TAMALPAIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Board Meeting
04/29/2025 - 06:00 PM
Kreps Conference Room
395 Doherty Drive, Larkspur, California, 94939
Phone (415) 945-1020; www.tamdistrict.org

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order at 5:00 p.m.
Closed Session 5:05 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.
Zoom Link: https://tamdistrict-org.zoom.us/j/93390511103?pwd=TZY7am8MOcwEllsfqyUqUP5PkjSawx.1
Webinar ID: 933 9051 1103 Passcode: 330710

Board of Trustees
Cynthia Roenisch, President
Kevin Saavedra, Clerk
Emily Uhlhorn
Ida Green
Jennifer Holden

Tara Taupier, Ed. D, Superintendent

Attendance

Voting Members
Cynthia Roenisch, Board President
Kevin Saavedra, Board Clerk
Emily Uhlhorn, Board Member
Ida Green, Board Member
Jennifer Holden, Board Member

1. Call Meeting to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Kreps Conference Room. A quorum was declared present.

2. Approval of Closed Session Agenda

M/S/C (Saavedra/Uhlhorn), unanimously.

3. Public Comments on Closed Session Agenda

There were no public comments on the closed session agenda.

4. Recess to Closed Session in the Superintendent's Office

A. With Respect to Every Item of Business to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Gov Code §54956.9(a): Existing Litigation

1. Pending Litigation - Confidential Special Education Settlement

B. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Ed Code §35146: Confidential Student Matter

1. Appeal to the Denial of a Challenge to a Student Record: Student A

2. Consider Stipulated Expulsion for Student B

C. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

D. With Respect to Every Item of Business to be Discussed in Closed Session Pursuant to Gov Code §54957: Public Employee Appointment / Discussion

E. With Respect to Every Item of Business to be discussed in Closed Session Pursuant to Gov Code §54957: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release and/or Reassignment

F. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Gov Code §54956.9(d): Conference with Legal Counsel

G. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Gov Code §54956.95: Conference with Legal Counsel

H. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Gov Code §54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiator for TFT & CSEA

5. Reconvene Into Open Session

6. Announcement of Reportable Action Taken in Closed Session

The Board took the following actions in closed session:

- Item 4A(1): Approved a confidential Special Education settlement in the amount of $140,000.00 by unanimous vote.
- Item 4B(1): Approved the appeal of a challenge to a student record for Student A. Vote: 4 in favor, 1 opposed (Trustee Roenisch opposed)
- Item 4B(2): Board president called for a motion to approve recommendation for the expulsion of Student B for violations of Ed Code sections 48900(h) - possession/use of tobacco/nicotine products, 48900(j) - unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia, and 48900(a) - unlawful possession of controlled substance. Stipulated expulsion through January 7, 2026, with eligibility for reinstatement on January 8, 2026, subject

to rehabilitation plan terms.
    - M/S/C (Saavedra/Uhlhorn), unanimously.

7. Approve Agenda and Review Norms

M/S/C (Saavedra/Green), unanimously.

Trustee Green read the board norms.

8. Public Comment on the Consent Agenda

There was no public comment.

9. Approval of Consent Agenda

M/S/C (Holden/Saavedra), unanimously.

10. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Public Comment:

- One public comment offered condolences to families affected by the recent Archie Williams High School student tragedy and recommended creating a meditative space/memorial garden.
- One public comment urged the Board to listen to all families and emphasized the need to protect and uplift students of color in the current political climate.
- One public comment expressed condolences to Zion's family and praised the HUB and BSST for creating a safe space.
- One public comment praised the HUB, Paul Austin and Tenisha Tate and cited unprecedented improvement in the academic achievement gap.
- One public comment was emailed asking the Board to consider a memorial space to honor the students from Archie Williams High School who recently passed. They shared photos from a memorial space at Reed School District.

11. Student Trustee Reports

Emily Hitchcock, Redwood High School Student Trustee, provided the following updates:

- Junior/Senior Prom held April 19 at City Hall - successful and well-received
- Free sexual health clinic scheduled for May 2
- AP testing beginning May 2 through May 16
- Redwood athletics banquet scheduled for May 19 at Sam's Acre Cafe
- Expressed support for Archie Williams following the tragedy:
    - Green ribbon distribution at prom
    - Memorial posters throughout school for condolences
    - Teachers conducting moments of silence
    - Wellness Center providing support

Samantha Winslow, Archie Williams High School Student Trustee, provided the following

updates:

