

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of the Board of Trustees' Meeting of January 25, 2024

SSFUSD Equity Definition

Equity, in SSFUSD, is defined as giving students what they need, when they need it to fulfill their potential.

OPEN SESSION - 7:00 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

Board Members: Ms. Amanda Anthony - Present
Dr. Chialin Hsieh - Present
Ms. Daina Lujan - Present
Mrs. Patricia Murray - Present
Mrs. Mina Richardson - Present
Ms. Ira Sergio, Student Board Member - Present

Cabinet Members: Dr. Shawnterra Moore, Superintendent - Excused
Mr. J. Marwan Hannon, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Student Services - Present
Mr. Keith Irish, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services and Categorical Programs - Present
Mr. Ted O, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services - Present

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - was led by Alta Loma MS student Diego Borja. Assistant Principal Dr. Teri Pallitto filled in for Principal Nina Mendez at this meeting. She said Diego is a model student in the classroom and a diligent scholar. He has been a member of their leadership class for 2½ years. Diego is active in the Drama department, having played the lead in their fall production and also participating in the spring musical.

D. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We acknowledge that the South San Francisco Unified School District is located on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula.

We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the Ancestors, Elders, and relatives of the Ramaytush Community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples.

E. REVIEW OF AGENDA - No changes.

F. PTA COUNCIL REMARKS - President Lauren Kitchen thanked Dr. Moore, Trustees, and Principals for attending the 17th District Superintendent's luncheon last week. The PTA enjoyed participating in the Kindergarten Readiness Fair last week. She offered the support of the PTA at each site to partner with the District and work together to meet shared goals. The national PTA has adopted six research-backed standards for family-school partnerships; welcoming all families into the school community, communicating effectively, supporting student success, speaking up for every child, sharing power, and collaborating with the community. Ms. Kitchen said she was pleased that the District is creating a resource center for families and stressed that PTA leaders and volunteers want to be an active partner in supporting this initiative. She spoke about schools providing parents with transition information. "The PTA would like to encourage all school leaders to consider families in transition into kindergarten, into middle school, [and] into high school to start preparing those families sooner in the school year [and] to not wait until May to let people know what's happening with their kids in the fall. Parents really need this information like March or April. We can have PTA information nights, we can have tours, we can host question and answer sessions. The PTA can be a great partner for principals..."

G. STAFF ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES' REMARKS

South San Francisco Federation of Adult Educators - President Elizabeth Bales-Stutes reported that Adult Ed registration has been very busy and several of the lower level classes are at full capacity, especially the evening ones. "I was very pleased to be invited to participate on the District calendar committee. This is the first time our Adult Ed union has been included in this stage of the proceedings. It's been fascinating to see how the process worked and I'm so glad to have the opportunity to make our voice heard." She attended the CTA town hall meeting and said it is important to build connections between the District unions. "One of the strengths is the partnerships we've formed with other agencies, including the San Mateo county Community College District and job training." "We were also recently awarded an ELL healthcare grant to build an EMY program with Skyline College." Ms. Bales-Stutes said several of her students have transitioned to college, including two graduates at Cañada College on the computer science track. She spoke highly of a student working towards a degree in Early Childhood Education who is hard-working and overcoming obstacles while dual-enrolled in Adult Ed and Skyline College.

South San Francisco Classroom Teachers Association - Interim President Shari Giusti spoke about her admiration for Martin Luther King Jr. and his courage

in standing up in the face of adversity. “One of my favorite quotes of his is, ‘Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.’ In the world of 2024, it is certainly true, and locally it is as well. I would like to take a moment to applaud my colleagues who speak out for the things that matter to them.” At the CTA town hall meeting, the Calendar Committee presented the proposal for school calendars of the next three years. CTA members will be voting on whether or not they approve these calendars. Not everyone is in favor of changes including the new holidays which address demands of some community members. She questioned having the same calendar for everyone since elementary schools run on trimesters while secondary schools use semesters or whether there should be a variation. Ms. Giusti asked if the State budget situation is as dire as forecasted for the District, since SSFUSD is mostly funded with property taxes. She noted the projected expenditures in books and supplies for 2023-24 and wondered how it will be spent. “The U.S. economy remained shockingly robust in the fourth quarter to close out a remarkably strong 2023. Consumers and businesses continue to spend, crushing expectations of a recession. Let’s hope this good news plays a factor in California economics as well.”

