BUCKEYE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

**DISTRICT VISION STATEMENT**

Working together with families, the community, and highly qualified staff, the Buckeye Union School District ensures that each student masters the knowledge and skills needed to maximize their academic and personal success in a global society.

# REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

# MINUTES

## Wednesday, April 2, 2025

**NO CLOSED SESSION**

**Open Session – 7:00 p.m.**

Board of Education meetings are held in person in the Boardroom located at

**5049 Robert J. Mathews Parkway, El Dorado Hills, CA, 95762**

*(Please enter the Board Room from the rear of the building)*

If you would like to *view* the meeting remotely, please register at this link in order to receive a meeting link to your email to join the webinar:
https://buckeyeusd.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EPnbYYRFRD-JkMQ0qN8ykg

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Brenda Hanson-Smith, Ph.D., Kirk Seal, Jon Yoffie, Scott Masten, Ph.D., Melissa Keyzer
Superintendent, David Roth, Ph.D. / Assistant Superintendent, Jacqueline McHaney

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

Public attendance is welcomed and encouraged. The district has taken the following steps in offering public comment:

1. **In-Person Public Comment**: Public comment may be offered in person during the board meeting.

2. **Written Public Comment**: Members of the public who are unable to attend and wish to address the Board can email the Board at *Board@BuckeyeUSD.org*. All correspondence will be shared with the entire Board as well as the Superintendent.

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Board Member Hanson-Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

## II. FLAG SALUTE

Rolling Hills Middle School student representative led the flag salute.

## III. ROLL CALL

Present: Brenda Hanson-Smith, Ph.D.
Kirk Seal
Jon Yoffie
Melissa Keyzer

Absent: Scott Masten, Ph.D.

## IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board Member Seal motioned to approve the agenda, as presented.
Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4-0.

## V. STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

1. Rolling Hills Middle School Student Presentation
    - Students: Rob Anderson, Treasurer
      Elliana Bell, Vice President
    - Students reported on past school activities: decades dance, promoting best efforts on state testing, Light the Night fundraiser event with over $5,000 raised, dodgeball tournament, Inside Out movie night, and the winter rally and candy grams in December.
    - Students reported on upcoming school activities: March Madness Spirit Day, bus driver appreciation, and the upcoming under the sea-themed talent show.

***Following all presentations, the Board will accept Public Comments regarding any presentation(s).***

Public Comment: None

## VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS **Related to non-agenda items only*

The Board has received public comment via written correspondence from the following individual(s) since the previous regular board meeting:

1. Amy Frith (email 3/19/25)
2. Claudia Vidovic (email 3/19/25)
3. Sue Taylor (email 3/19/25)
4. Stephanie Skaggs (email 3/20/25)

5. Amanda Hansen (email 3/20/25)
6. Lisa Plummer (email 3/20/25)
7. Erin Devine (email 4/1/25)
8. Beth Martinez (email 4/2/25)

The following individual(s) provided in-person public comment:

1. Erin DeVine

Public comment closed at 7:17 p.m.

Board Discussion:

Board Member Yoffie asked about clarification for when students are out ill and how schools keep the students up to speed on their school work. Superintendent Roth explained that work is provided by the teacher and additionally, this year, we altered the Independent Study Contract Policy to give additional opportunities to assist with absenteeism. This process has been heavily communicated this year and has been very effective.

