CHULA VISTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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EACH CHILD IS AN INDIVIDUAL OF GREAT WORTH

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting – January 22, 2025

Closed Session – 4:00 P.M.
Open Session – 6 P.M.

Dr. Lowell J. Billings Board Room, Education Service and Support Center
Streamed Online

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Ugarte called the meeting to order at 4:05 P.M. with all Board Members present, except for Vice President Tamayo.

A. Roll Call

Members Present:
Ms. Lucy Ugarte, President
Ms. Delia Dominguez Cervantes, Clerk
Ms. Keren Ramirez Dominguez, Member
Ms. Jessica R. Tolston, Member

Members Absent:
Mr. Francisco Tamayo, Vice President

Others Present:
Dr. Eduardo Reyes, Superintendent
Ms. Sharon Casey, Asst. Supt. Student Services
Ms. Jessica Morales, Area Asst. Supt., Innovation and Instruction
Mr. Jason Romero, Asst. Supt. Human Resources
Mr. Mark Pong, Asst. Supt. of Business Services and Support
Ms. Giovanna Castro, Director of Communications
Ms. Araceli Guzman, Supt. and Board of Education Administrative Manager
Ms. Paloma Romo, Secretary II

2. APPROVE AGENDA

A. Approval of Agenda

Motion: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Second: TOLSTON,
Vote: Ayes: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, RAMIREZ DOMINGUEZ, TOLSTON, UGARTE.
Absent: TAMAYO; Noes: NONE; Abstain: NONE

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

A. Oral Communications for Closed Session Items

The Oral Communications section provides the public with an opportunity to address the Board on closed session items only. Persons wishing to be heard may attend in person and should complete a "Request to Be Heard" card and submit it to the Recording Secretary before the start of the meeting. Speakers are requested to limit their remarks to three minutes and speak in a respectful and professional manner. The Board shall limit the total time for public input on each topic to 20 minutes. With Board consent, the President may increase or decrease the time allowed for public comments depending on the number of persons wishing to be heard. No Board action can be taken.

No speakers.

4. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

A. Closed Session Information

President Ugarte adjourned to closed session at 4:08 P.M. in accordance with the following:

B. Government Code Sections 3549.1(d) and 54957.6: Collective Bargaining/Employee Negotiations; Agency Negotiators: Adams Silva & McNally LLP; Employee Organizations: Chula Vista Classified Employees Organization (CVCEO); Chula Vista Educators (CVE); Nonrepresented Employees; Administrators Association Chula Vista (AACV)

C. Government Code Section 54957(b)(1): Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/ Release

D. Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation in Office of Administrative Hearings, Case No. 2024101094

E. Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation in Office of Administrative Hearings, Case No. 2024060799

5. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

A. Call to Order/Roll Call

President Ugarte reconvened to open session at 6:01 P.M. with all Board Members present. She reported that Clerk Tamayo arrived to closed session at 4:18 P.M.

Members Present:
Ms. Lucy Ugarte, President
Mr. Francisco Tamayo, Vice President
Ms. Delia Dominguez Cervantes, Clerk
Ms. Keren Ramirez Dominguez, Member
Ms. Jessica R. Tolston, Member

Members Absent:
None.

Others Present:
Dr. Eduardo Reyes, Superintendent
Ms. Sharon Casey, Asst. Supt. Student Services
Ms. Jessica Morales, Area Asst. Supt., Innovation and Instruction
Mr. Jason Romero, Asst. Supt. Human Resources
Mr. Mark Pong, Asst. Supt. Business Services and Support
Ms. Giovanna Castro, Director of Communications
Ms. Araceli Guzman, Supt. and Board of Education Administrative Manager
Ms. Paloma Romo, Secretary II

B. Report Out from Closed Session

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes announced that in closed session, the Board:

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation in Office of Administrative Hearings, Case No. 2024101094

Approved.
Motion: TAMAYO, Second: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Vote: UNANIMOUS

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation in Office of Administrative Hearings, Case No. 2024060799

Approved.
Motion: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Second: RAMIREZ DOMINGUEZ, Vote: UNANIMOUS

President Ugarte reconvened to open session at 6:03 P.M. with all Board Members present.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

President Ugarte called on Board Member Tolston to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

6. APPROVE AGENDA

A. Approval of Agenda
Motion: TAMAYO, Second: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Vote: UNANIMOUS

7. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Chula Vista Classified Employees Organization

President Angela Reed congratulated the new Board Members and expressed her enthusiasm for collaborating with them to advance professional development, increase compensation, and improve working conditions for classified staff. She highlighted the critical roles classified employees play in the school community, emphasizing that they are often the first to greet students at the start of the day, transport them to and from school, prepare and serve meals in the cafeteria, ensure safe supervision and instruction both inside and outside the classroom, and serve as the welcoming face of the school in office roles.