- Detailed response to tragedy affecting the school community
    - Grief counselors and Wellness Center available for support
    - Art cart provided during lunch for therapeutic activities (rock painting)
    - Flowers are placed at school signs and around campus.
    - Memory books being created for families (to be delivered Friday)
    - Remembrance Day planned for Friday lunch
    - Thanked the community for support

12. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Tara Taupier, Superintendent, provided updates on:

Memorial Statement: The Superintendent expressed grief over the loss of six young lives and gratitude for community support. She specifically remembered:

- Archie Williams students:
    - Olive Koren - JV lacrosse and field hockey player, known for warmth and wit
    - Sienna Katz - JV lacrosse and field hockey player, loved singing
    - Ada Kepley - Talented artist with unique style
    - Josalynn Osborn Oliver - Wrestling team member, described as fearless
- Also remembered:
    - Indigo Carducci (Tam High 9th grader) - succumbed to cancer, loved baking and connecting with friends
    - Zion Greenwood (Tam High Class of 2024) - known for his infectious smile, described as hardworking and inquisitive
- Healing thoughts sent to:
    - Marley Barclay and Elsa Laremont Stranczek (recovering from injuries)

The Superintendent thanked the community for their compassion and unity, emphasizing that "it shouldn't take a tragedy for us to stand together and love each other."

Board President Roenisch added personal reflections on grief and honoring those lost by keeping their memories alive. She specifically thanked Dr. Taupier, Wes Cedros, Kelly Lara, Jacob Gran, and Jessica Colvin for their work coordinating immediate support services.

13. Trustee Considerations (Please note that times listed for each item are estimated and actual times will vary)

A. Adopt Resolution No. 24-16: National Day of the Teacher and Teacher Appreciation Week - ROLL CALL VOTE (6:56 pm)

Wes Cedros, Assistant Superintendent of HR, presented resolution 24-16 recognizing Teacher Appreciation Week and expressing gratitude for educators' dedication.

There was no public comment.

Motion made by: Kevin Saavedra
Motion seconded by: Ida Green
Voting:
Unanimously Approved

B. Adopt Resolution No. 24-17: Classified School Employees Week - ROLL CALL VOTE (6:58 pm)

Wes Cedros, Assistant Superintendent of HR, presented resolution 24-17 recognizing Classified School Employees Week and expressing gratitude for their work.

There was no public comment.

Motion made by: Ida Green
Motion seconded by: Jennifer Holden
Voting:
Unanimously Approved

C. Take Action on Resolution No. 24-15 (1) Approving Five -Year School Facilities Master Plan; (2) Authorizing Submittal to DGS; (3) Authorizing Filing of Application (s) for SAB - Administered Funding Programs; (4) Declaring Exception Under SB 937; and (5) Authorizing Issuance of Notice (7:00 pm)

Corbett Elsen, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations presented.

On January 1, SB937 delayed the capture of developer fees by public institutions. SB 937 delayed the initial onset of developer fees to the end. TUHSD receives $250,000 a year and we currently have unfunded facility needs. This resolution allows the District to continue to collect developer fees and exempts us from SB 937 to continue to and remain eligible for prop 2 funds.

There was no public comment.

Motion made by: Emily Uhlhorn
Motion seconded by: Kevin Saavedra
Voting:
Unanimously Approved

D. Take Action on Approval of Project Budget Increase and Award of Contract to Adams Pool Solutions for Pool Resurfacing Project at Redwood HS. (7:03 pm)

Mike Woolard, Senior Director of Facilities Planning presented.

- The Board previously approved a budget of $750,000 to replaster the pool at Redwood High School.
- $366,000 construction budget
    - Mandatory bid walk with 3 contractors
    - Only one bid submitted came in at $576,386.
    - Some further research found similar projects had come in over budget, telling us the market is flooded with markets, which is why there is only 1 bid.
- Do not recommend postponing as the surface will likely fail and would be catastrophic; do not recommend rebidding as the timeline could not be met.
- Requesting board approval from measure B contingency fund to cover the additional cost
- Requesting a $210,000 budget increase and approval to award contract to Adams Pool Solutions

There was no public comment.

M/S/C (Saavedra/Uhlhorn), unanimously.

E. Take Action on Unrepresented Management Team Employees Compensation Agreement with TUHSD and Associated Salary Schedules (7:09 pm)

Corbett Elsen, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations presented.