California School Employees Association Chapter 197 - None

- H. PERSONNEL COMMISSION** - Assistant Superintendent J. Marwan Hannon reported that the last meeting was held on January 22. During that meeting, they ratified two position announcements, five eligibility lists, three leaves of absence, and two new business items, one paid leave of absence and one voluntary demotion. The next Commission meeting will take place on February 12, 2024.

I. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

Vice President Amanda Anthony thanked District employees who planned and executed this year’s Kindergarten Readiness Fair. She also attended the joint child care master plan meeting last week. “The committee continues to work on refining recommendations to bring to City Council and eventually to [the] school board as well. The next meeting is scheduled for February 5.” She shared that the next City District Subcommittee meeting will take place on February 6. “So if you have issues that you think should come before both the City and the District at the same time, we invite you to that meeting.”

Trustee Mina Richardson said that Capitol Advisors is having a governor’s budget presentation, specifically for schools, next Tuesday. “And the presentation is always very spot-on, and they listen to all the board members who are present and I find it very informative and it gives us a nice forecast of what we can expect and what we’ve got to watch out for.”

J. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- a. **Recognition for outgoing Student Trustee Sergio** - Assistant Superintendent Keith Irish reported on behalf of Superintendent Moore. He said Ira has been a pleasure to work with and learn from. "She has provided valuable insights, timely updates, and offered informative student perspectives on various issues." She will continue to report on events at SSFHS for the remainder of the school year. Dr. Moore wanted to personally thank Ira for her positive and professional mindset and communication style. "It's truly been a privilege having you as a student trustee." Student Trustee Sergio thanked the Board for the opportunity to have the privilege of sharing the student voices. The Trustees presented her with a certificate of appreciation.

Mr. Irish added that beginning with the February 8 Board meeting, ECHS's ASB President Jamie Wong will begin serving as the Spring Student Trustee "and on behalf of cabinet and the Board, we're very excited to welcome her".

K. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. Ira Sergio, Fall Student Trustee and ASB President SSFHS, highlighted the following recent and upcoming events at her site: Course preview day was held on January 17; election season started this past week with opportunities to join the ASB class ranging from six different commissions to class officer positions; Club Rush 2.0 took place yesterday with 20+ clubs signing up new members; AP Rush takes place tomorrow, January 26; the Winter Ball will be held on February 3 at the Skyline College Farallon room; and the Publicity and Recognition Commission will be selling Valentine's Grams from February 5-9 with a red rose and custom message.

Student Trustee Sergio said, "...I would like to say that it has been a true privilege to be able to serve on this Board, and to be given the opportunity to connect with my community on a deeper level as a student and as a trustee."

Trustee Richardson said "...it was a pleasure to see such a young lady speaking out so confidently and express herself in such a way. And it just says that we're...encouraging them, the girls, to be outspoken. I've noticed that in the last few outgoing presidents."

President Daina Lujan said Student Trustee Sergio is quite the leader and she has great hopes for her future. Truly anything you set your mind to, I know you will accomplish."

2. Jamie Wong, Spring Student Trustee and ASB President ECHS, shared the following news from her school; Clubs have been hosting a takeover every day ranging from decorating the school to having giveaways and recruiting new people; on January 23, their PTSA held its first in-person meeting since

the onset of COVID; Senior night is taking place this evening with outstanding athletes being recognized; the Colt Wrestling Invitational takes place on January 27; the quad games have officially kicked off and on the last game on February 2, they will recognize the contributions and commitment of their graduating players; the girls' senior soccer night takes place on February 1; and prom, with the theme of Golden Gala/The Great Gatsby Edition, takes place on April 27 in San Francisco's City View at Metreon. Ms. Wong gave special thanks to "...the senior office as they have worked endlessly to create this fun and enchanting event and our student body cannot wait."

L. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

M. INFORMATION ONLY PRESENTATIONS

1. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

**a. Teaching and learning presentation:
Alta Loma Middle School**

Assistant Principal Pallitto shared educational priorities and programs at Alta Loma MS. She also recognized the following parent volunteers who will receive certificates of appreciation from the Board: Michele Brock, Carla Cisneros, Mark Cox, Laruen Kitchen, and Linda Ortiz.

ALMS/District LCAP Goals

Dr. Pallitto said ALMS goals are in alignment with the District's LCAP goals.

At ALMS, their mission is to ensure the students grow into life-long learners who can express their thinking and show social and emotional intelligence.

Academic Achievement (LCAP Goal 1) - By the Spring of 2024, students will increase by 5% in school wide performance for both math and ELA when compared to the 2020-21 school wide CAASPP data. They developed a three-year goal with an incremental step to support the process of reaching their goal by then.

Staff and Professional Development (LCAP Goal 2) - By the Spring of 2024, ALMS facility will demonstrate the ability to: (a) support Common Core State Standards education aligned with District priority standards initiative for all students, (b) integrate current educational technology practices and (c) create a safe and positive learning environment for all students as measured by CAASPP data, the California State Dashboard data, as well as Healthy Kids surveys, or other site-specific survey data.

Student, Parent, and Community Engagement (LCAP Goal 3) - By the Spring of 2024, all students will exhibit a 3% decrease in absenteeism and a 3% increase in participation as shown through the schools' PBIS, SEL and restorative programs, counseling approaches, and school extracurricular activities. Dr. Pallitto said ALMS is focusing not only on student participation but they are building capacity to enhance the community and the whole family. They believe that building these relationships with the community in its entirety will benefit the continued growth and achievement of everyone.

Special Education (LCAP Goal 4) - By the Spring of 2024, after receiving instruction guided by the District approved curriculum/programs, all ALMS students with an IEP will demonstrate a 3% growth in ELA and math when compared to the 2020-21 schoolwide scores. Students with disabilities (SWD) remain a focus for the District and especially ALMS.

Collecting academic data consistently and collaboratively while engaging in reflection and professional development through each department and the schoolwide cycles of inquiry has shaped their goals and provided the focus for the current academic year.

CAR (Communication, Achievement, Relationships)

The SSFUSD car metaphor is a journey to excellence, providing students a superb learning experience and ongoing feedback to teachers and support staff. Dr. Pallitto said this year they focused on "...the engine, performance management, collecting and showcasing data to accurately adjust our route and provide a clear vision. We cannot continue to try new things every year, so we are pausing to identify our areas of strength, and those for improvement for the success of all our students. In addition, we are reflecting and looking through our mirrors to provide data necessary to ensure growth in our professional practice."

The Ram Way & Community Relationship

The Ram Way

- Student Voice/Focus Groups
- Reboot and focus on PBIS
- Spirit Days/ Music and games
- Community Circles/Restorative Circles
- Passion Projects
- School Safe Ambassadors Program (SSA)
- Student Clubs
- Whole School/Grade Level assemblies
- Student Vs. Staff Competitions/ Sports events
- Someday Wish

Community Relationships

- Parent feedback

Dr. Pallitto said, “Our community is another large asset and bringing them into our conversation is what is most important.” They hold student events, activities, and games to engage parents and the community. They have increased the communication with families and have gotten positive responses.

- Inaugural Community Day - families and staff interacted and discussed ideas on school improvement.

At ALMS’s recent Hands on Bay Area, volunteers from Kaiser, Congressman Kevin Mullin, Mayor James Coleman, Trustee Patricia Murray, Assistant Superintendent Ted O, and community members helped beautify the site. Additional events are being planned.

- Academic Night
- Turkey Trot
- Multicultural Night
- Student Performances
- Newsletters

Student Connectedness



This slide illustrates the student results. The dark green bar is the number of students who feel awesome and exhibit the strongest sense of belonging on campus. The light green bar indicates those students who feel good and have a positive sense of belonging. Overall, their student population averages a 3.7 on a 5-point scale for a sense of belonging.

