



BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
2309 TULARE STREET
BOARD ROOM, SECOND FLOOR
FRESNO, CA 93721
fresnounified.org/board

MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Fresno, California

April 23, 2025

Fresno Unified School District, Education Center, 2309 Tulare Street, Fresno, CA 93721.

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held on April 23, 2025, there were present Board Members Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, Clerk Islas, and Board President Davis. Interim Superintendent Mao Misty Her was also present.

Board President Davis CONVENED the Regular Board Meeting at 4:34 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Paul Idsvoog led the Flag Salute.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Closed Session Items

For the record, the Board received eight (8) requests to address the Board on Closed Session items.

The individual's name and summary of topic are as follows:

1. John Tao thanked the Board for their commitment to the superintendent search process.
2. Cher Vang thanked the Board for their commitment to the superintendent search process.
3. Mai Shoua Yang thanked the Board for doing the important job of leading the district and selecting a superintendent.
4. Blia Her shared a statement in Hmong which was interpreted. Commended the Board on engaging the community in the superintendent search process.
5. Silas Cha commented that the Board's decision on superintendent will be pivotal and will require leadership, insight, and will set the tone for the community and district.

6. Manual Bonilla shared disappointment in the superintendent search committee process.
7. Darius Assemi shared disappointment in the superintendent search committee process.
8. Kendra Devejian shared support and encouragement for the future of Fresno Unified School District.

A. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

For the record, the Board was in receipt of A-1, Receive Proposed Board Policy (BP) Revisions for the following: BP 0460 – Local Control and Accountability Plan; BP 3100-Budget; BP 3250-Transportation Fees (NEW); BP 3540-Transportation; and BP 6020-Parent Involvement.

Board President Davis ADJOURNED the Regular Board Meeting to Closed Session at 4:58 p.m.

Board President Davis RECONVENED the meeting to Open Session at 6:15 p.m.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

- On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Member Islas, the Board voted in closed session to hire Karina Lara to Principal II at Centennial Elementary School through the standard hiring process, by a vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, Clerk Islas, and President Davis.
- On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board Member Levine, the Board voted in closed session to hire Ryan Coe to Principal II at Fulton Secondary School through the standard hiring process, by a vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, Clerk Islas, and President Davis.
- On a motion by Board Member Levine, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board voted in closed session to hire Cynthis Purves to Principal II at Heaton Elementary School through the standard hiring process, by a vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, Clerk Islas, and President Davis.

- On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Member Levine, the Board voted in closed session to hire Peggy Harrison to Principal II at Homan Elementary School, by a vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, Clerk Islas, and President Davis.
- On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board President Davis, the Board voted in closed session to hire Kelly Lightner to Principal II at Robinson Elementary School through the standard hiring process, by a vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, Clerk Islas, and President Davis.
- On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Member Wittrup, the Board voted in closed session to hire Pamela Guizar to Principal II at Vinland Elementary School through the standard hiring process, by a vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, Clerk Islas, and President Davis.
- The Board was notified of a Principal lateral in closed session for Monica Alvarez to Principal II at Columbia Elementary School.
- On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board Clerk Islas, the Board acted in closed session to select Mao Misty Her as the district's Superintendent and directed Board counsel to prepare an employment agreement for Board review and action at the April 30, 2025, meeting of the Board of Education by a vote of 6-1-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Islas, and President Davis. NOES: Board Member Wittrup.

For the record, Board President Davis recessed the board of education meeting at 6:18 to provide an opportunity for a press conference.

For the record, Board President Davis reconvened the board of education meeting at 7:27 p.m.

For the record, Clerk Islas read the approved Board Shared Agreements which are a component of the Student Outcomes Focused Governance work with the Council of Great City Schools. The Board Shared Agreements are as follows:

- **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.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-1, PRESENT and DISCUSS the Waterford Early Learning Program

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests from the public to address agenda item B-1, Present and Discuss the Waterford Early Learning Program.

For the record, Board members had comments pertaining to agenda item B-1. A summary is as follows:

Member Jonasson Rosas requested clarity as to what the Waterford program is compared to and suggested using the Waterford program during afterschool programs.

Member Thomas requested clarity as to what the program looks like on the teacher's side, what information the teacher can see pertaining to student activity. Member Thomas asked if the program could be used on cell phones.

President Davis requested clarity as to the term of software licenses.

For the record, Lisa Mitchell, Ed.D., and Clark Beal were available to provide clarity.

B-2, PRESENT and DISCUSS Overview of the Governor's 2025/26 Proposed State Budget

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests from the public to address agenda item B-2, Present and Discuss Overview of the Governor's 2025/26 Proposed State Budget.