It is important to underscore the significance of recognizing the vital contributions of classified staff to schools and the District. She expressed her hope that the Board continues to acknowledge and value their significant efforts.

B. Chula Vista Educators

President Rosi Martinez welcomed the new Board Members and emphasized CVE's commitment to fostering mutually respectful and collaborative relationships with them. She highlighted that Board Members hold the critical responsibility of approving policies and making decisions that directly impact students, their families, staff, and the Chula Vista community.

It is the duty of Trustees to serve the interests of education and the community, rather than pursuing personal agendas. The CVESD Board Policy on Equity and Access underscores the importance of eradicating institutional bias and racism in all forms. Supporting all students and staff—regardless of their citizenship status, ability, identity, race, or gender—remains a fundamental priority. Furthermore, the Constitution mandates that government and public schools remain neutral in matters of religion, prohibiting the promotion or endorsement of religious education or prayer. Schools must neither encourage nor discourage religious activities.

Lastly, the District remains committed to prioritizing safety, social-emotional support, academic interventions, and ongoing efforts to strengthen community schools.

C. Administrators Association Chula Vista

President Theresa Corona welcomed the new Trustees and expressed AACV's enthusiasm for the fresh perspectives and contributions they bring. She highlighted AACV's role in advocating for its members, ensuring their voices are heard, and enhancing experiences for students. AACV strives to partner with the Board and District in a professional collaboration to uphold the highest standards of education and equity. She emphasized that the Board's decisions impact thousands of students, families, and educators. Acknowledging the significance of these decisions, she underscored the importance of prioritizing the needs of students, staff, and communities as they move forward.

8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Oral Communications Guidelines

The Oral Communications section provides the public with an opportunity to address the Board on non-agenda items. Persons wishing to be heard may attend in person and should complete a "Request to Be Heard" card and submit it to the Recording Secretary before the start of the meeting. Speakers are requested to limit their remarks to three minutes and speak in a respectful and professional manner. The Board shall limit the total time for public input on each topic to 20 minutes. With Board consent, the President may increase or decrease the time allowed for public comments depending on the number of persons wishing to be heard. No Board action can be taken.

There were eight speakers.

- Parent Christy M. addressed management staff changes at Greg Rogers Elementary.
- Parent Randilynn Herrera expressed appreciation for the positive changes at Greg Rogers Elementary.
- Parent Rosemary Lowery addressed public comments and spoke in support Noelle Cravens.
- Parent Carlo spoke in support of Noelle Cravens.
- Parent Noelle Cravens addressed concerns with CVE going against mission statement.
- Parent Lanay Henry spoke in support of Noelle Cravens.
- Patricia Iris Marcela Alcaine spoke in support of Noelle Cravens.
- Chula Vista Hills Teacher Traci Talamantes addressed the funding for student supports.

9. ORAL PRESENTATIONS AND WRITTEN REPORTS

A. District Safety/Health Update

Mr. Jason Romero provided a safety update on school site crosswalks, COVID protocols, staff training, and the camera project. He gave an overview of the safety team, which includes Security Program and Safety Operations Manager Ahmed Wiggins, School Site Security Coordinator Darren Newborn, and Senior Benefits and Risk Manager Jenny Venyak.

Board Members had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

B. Report on the Governor's 2025-26 State Budget Proposal

Mr. Mark Pong presented the initial report on the Governor's Proposed 2025-26 Budget Fiscal Year. The Governor outlined a balanced budget that assumes steady, stable national growth and projects a $17 billion surplus and health reserves. The State budget reflects a $10.9 billion in Rainy Day Fund and maintains a $1.5 billion Public School System Stabilization Account (PSSSA) reserve at the end of 2025-26.

He referenced the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA). For 2025-26, 2.43%, previously projected at 2.93% and 2026-27, 3.52%, previously projected at 3.08%. The Special Education Ongoing Funding is 2.54 COLA. In the District Reserve Cap in 2025-26, the balance of $1.2 billion in the PSSSA does not trigger the district 10% reserve cap in 2025-26. He addressed One Time Funding, Universal Meals, Transitional Kindergarten, Retirement Systems, Expanded Learning Opportunities Program, Risks to the State Budget, and State Budget Process from January to June, and Next Steps.