## VII. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

1. Silva Valley Elementary School Employee's of the Year: Brandon Beadle, Principal
    - Certificated Employee of the Year: Heather Locher, Teacher
        i. Brandon Beadle, Silva Valley Principal, stated that Heather is retiring after 30 years and they are lucky and blessed to have her at Silva Valley. Heather is dedicated, positive, and supportive to other teachers. She gives a love of learning to her students and teaches from her heart, building strong relationships with her students. She has a passion for teaching our youth and teaches students perseverance, communication, and friendship. Staff said that she is a treasure and brings her A-game every day. Heather cares about the whole child and the connections made with the family goes beyond the school year.
        ii. Superintendent Roth presented Heather with a certificate and stated that she is a truly special educator in our District. If we had a hall of fame, Heather would be in it. Data shows that students who come out of her class perform at a high level. You can tell Heather enjoys being a teacher and we are sorry to see her leave but wish her well in retirement.
    - Classified Employee of the Year: Gwendolyn Rogers, Administrative Assistant
        i. Brandon Beadle, Silva Valley Principal, stated that Gwendolyn has been at Silva Valley for 4 years and is not only the office administrative assistant with endless tasks, but she is the meeter and greeter who creates a wonderful office space for students and visitors. Gwendolyn is positive, reliable, dependable, and values suggestions and input. Her presence is the foundation of the office

team. Staff said she is a rock star and always immediately helps, going above and beyond, generous, inclusive, and friendly.

ii. Superintendent Roth presented Gwendolyn with a certificate and stated that she deals with a flurry of activities in the office and hopes she realizes the importance of her role with students, she is the "office mom" and is greatly appreciated.

2. Buckeye Elementary School Principal Presentation: Kevin Cadden, Principal
   - Kevin Cadden, Principal, presented the above-linked presentation to the Board.

3. Camerado Springs IB World School received recognition Schools to Watch: Doug Shupe, Principal, and Sara Matley, Assistant Principal
   - Doug Shupe, Principal, presented the above-linked presentation to the Board.

***Following all presentations, the Board will accept Public Comments regarding any presentation(s).***

Public Comment: None

## VIII. REPORTS

1. Superintendent's Report: David Roth, Ph.D.
   - State testing underway in the District.
   - A Touch of Understanding annual workshops have been occurring at our schools, an event that builds disability awareness and helps to create an inclusive culture.
   - Unified Sports Basketball recently occurred at Markham Middle School, an event where students with disabilities are paired with a buddy for a basketball game. Many supportive families attended.
   - Submitted a letter to the County Planning Division regarding Costco and, following their meeting, we will share the letter with the public.
   - Recently attended the EDCSBA dinner to recognize retired Board member, Gloria Silva, with the lifetime achievement award.
   - The annual Heritage Festival was a success and big thanks to Annie Muse-Fisher who organized the event. Also a big thanks to our students and families. This was an excellent community event.
   - Recently served as a judge at the Annual Oral Interpretation festival where students come from all over the County to recite poetry, either written by others or themselves.
2. Enrollment Report: Jackie McHaney
   - Ms. McHaney reported that there are currently 4,178 students enrolled in our District, a decrease of 10 students from the previous report.
3. Association Reports:
   - Buckeye Teachers Association (BTA) - None

- California School Employees Association (CSEA) - None

4. Charter Spring Reports:
    - Rising Sun Montessori Charter School Report: Karl Zierhut
        i. Enrollment underway, completed the lottery, and received 3 applications for every available space in TK-3rd.
        ii. Still waiting on WASC accreditation, will receive in May.
        iii. State testing underway.
        iv. Planning to add a building adjacent to the current facility which will allow for the middle school community to have additional facilities, library, music room, as well as SPED pull-out space.
        v. Art fair was successful.
        vi. Chronic Absenteeism is under 4% and it helps that Independent Study Contracts now have more flexibility.
5. Reports and Requests by Board Members
    - Board Member Hanson-Smith said it was an honor to recognize Gloria Silva at the EDCSBA dinner as a person we all love. Gloria is an icon and a role model for all of us.