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

Member Wittrup commended staff on the presentation and thanked staff for providing time to meet and answer Member Wittrup's questions.

For the record, Patrick Jensen facilitated the presentation.

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 Levine, seconded by Board Clerk Islas, the Board approved the Consent Agenda with the exception of agenda items C-4, C-6, C-7, C-8, and C-12 by a vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, Clerk Islas, and Board President Davis.

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-1, APPROVE Personnel List

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

C-2, 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 March 26, 2025.

C-3, APPROVE Meeting Minutes

APPROVED as recommended, draft minutes for the regular meeting of the Board of Education held March 26, 2025.

C-4, ADOPT Resolution 25-66, Proclaiming April 2025 Autism Acceptance Month
ADOPTED with conditions, Resolution 25-66, Proclaiming April 2025 as Autism Acceptance Month.

For the record, Board members had comments pertaining to agenda item C-4. A summary is as follows:

Member Wittrup requested clarity as to how the district ensures students with autism receive the appropriate services, placements, and supports. Member Wittrup shared concern that the words in the resolution and the current reality differ, and the district's words and actions need to match.

Member Wittrup moved to approve agenda item C-4 with the condition that meaningful improvement will occur in programs that serve students with autism by the time the next autism acceptance resolution is brought for adoption.

On a motion by Board Member Wittrup, seconded by Board Clerk Islas, the Board approved agenda item C-4 with conditions by a vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, Clerk Islas, and Board President Davis.

C-5, APPROVE Enrollment Application and Fee Schedule Acknowledgement for the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative

APPROVED as recommended, the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative enrollment application and fee schedule acknowledgment. The Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) is a five-year initiative that aims to expand access to school behavioral health services by implementing a new and sustainable source of funding for behavioral health services, covered by insurance provided to students at a school site.

C-6, APPROVE Agreement with Carelon Behavioral Health, Inc., and Care Solace

APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Carelon Behavioral Health, Inc., and Care Solace to approve the exchange of data and documents related to the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI). (CYBHI) aims to expand access to school behavioral health services by implementing a new and sustainable source of funding for behavioral health services, providing covered services to students at a school site. CYBHI will allow Local Education Agencies to obtain reimbursement from Medi-Cal, commercial health plans, and disability insurers, which are obligated under state law to reimburse eligible school-based and school-linked providers.

For the record, Board members had comments pertaining to agenda item C-6. A summary is as follows:

Member Wittrup asked if agenda item C-6 falls within the guidelines of student outcomes focused governance as there is no cost and is not legally required to be on the agenda. Member Wittrup requested the President Davis and Superintendent Her to consider if multiyear agreement need to go before the Board when reviewing the agenda.

Member Thomas requested that the temperature of the Board is taken before items are removed as Member Thomas likes to see anniversary style items and also monitor if costs change.

On a motion by Board Member Wittrup, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board approved agenda item C-6 by a vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, Clerk Islas, and Board President Davis.

C-7, APPROVE Agreement with Innovate Solutions in Education

APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Innovative Solutions in Education (ISE). The agreement with ISE will assist in revising and aligning the Vocational Nursing Program Curriculum to meet the required changes made in the curriculum standards by the Board of Vocational Nurse and Psychiatric Technicians (BVNPT). In addition, ISE will provide policy revision, development, and BVNPT inquiry and communication, Faculty Development Training, and conduct program audits and reports as recommended by BVNPT.

For the record, Board members had comments pertaining to agenda item C-7. A summary is as follows:

Member Wittrup asked why the district has not been able to increase the threshold to \$50,000 as Central Unified has done.

Legal Counsel Martin shared that even if a district delegated a certain level of authority to the Superintendent to approve and enter into an agreement up to \$50,000 the items would still need to be brought forward for ratification by the Board.

Member Thomas requested that the temperature of the Board is taken before changes are made.

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

C-8, APPROVE Agreement with Know Be4 Inc.

APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Knowbe4 Inc. The KnowBe4 Inc. platform provides a library of modules that deliver mini lessons on different topics to support staff understanding of Cultural Proficiency.

For the record, Board members had comments pertaining to agenda item C-8. A summary is as follows:

Member Wittrup asked about expected student outcomes and what metrics were used to support contract renewal.

On a motion by Board Member Wittrup, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board approved agenda item C-8 by a vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, Clerk Islas, and Board President Davis.