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes told Mr. Pong that she appreciated the information on potential risks. She conducted research using sources such as the County Office, a Board update, a review from the Legislative Analyst's Office, and an analysis from the California Budget and Policy Center. She noted that the budget is based on current laws and policies. Additionally, the Budget Stabilization Account, which was established three years ago, has been suspended, and its funds have been utilized—an approach that is not sustainable in the long run. Another significant factor is the possibility of future reductions. She acknowledges that we are being cautious and wants us to continue to remain cautious.

President Ugarte thanked Mr. Pong for his report and requested a brief summary of the last instance when tax payments were delayed and their impact on school budgets. Mr. Pong explained that tax delays created challenges for the state in projecting revenues. The deadline was extended due to storms and flooding, further complicating revenue forecasts. As a result, the state had to make budget pullbacks and reductions after the budget had already been approved.

10. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Consent Calendar

The following items listed under Consent Calendar are considered by the Board in one action. 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 Calendar.

Prior to approval of the Consent Calendar, Items 10.B., 10.C., 10.D., 10.F., 10.H., 10.I., 10.J., 10.M., 10.N., and 10.P. were pulled by Clerk Dominguez Cervantes; and Item 10.K. was pulled by Vice President Tamayo.

Motion: TAMAYO, Second: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Vote: UNANIMOUS

B. Adopt Board of Education Meeting Minutes: Regular Meeting and Special Meeting - REVISED

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes shared that the minutes had several errors. She said they were reposted in a revised format to include the corrections she provided to Ms. Guzman.

Motion: TAMAYO, Second: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Vote: UNANIMOUS

C. Approve and/or Ratify Human Resources Items A Through K **(2024-25.061)**

Board Member Dominguez Cervantes inquired on:

Subsection D Job Descriptions:

- Are the job descriptions new or revised? Mr. Romero explained that the Family Resource Assistant is a new job description funded through Community Schools. Additionally, the Buyer/Library Specialist Technician position has been revised to include added duties that align with the current processes and functions required for the role.

Subsection K Consultants:

- Cabana Pool Services: Mr. Pong explained that the payment for pool maintenance is retroactive due to a change in ownership. The company was formerly known as Pool Logic.

Clerk Tamayo inquired on:

- Shield Security Systems, LLC: Mr. Pong explained that the amount covers the annual service provided by a locksmith company contracted to rekey locks.

Motion: TAMAYO, Second: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Vote: UNANIMOUS

D. Approve Revised Salary Schedule for Classified Substitutes Effective January 1, 2025

There was one speaker:

- CVCEO President Angela Reed addressed the issue of salary for contracted employees and for substitutes.

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes expressed concerns regarding some of the classifications, particularly those with minimum wage salaries. President Ugarte agreed and requested a cost analysis for raising the rates. Vice President Tamayo motioned to approve the item and directed the District to provide a cost analysis for Step 1 placement on the salary schedule by the February Regular Board Meeting.

Motion: TAMAYO, Second: UGARTE, Vote: UNANIMOUS

E. Review and Accept Quarterly Report to the San Diego County Office of Education on Williams Complaints for the Period of October Through December 2024

F. Ratify Student Accountability Report Card Reports for the 2023-24 School Year

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes raised concerns about significant inconsistencies between previous reports and the 2023-24 report. She emphasized the need for further research to address these discrepancies and recommended updating the reports accordingly.

Ms. Morales stated it is based on data submitted to the State through the California Department of Education (CDE). The information is prepopulated into our SARCs through the document tracking system.

Vice President Tamayo motioned to approve with the request for the District conduct an analysis as recommended by Clerk Dominguez Cervantes.

Motion: TAMAYO, Second: UGARTE
Vote: Ayes: RAMIREZ DOMINGUEZ, TAMAYO, TOLSTON, UGARTE
Absent: NONE; Noes: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES; Abstain: NONE

G. Approve Renewal of Coalition for Adequate School Housing Membership in the Total Amount of $1,222 for the Period February 1, 2025, Through January 31, 2026

H. Approve Change Order for Request for Proposal No. 24/25-2 Security Camera Project to CDW Government, LLC in the Amount of $87,855.32, for a New Total Contract Amount of $778,863.17

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes questioned the significant increase, suggesting it might have resulted from an oversight. Mr. Pong clarified that it was not an oversight. The increase was determined based on the needs of the schools and the types of cameras identified during the walkthroughs. He further noted that the cost remains below the next lowest bid.

