorum was established**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Approval of Agenda:**  
**Motion to approve** by Alicia Abifadel

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**Approved: 11-0**

**5. Approval of Minutes:** October 16, 2024

- Edit to Vice Chairperson title to Desiree Ortiz

**Motion to approve** by Julia McCuiston

**Approved: 9-0, recusals: Cynthia Robles, Pat Connolly**

**6. Public Comments: NA**

**7. Information/Discussion Items:**

A. Board Comments:

- a. Desiree Ortiz: follow-up on student referred to us

B. Principal's Report:

- We have officially been redesignated as a Schools to Watch for another 3 year term. We attended the Leaders to Watch event in Monterey where Marisa Mallory is going through the program this year and I am serving as a mentor to two STW Mentees. The training and PD is really exceptional. Marisa, Ashley and I are also doing school visits for potential STW applicants which gives us great insight into how other schools are functioning and gives us a chance to learn about other programs.
- Ms. Joan Ekdale was nominated for the region 11 teacher of the year and did a great job presenting to the STW panel. We were and are very, very proud of her and all that she brings to Santiago!
- All of our 8th graders visited the Field of Valor at Handy Park the week of Veteran's Day this year with a special thank you to Mrs. Hale for helping set up and organize the event. Santiago students and staff raised \$1,500 to donate to our local Veterans!
- On November 15th we held our All-Star Breakfast in the Cafeteria. That is when a staff member nominates a student for doing something that stands out during the semester and we then invite them and their parents to a recognition breakfast. Special thank you to Mrs. Kalman and our culinary students who hosted this event and assisted with the teacher of the year ceremony I mentioned above. Also, a big shout out to Mrs. Hurdle who runs and organizes this event each trimester as she champions our special needs students every day.
- Speaking of special needs students, Mr. Mickelsen took on Unified PE this year which is pairing gen ed students with our Mod/Sev population in a PE class and is doing an amazing job! if you are ever in need of a pick-me-up....come check out a unified PE class
- LOTS of facility updates....we have replaced the entire 100 building AC units...this is a huge job and special thanks to Mr. Lee for being on top of that project. We have painted 3 of 6 areas with double coat, long lasting, commercial grade professionally applied paint...this has made a huge difference and we will be finishing this project during the Christmas break. We are about 1/3 of the way through the field makeovers....we have installed the asphalt on the trail that leads to the premier fields and removes trip hazard that was a liability at the bottom of the boys PE ramp area....we are in the process of filling all of the uneven areas of all three fields, filling all the potholes, cracks, and crevices as well as removing all the large rocks and and the outdoor PE locker room areas and excavating the broken drainage pipes, expanding the drains, and fixing all

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of the broken sprinklers. There is still a lot more work to be done to make fields more safe and usable for our students. This project will take us through the Christmas break. We are still working on several other areas of the campus and will bring the charter board on a walk-through once the projects are complete so the board can see all of the facility improvements that the school is investing in and improving!

- We launched our first cohort of Dual Enrollment and accepted 64 students for the first class. The students moved into Ms. Ekdale's class at the trimester and are doing activities preparing them for the class until the class starts in February.
- We have Santa Social this weekend and are busy preparing for the event. Toy Drive, Santa, Kids' Activities, Trees, Performances

## **8. Consent Items**

### **A. Personnel Report:**

Approval of personnel reports requiring action that may include extra pay projects, separation of service, short-term employment, change of status and new hires.

Fiscal Impact: \$11,053.50

### **B. Purchase Orders**

Board will vote on purchase orders 2966-2970 which have been processed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Charter Board and applicable requirements of the State of California.

Fiscal Impact: \$5,227.47

### **C. Warrants List**

Board will vote on warrants 2949-3020 and 11179-11218 which have been processed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Charter Board and applicable requirements of the State of California.

Fiscal Impact: \$697,796.69

**Motion to approve** by Steve Arnett

**Approved: 9-0, recusal: Alicia Abifadel, Ashley Pedroza**

## **9. Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned by Desiree Ortiz at 5:02p

Next meeting: January 15, 2025

Reviewed and edited by Ashley Pedroza

The Board of Directors has approved the foregoing minutes

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Ashley Pedroza, Secretary