***Following all reports, the Board will accept Public Comments regarding any report(s).***

Public Comment: None

## IX. CONSENT AGENDA

*All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered by the Board to be routine and will be enacted by the Board in one motion. There will be no discussion on these items prior to the time the Board votes on the motion unless members of the Board, staff, or public request specific items to be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Agenda. If items are pulled for discussion, a separate vote will occur on the items(s). The Superintendent and staff recommend approval of all Consent Agenda items.*

1. Board Meeting Minutes - March 19, 2025
2. Donation to School - Silva Valley Elementary
    - $1,000 John Baker
3. MOU - UCLA/PTHV and Buckeye Union Elementary School District
    - Regarding the Study: Effects of Parent-Teacher Home Visits Program (PTHV) on Chronic Absenteeism
4. Approval of Out-of-State Conference:
    - International Baccalaureate Association of Rocky Mountain Schools (IBARMS) Keystone Workshop, Camerado Springs, 1 employee

***The Board will accept Public Comment regarding any Consent Agenda item(s) prior to the Board's action.***

Board Member Seal motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.
Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.
Public Comment: None
Motion carried 4-0.

## X. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

***Public Comment is welcomed prior to the Board's action on any of the following items or in response to any discussion item(s).***

1. **ACTION -** Adopt Resolutions **No. 25-15, 25-16, and 25-17** recognizing employee appreciation days/weeks

   *(David Roth, Ph.D., Superintendent)*

   Superintendent Roth reported that these are annual items and requested that the Board adopt Resolutions No. 25-15, 25-16, and 25-17, as presented. Our school district is an exceptional place and we appreciate all of its employees.

   Board Member Yoffie motioned to adopt Resolutions No. 25-15, 25-16, and 25-17, as presented.
   Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.
   Public Comment: None
   Motion carried 4-0.

2. **ACTION -** Approve offering Golden Handshake Early Retirements to Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) Staff Members

   *(Jackie McHaney, Assistant Superintendent)*

   Ms. McHaney reported on this annual item and requested that the Board approve the Golden Handshake window period from May 30, 2025, through September 1, 2025, to offer an early retirement incentive to CALPERS (Public Employees Retirement System) staff members. Participation in the Golden Handshake must net out as cost savings for the District.

   Board Member Seal motioned to approve the window of May 30, 2025, through September 1, 2025, as presented.
   Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.
   Public Comment: None
   Motion carried 4-0.

3. **ACTION -** Authorization to Accept Bids and Enter into Contract with the Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder for the Buckeye Central Kitchen Flooring Replacement Project

   *(Brian McCahon, Director of Facilities)*

   Brian McCahon reminded the Board that school district governing boards are required to competitively bid and award construction contracts involving an expenditure of more than $15,000.00. The Governing Board authorized staff to post bidding documents for the Buckeye Central Kitchen Flooring Replacement Project. The lowest and sole bidder at $245,000 is Carter Kelly, Inc.

Brian McCahon asked that the Board accept the bid, and authorize staff to enter into a contract with Cater Kelly, Inc., the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, as determined by BUSD staff following the bid opening, for the Buckeye Central Kitchen Flooring Replacement Project.

Board Member Keyzer motioned to Authorize the Acceptance of Bids and Enter into Contract with the Lowest Responsible and Responsive Bidder for the Buckeye Central Kitchen Flooring Replacement, Carter Kelly, Inc.
Board Member Yoffie seconded the motion.
Board Discussion: Board Member Yoffie asked about Brian as to why there is only one bidder on this project. Brian McCahon explained that most likely this is due to the timing of the work, namely summer only and the relatively small nature of the project.
Public Comment: None
Motion carried 4-0.

4. **ACTION -** Approval of Revised Administrative Salary Schedule Regarding Creation of New Position Titled: Principal, Mandarin Immersion Charter School
*(Jackie McHaney, Assistant Superintendent)*