Motion: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Second: TAMAYO, Vote: UNANIMOUS

I. 1) Approve Retention Release for Bid Package No. 1 for Maxwell Transportation Center to Conan Construction, Inc.; 2) Approve Change Order for Conan Construction, Inc., for a Decrease in the Amount of $50,000; and 3) Approve Notice of Completion for Bid Package No. 1 for Conan Construction, Inc.

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes asked if the center is fully functional. Mr. Pong responded that the office space is complete. However, an epoxy seal will be applied to the area where buses are serviced, as recommended by the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS).

Motion: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Second: TAMAYO, Vote: UNANIMOUS

J. Approve Award of Bid Package No.1 to SWCS, Inc., dba Southwest Construction Services, Inc., for the Burton C. Tiffany Elementary School Heating Ventilating and Air Conditioning and Roof Renovation Project in the Amount of $2,592,308.78 for the Period of January 23, 2025, Through Completion of the Project

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes inquired about the projected completion date and recommended using a different method for general circulation to advertise bids, as the Star News is seldom utilized. Mr. Pong responded that the anticipated start date for the project is during spring break, with the second phase beginning in June and completion expected by July 18th. He also noted that most vendors typically refer to the trade journals currently used but assured that the District will explore other methods for advertising bids.

Motion: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Second: TAMAYO, Vote: UNANIMOUS

K. Approve Change Order Increase in the amount of $11,520 for Bid Package No. 2, for the New Classroom Building at Sonia Sotomayor Elementary School

Motion: TAMAYO, Second: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Vote: UNANIMOUS

L. Approve Agreement with Balfour Beatty Construction for Preconstruction and Construction Management Services for the Valle Lindo Elementary School

Modernization Project, for the Period of January 23, 2025, Through Completion of the Project

M. Approve Agreement with Ruhnau Clark Architects for Architectural Services for Valle Lindo Elementary School Modernization Project, for the Period of January 23, 2025, Through Completion of the Project

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes requested clarification on the work performed by the architects. Mr. Pong explained that the architects are responsible for designing the projects, while the construction manager oversees the execution of the projects on behalf of the District.

Motion: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Second: TAMAYO, Vote: UNANIMOUS

N. Approve Agreement with Frontline Technologies Group, LLC, dba Frontline Education in the Amount of $67,890.40 for the Time and Attendance Module Add-On Services for the Period of February 21, 2025, Through June 30, 2026

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes shared that substitute teachers informed her of a $5 monthly fee for preferential notification of available substitute assignments. Mr. Pong stated that, to the District's knowledge, no such fee exists, but they will investigate the matter further.

Motion: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Second: TAMAYO, Vote: UNANIMOUS

O. Ratify Purchase Orders, Warrants, and Checks Written/Issued Through December 31, 2024 **(2024-25.061)**

P. Approve and/or Ratify Inservice/Travel Requests **(2024-25.062)**

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes inquired on the travel for CABE and Leading the Culture of Thinking Summit. Ms. Morales stated that the travel for CABE is a place holder for teachers eligible and interested in attending. The Educator Effectiveness Grant pays for professional development training for teachers and principals.

Motion: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Second: RAMIREZ DOMINGUEZ, Vote: UNANIMOUS

President Ugarte announced a break at 7:40 P.M., and the meeting reconvened at 7:49 P.M.

11. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION ITEMS

President Ugarte adjourned to the Chula Vista Elementary School District Public Facilities Financing Corporation (PFFC) meeting at 7:49 P.M.

Call to Order.

Chairperson Ugarte called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 7:49 P.M. with all members present.

Members Present:
Ms. Lucy Ugarte, Chairperson of PFFC
Mr. Francisco Tamayo, Vice Chairperson of PFFC

Ms. Delia Dominguez Cervantes, Clerk
Ms. Keren Ramirez Dominguez, Member
Ms. Jessica R. Tolston, Member
Mr. Mark Pong, President of PFFC
Dr. Eduardo Reyes, Secretary of PFFC
Ms. Prerna Kapur, Chief Financial Officer of PFFC

Members Absent:
None.