- Unrepresented management includes: administrators, assistant principals, principals, directors, senior directors/ everyone but cabinet members.
- Very similar to classified staff agreement 2-year forward
- 2025-26 4% total; allocating .47% allocated to increase the health cap
- 2026/27 3.5% total; allocating .49% increase to the health cap

There was no public comment.

M/S/C (Holden/Green), unanimously.

F. Update on the Racial Justice Task Force Just Dinner Events (7:12 pm)

Tara Taupier, Superintendent presented.

The Racial Justice Task Force (RJTF) Just Dinner Events have been a huge success. Centered around inclusion over conversations with students/table hosts/parents. Attendance has been great.

- Just Dinner #1 78 attendees
- Just Dinner #2 80 attendees
- Just Dinner #3 150 attendees
- Just Dinner #4 95 attendees

Thank you to the volunteers, the logistics and planning team of RJTF, the Board, student

volunteers and Glenda for agua frescas.
The Board thanked Tara Taupier and Cathy Flores for taking this on; grateful to have these discussions and shared experience.

Public comment:

- One public comment shared they attended a dinner and were shocked to hear what young people consider racism. He stated they bonded over experiences related to their hair.
- One public comment shared that they were honored to be part of this work and building a community and hopes to see the dinners continue.
- One public comment emailed highlighting the work of the Racial Justice Task Force and the impact of the Just Dinner Events. They further expressed their hope that the Board will continue to support this vital equity and belonging work.

G. Take Action on the Global Adoption of the revised TUHSD Board Policies - 5000 Series: Students, 6000 Series: Instruction (7:29 pm)

Tara Taupier, Superintendent presented.

This represents the final phase of global adoptions, which started 1.5 years ago.

There was no public comment.

M/S/C (Saavedra/Green), unanimously.

H. Discuss and Take Action on the Employment of Superintendent and Ratification of the Superintendent Contract (7:32 pm)

President Roenisch presented.

- Dr. Courtney Goode was selected by the Board as the next superintendent of TUHSD.
- The Board reviewed 22 applicants and interviewed 5 finalists.
- Dr. Goode has 20 years of experience at all levels.
- Currently, he is an assistant superintendent of Human Resources in Escondido.
- Born and raised in Ohio
- In his interview, his empathy and belief in the success of all students stood out.

The Board welcomed Courtney and said they look forward to working with him.

Public comment

- One public comment welcomed Dr. Goode, stated they firmly believe the American dream is based on public education.

M/S/C (Holden/Saavedra), unanimously.

Dr. Goode offered his condolences to the families/teachers/staff/administrators/friends and

the broader community. He thanked the Board for their trust and confidence. He thanked cabinet, site administrators and staff, and stated he looks forward to working alongside everyone.

14. Consent Agenda

A. Approve Purchase Orders over $40,000 List No. 15

B. Approve Contracts Over $40,000 - April 29, 2025

C. Ratify Contracts under $40,000 - April 29, 2025

D. Approve Personnel Summary for April 29, 2025

E. Approve Recommended Policy Updates from CSBA March 2025 Update Packet

F. Approve the designation of CIF League Representatives for Redwood, Tamalpais, and Archie Williams High Schools 2025-26

G. Approve Notice of Completion (NOC) for the Design-Build Contract with Engie Services U.S. Inc. (Engie) for the Solar Array Installation Project at Archie Williams HS

H. Declare as Surplus and Authorize Disposal - Water Polo Goals - Redwood High School

I. Approve Out of State Field Trip- Las Vegas, Nevada- Redwood High School

J. Approve High Risk Field Trip - SEA DISC - Bay Model - Archie Williams High School

K. Board Communications

15. Trustee Reports

Trustee Green:

- Thanked Principal Gran for his leadership and compassion for the children at AWHS
- Interviews with folks from Breaking Barriers happening in Mill Valley 4/30/25

Trustee Holden:

- Impressed with the community, especially Tara and Jacob coming together to support one another, its heartwarming.
- Thank you to all

Trustee Saavedra:

- Thank you to all. Specifically, Superintendent Taupier was able to mobilize staff. Thank you to Principal Jacob Gran for his support under such terrible circumstances.

- Thank you to Creekside Pizza for their support.

Trustee Uhlhorn:

- Echo the same, so many lives are changed forever.
- There is a presentation at AWHS on how to support grieving children.
- Thank you to Principal Jacob Gran and his team for holding children and staff close
- Thank you to Superintendent Taupier for operating under a crisis with such grace while grieving is awe inspiring.
- Attended Zion's funeral today
- Contracts come back 5/6/25

16. Conclusion

Trustee Green reflected on the board norms.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.