Ms. McHaney reported that the Buckeye Union School District currently has a position on the Certificated Management Salary Schedule of Mandarin Immersion Program Coordinator, which is filled by Lu Zhai, Ed.D. However, since creation of this position, the duties of the position has evolved and now is considered to be more analogous to the primary responsibilities set forth in a Principal job description, with the one exception being that such duties are performed for a much smaller school population (including staff and students) than those of our other elementary and middle school sites. In addition, in order to facilitate actions necessary for the continued growth and success of the school, certain actions require the "head of the school" to actually hold the title of Principal. With the evolution of duties and responsibilities for this position, including the need to meet certain requirements for consideration of programming going forward, the District has determined that it is in the best interest of the Mandarin Immersion Charter School to add Principal, Mandarin Immersion Charter School to the Certificated Management Salary Schedule. It is important to note that with the exception of the change in title, no other changes have been made. Both the work year and compensation for the position remain the same. Upon approval of the revision to the Certificated Management Salary Schedule, Dr. Zhai would be reclassified as Principal and the Coordinator position will remain vacant, but not eliminated as it is necessary to maintain the position on the salary schedule for confidential personnel reasons.

Ms. McHaney asked the Board to review and approve the creation of a new position namely, Principal, Mandarin Immersion Charter School.

Board Member Seal motioned to approve the Revised Administrative Salary Schedule Re: Creation of New Position Titled: Principal, Mandarin Immersion Charter School, as presented.
Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None
Motion carried 4-0.

5. **ACTION -** Approval of Resolution **No. 25-18** Adopting Professional Experience Qualifications to Teach Transitional Kindergarten (TK)
*(Jackie McHaney, Assistant Superintendent)*

Ms. McHaney reported that in order retain maximum flexibility in the assignment of certificated employees to best meet the needs of the transitional kindergarten students in the District, the District proposes the Governing Board adopt Resolution No. 25-18 adopting professional experience qualifications of serving one complete school year as the lead teacher in a transitional kindergarten or as an educator of preschool age children (3-4 years of age), or completed three complete school years as the lead teacher in a kindergarten program, in order to serve in such capacity beginning in the 2025-2026 school year.

Board Member Keyzer motioned to adopt Resolution No. 25-18, as presented.
Board Member Seal seconded the motion.
Board Discussion: Board Member Hanson–Smith asked about the availability of TK Teachers.
Public Comment: None
Motion carried 4-0.

6. **ACTION -** Approval of Suggested Revisions to Buckeye Union Board Policy/Regulation/Bylaws - *March 2025 CSBA Policy Updates*
*(Jackie McHaney, Asst. Superintendent)*

Ms. McHaney reminded the Board that CSBA periodically publishes suggested changes to school district policies in order to bring them in alignment with changes in the law. Ms. McHaney gave a brief overview of the reasoning behind the Policies/Regulations/Bylaws being presented. The draft policies include strikethrough text to indicate content that will be removed and underlined text to show new additions.

Ms. McHaney explained to the Board that the policies discussed at the previous meeting, which were requested for a second reading, will be brought back at the next Board meeting.

Board Member Seal motioned to approve BUSD Board Policies/Regulations/ Bylaws, as presented.
Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.
Board Discussion: Board Member Yoffie inquired about BP 5131.8 - Mobile Communication Devices and the timing of moving from the informal rule to the formal rule. Ms. McHaney clarified that this policy is required to be in place on/by July 1, 2026 and the policy is to be reviewed every 5 years.
Public Comment: None
Motion carried 4-0.

## XI. NEXT MEETING

- Regular Board Meeting - Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
  @ Buckeye Union School District - VIA Zoom and in-person

## XII. ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Hanson-Smith stated that this meeting stands adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Board Member Yoffie motioned to adjourn.
Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4-0.

Approval Date:_____

By: _____ By: _____
Kirk Seal, Clerk David Roth, Ph.D., Secretary

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Any writings or documents that are public records and are provided to a majority of the governing Board regarding an open session item (or closed session statement threatening litigation) on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the District Office located at 5049 Robert J. Mathews Parkway, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762 during normal business hours.

Individuals requiring special accommodations (American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in accessible formats, etc.) should contact the Superintendent at least two days before the meeting date at (916) 985-2183 ext. 1012.

Parents/guardians may request that directory information or personal information of the student or parent/guardian, provided at the Board meeting, be redacted from the minutes. To request information be redacted, please contact the Superintendent at (916) 985-2183 ext. 1012.