Others Present:
Ms. Sharon Casey, Asst. Supt. Student Services
Ms. Jessica Morales, Area Asst. Supt., Innovation and Instruction
Mr. Jason Romero, Asst. Supt. Human Resources
Ms. Giovanna Castro, Director of Communications
Ms. Araceli Guzman, Supt. and Board of Education Administrative Manager
Ms. Paloma Romo, Secretary II

A. Adopt Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Chula Vista Elementary School District Public Facilities Financing Corporation Appointing Officers and Taking Related Action in Connection Therewith **(2024-25.063)**

Mr. Pong explained that as part of the financing process of the Certificates of Participation, the District has organized a Public Facilities Financing Corporation. Due to change in District Members of the Board of Education, a resolution is needed to appoint change in officers, Chair Lucy Ugarte, Vice-Chair Francisco Tamayo, President Mark Pong, Secretary Dr. Eduardo Reyes, and Chief Financial Officer Prerna Kapur.

Motion: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Second: RAMIREZ DOMINGUEZ, Vote: UNANIMOUS

Chairperson Lucy Ugarte adjourned the meeting at 7:52 P.M.

President Ugarte reconvened to public session at 7:52 P.M.

B. Accept Chula Vista Elementary School District 2023-24 Annual Audit Report

Mr. Pong introduced Mr. Brian Hadley of Wilkinson Hadley King & Co. LLP to present the audit report. Mr. Hadley explained the process in conducting the audit. He added that there are no 2024-25 financial statement changes based on the audit. However, there are two findings with a fiscal impact totaling $387,313. One is for a substitute in the same assignment more than 30 days. The second is a student without immunization and no waiver filed. He added that the District had no findings in the prior year. Lastly, the District received an unmodified opinion audit report which is the best opinion that can be received.

Motion: RAMIREZ DOMINGUEZ, Second: TAMAYO, Vote: UNANIMOUS

C. Adopt Resolution of the Board of Education of the Chula Vista Elementary School District Certifying All Proceedings in the November 5, 2024, General Obligation Bond Election for Measure AA **(2024-25.064)**

Mr. Pong explained that the November 5th election results showed local voters approved Measure AA with a 61.72% "Yes" vote, which exceeded the required 55% threshold. This resolution certifies the vote.

Motion: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Second: TAMAYO, Vote: UNANIMOUS

D. Adopt Resolution for Emergency Services and Equipment Pursuant to Public Contract Code Sections 22035 and 22050 **(2024-25.065)**

Mr. Pong stated this is to extend the agreement with Veteran Electrical Power Systems, Inc. (VEPS) to provide the generator at the ESSC location.

Motion: TAMAYO, Second: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Vote: UNANIMOUS

12. GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS/REPORTS

A. Report Calendar to Board of Education

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes requested the following:

- Associate Principal formula which determines the needs per school.
- Report capturing the parameters, criteria, and exceptions for the use Title I funds, specifically for sites.
- Report on the status of continuing the use of Achieve software.
- District to meet with labor partners to standardize student progress reports and add a key for grading.
- Fiscal Crisis Management Assistance Team (FCMAT) to conduct a management assistance study of the Human Resources department.

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes motioned to add FCMAT study of Human Resources to February's Board meeting agenda.

Motion: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES, Second: TAMAYO, Vote: UNANIMOUS

President Ugarte requested a Special Board Meeting that focuses on the roles and responsibilities of a school board member with the Brown Act data. Dr. Reyes will have Ms. Guzman reach out to Board Members for potential dates.

13. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

A. Members of the Board of Education Communications to the Public

Clerk Dominguez Cervantes attended January's DAC/DELAC meeting. She met with union partners and parents.

Vice President Tamayo welcomed the new Trustees to the Board and extended a warm greeting to the staff returning from the Winter Break.

President Ugarte expressed appreciation to the comments from the union presidents. She enjoyed attending career day with the students at Los Altos Elementary.

14. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMUNICATION

A. Superintendent's Communications to the Public

Dr. Reyes welcomed the new Trustees to the Board and expressed his gratitude to the union leadership, his cabinet, and support staff. He shared his enthusiasm for the upcoming semester.

15. ADJOURNMENT

A. Adjourn the Meeting

President Ugarte adjourned the meeting at 8:26 P.M.
Motion: DOMINGUEZ CERVANTES Second: RAMIREZ DOMINGUEZ,
Vote: UNANIMOUS

B. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Chula Vista Elementary School District will be held on February 19, 2025, at 4:00 PM for Closed Session and 6:00 PM for the Open Session

Eduardo Reyes, Ed.D. Secretary

Delia Dominguez Cervantes, Clerk