- C-9, APPROVE Amendment No. 1 to Agreement with Lark Technologies, Inc.**
APPROVED as recommended, amendment No. 1 to the agreement with Lark Technologies, Inc., a diabetes remote patient monitoring program. This amendment extends the term of the agreement through April 30, 2027. The program will be utilized explicitly for members with diabetes for active employees, early retirees, and dependents over 18 years of age. The agreement will keep the rate the same for a 2-year contract, not to exceed \$140,000 annually.
- C-10, APPROVE Grant Application to the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education 2025/26 Program**
APPROVED as recommended, grant applications to the California Department of Education for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education 2025/26 program. The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act which amended the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins IV) was signed into law on July 31, 2018. The amended Act, now Perkins V, brings changes to the \$1.2 billion annual federal investment in career and technical education (CTE). The program now requires eligible recipients to submit a yearly application that provides descriptions and assurances related to the administration of these funds.
- C-11, APPROVE Award of Bid 25-30, 2011 Fresno Fulton Tenant Improvements and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Controls Upgrade**
APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 25-30, 2011 Fresno Fulton Tenant Improvements and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Controls Upgrade. The project consists of tenant improvements that will convert an open space on the second floor to confidential spaces, and upgrade the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning control systems. Staff recommend award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: B & M Civil, LLC (Rancho Cordova, California) \$276,646.
- C-12, APPROVE Award of Request for Proposals 25-17, Pupil Transportation Services–Special Education Programs to Zūm Services, Inc.**
ITEM TABLED.

For the record, Member Jonasson Rosas motioned to table agenda item C-12 to the April 30, 2025, Board meeting.

On a motion by Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Clerk Islas, the Board approved to table agenda item C-12, APPROVE Award of Request for Proposals 25-17, Pupil Transportation Services–Special Education Programs to Zūm Services, Inc. to the April 30, 2025, Board meeting by a vote of 6-0-1-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Islas, and President Davis. ABSTENTIONS: Board Member Wittrup.

C-13, APPROVE Award for Request for Proposals 25-24, Expanded Learning

APPROVED as recommended, information on Request for Proposals (RFP) 25-24, Expanded Learning Enrollment & Attendance Platform to provide a single online platform for Expanded Learning Programs to manage registration, enrollment, enter and track attendance, and outreach that will serve the diverse needs of Fresno Unified students and families. The awarded term is a three-year period with the option to renew for two one-year periods and will begin May 01, 2025. The RFP was lawfully advertised on January 24, 2025, and January 31, 2025. Notifications were sent to 413 vendors, and the district received ten proposal responses on February 26, 2025. The evaluation of proposals was based on qualifications, timeline of work demonstrating ability to have platform operational by May 01, 2025, and pricing structure. The evaluation panel, comprised of Fresno Unified Expanded Learning Department, Information Technology Department, and Fiscal Services Department, recommends approval of the following vendor: 6crickets Inc. (Bellevue, WA) Estimated annual cost is \$485,000.

C-14, DENY Claim GL24-0901-14023

DENIED as recommended, a Claim for Damages by a minor, case GL24-0901-14023.

C-15, DENY Claim GL24-1022-12733

DENIED as recommended, a Claim for Damages by a minor, case GL24-1022-12733.

C-16, DENY Claim GL24-1107-14025

DENIED as recommended, a Claim for Damages by Pacific Rim Painting, Inc., case GL24-1107-14025.

OPPORTUNITY FOR UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

For the record, the Board received twelve (12) requests to address the Board during Unscheduled Oral Communications. The individual's name and a summary of topic are as follows:

1. Jim Barr—not present when called to the podium.
2. Brenda Quispe shared personal history and began to comment on the superintendent search process.
3. Lorena Galvez Vega requested the district's help by providing translators for parents and students that speak the Mixteco dialect at Hidalgo Elementary School.
4. Simitria Rendon requested the district's help by providing translators for parents and students that speak the Mixteco dialect at Hidalgo Elementary School.
5. Yuniua Rendon requested the district's help by providing translators for parents and students that speak the Mixteco dialect at Hidalgo Elementary School.

6. Olivar Vega requested the district's help by providing translators for parents and students that speak the Mixteco dialect at Hidalgo Elementary School.
7. Oild Ramirez
8. Rosalia Galvez requested the district's help by providing translators for parents and students that speak the Mixteco dialect at Hidalgo Elementary School.
9. Florinda Ramirez requested the district's help by providing translators for parents and students that speak the Mixteco dialect at Hidalgo Elementary School.
10. Celestina Galvez requested the district's help by providing translators for parents and students that speak the Mixteco dialect at Hidalgo Elementary School.
11. Heron Martiniez requested the district's help by providing translators for parents and students that speak the Mixteco dialect at Hidalgo Elementary School.
12. Teresa Morales advocated for the parents that spoke regarding their request for help.

OPPORTUNITY for Board Member Reflections on the Board Shared Agreements

For the record, there were no shared reflections.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Davis ADJOURNED the meeting at 9:18 p.m.