San Pasqual Union School District

The Little School in the Valley

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BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at San Pasqual Union School

- Meeting called to order at 4:30 pm to allow public comment on closed session agenda items. Board Members Goe, Gourley, Merz, Murray, and Redmond were present. Superintendent Burroughs and recording secretary Jenny Grassy were also present.

  Adjournment at 4:30 p.m. for closed session.

Regular Session

- Meeting reconvened at 5:20 pm
- Public was welcomed. The flag salute was recited.
- Hearing of the Public: SPETA president Jolene Mallory addressed the board regarding agenda item N. Mrs. Mallory asked for clarity on the daily and monthly financial impact the increased reserve would create. She asked if this affects PE and VAPA and other programs at SPU. She also asked if there are specific guidelines that pertain to this increased request.
- Member Merz motioned to approve the current agenda and minutes from the 3/11/2025 Board meeting. Member Murray seconded the motion. Motion passed 5/0.
- Mrs. Michalski presented the SPETA report to the Board. Mrs. Michalski expressed eagerness to collaborate with the board on new LCAP goals. She highlighted the meaningful growth at SPU resulting from the Kagan program and emphasized SPETA's dedication to supporting the board's goals of academic achievement. Michalski also noted that the team looks forward to receiving the same level of support for the new curriculum adoption, including staff training and a thorough understanding of the curriculum, similar to the commitment shown with Kagan.
- SPU students presented a proposal for a new SPU mascot. (Presentation attached)
- Mrs. Zdunich delivered the Assistant Principal Report (see attached)
- Superintendent's Report:
  - 10-Day Notice Title VI Certification received notice from the federal government requiring certification that schools do not discriminate. Pending state guidance on the best way to proceed.
  - Solar Project Update
    - Baker Electric has informed us that due to tariffs and political/market uncertainties, project costs may rise, and the Return on Investment (ROI) could be affected.
  - Immigration Update
    - There have been no reports of immigration-related issues at our school or nearby schools.

- Cabling Project
  - A $80K grant for the cabling project was awarded.
  - The original vendor could not perform, so a new vendor has been selected. The installation is now scheduled for summer.

Action/Discussion Items

- San Pasqual Unions TK and Kindergarten team present the Kinder Kickoff days presentation. (Presentation attached). Requesting early release (1:30pm) for kindergarten students for the first 4 weeks of the 2025/26 school year.
- Mr. Burroughs presented the 2025-26 Planning and Vision presentation. (Presentation attached). In the presentation, Mr. Burroughs recommends a new math curriculum and an additional teacher in middle school.
- Kristin DiNofia presented a resolution to require the district to maintain reserves at 21% or above. Trustees debated the need for the resolution, especially in light of financial uncertainties. Member Gourley motioned to approve the Board Resolution R#24-25-08. Member Redmond seconded the motion. Motion passed 4/1.
- Member Murray motioned to approve the Contract with Pipetrades to perform water line repairs. Member Gourley seconded the motion. Motion passed 5/0.
- Superintendent Burroughs recommends the purchase of Brightwheel to aid in preschool tuition collection and communication. Member Gourley motioned to approve the one-year premium partnership agreement with Brightweheel. Member Redmond seconded the motion. Motion passed 5/0.
- Mr. Burroughs presented the first read of Policy Manual Changes. The Board policies will be on the May agenda for approval.

Consent Agenda

- Member Merz made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Member Gourley seconded the motion. Motion passed 5/0.

Comments by Trustees:

- **Member Redmond:**
  There was a lot of great information shared tonight. I really enjoyed the student presentation—it was clear how much thought and effort went into it. The Kindergarten presentation was also wonderful. I appreciate hearing directly from our teachers and value the open communication between staff and the board. As long as we maintain transparency, I believe we'll continue moving forward in the best way possible.

- **Member Murray:**
  I completely agree with what's been shared. I love when our teachers come together and collaborate so passionately—it's inspiring to see them not only bring concerns but also solutions, as a team. I really appreciate SPETA's presence tonight and encourage them to

keep attending and making sure their voices are heard. Congratulations to the students who presented—you did a great job.

- **Member Gourley:**
  I'm fully on board with the new mascot—I think it's a great idea! I always enjoy student presentations, and honestly, if we had one every meeting, I'd be thrilled. The variety show was a huge success, and I'm grateful that every student who wanted a role was given one. Fundraising continues to be a major effort and makes a significant impact on what we're able to do. I'm excited to see what's planned for International Day, and I'm looking forward to Art Day tomorrow. Despite the uncertainties, I'm proud of the strong support we're providing for our students.

- **Member Merz:**
  Everyone has said it so well—I'll just add that I'm excited to hear the name of our new mascot!

- **Member Goe:**
  I echo everything that's been said. I especially appreciate the financial discussion—those are the conversations that I tend to focus on. Listening to our teachers present is always a highlight for me. You can truly hear the passion and dedication in their voices, and it's so impressive. My question is: how can we harness that same passion and energy in our middle school to further increase rigor and engagement? I know we're all striving for that growth.

Board returned to Closed Session

Board reconvened open session with no action to report.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:18pm.

NEXT MEETINGS:
May 6th @ 4:30pm - Special Meeting
May 13th @ 4:30pm - Regular Meeting