CIC

Essential Question for reflecting and analyzing student work:

A. What do our grades mean?

- An A represents?
- A C represents?
- A F represents?

B. What is essential to a summative assessment?

- What do our current assessments have?
- What do our current assessments lack?

Dr. Pallitto said they needed to dig deeper and understand the design and impact of the assessments. They examined what these tools are actually measuring. “In addition, if our students are successful in the classroom but not meeting or exceeding standards on the CAASPP, what do our assessments lack?”

Findings:

A. No universal understanding of what a grade of an A represents

Next steps: we need school-wide calibration and training

A. The focus on assessments is different for each teacher

Next Steps: assessments should only measure student level

They need school-wide calibration and training, and assessments should only measure the student level of mastery of standards, so other criteria must be eliminated when grading.

Demographics

ALMS has 643 students this year. 38% are identified as socioeconomically disadvantaged, 22% are SWD, and 13% are English Learners. There is a diversity of ethnic backgrounds, languages, and cultures with 49% of students being Hispanic/Latinx, 21% Filipino, and 16% Asian being the largest groups.

CAASPP 2022-23 Data

ELA - 42.71% of students met or exceeded the standard for ELA. 14.40% of students exceeded the standard, 28.31% met the standard, 23.24% nearly met the standard, and 33.94% did not meet the standard. The data shows the performance was below levels from the previous years. What does stand out and is celebrated is that SWD performed stronger than the previous years.

Math - 31.62% of students met or exceeded the standard for Math. 15.73% of students exceeded the standard, 15.89% met the standard, 25.17% nearly met the standard, and 43.21% did not meet the standard. The school had the same pattern with all student groups as they had in ELA. The numbers are different, but the patterns are the same.

Dr. Pallitto said the data was not a surprise to them. They had been collecting data all year and knew things needed to be changed with the start of the 2023-24 academic school year. They have already put some actions in place to build capacity in these areas.

Attendance Snapshot/Discipline Data

Dr. Pallitto noted two standouts for ALMA – the decline in chronic absenteeism and suspension rates. Chronic absenteeism is at 16.3% (yellow level), a decline of 6.8%. The suspension rate is at 3.2%

(green level) with at least one suspension per day, a decline of 1.5%. This shows their efforts to increase a positive school climate are moving ALMS in the right direction.

2023-24 Supports

These are the changes the site implemented at the beginning of the school year.

Daily Master Schedule response

- Increased certificated and classified staff for ELD and SPED
- Implemented support in ELA for ELD students (allowing for intervention/support during the school day)
- Increased time for the support model in ELA and Math for SPED students, (allowing for intervention during the school day).

Teacher response

- Teachers completed Guided Language Acquisition Design (GLAD) training over the 2023 summer
- Teachers learned new strategies for ELs, which enhanced the learning of all students
- ELD team meetings and cycle data
- Focus on collaborative time analyzing the grading process and its relationship to the California standards
- CIC work
- ELD Cohort of teachers to monitor students

Student response

- Sown to Grow social emotional learning support
- Wellness Counselor added
- Focus on school climate and culture
- Student Climate Focus Groups
- Academic support on campus through academic center for homework help and mentors

Trustee Richardson said during her ALMS visits, the students are engaged and Principal Mendez is upbeat, which is contagious. She appreciates how special needs children fit in and all students feel part of the larger family.

Trustee Chialin Hsieh thanked Dr. Pallitto for the wonderful presentation and said she appreciates the essential questions and findings. They are reflective, ask deep questions, and change behavior. She noted that for goal #1, ALMS did not meet the 5% increase, but did meet goal #3 with decreased absenteeism. For goal #4, SWD met math but not ELA, but it is positive. Dr. Pallitto replied that any goal is similar to a scientific experiment. "Whether it functions or not, you learn a lot. And so meeting our goals has given us some insight, and not meeting our goals has really given us a wider picture."

Trustee Murray said she liked the data-informed decision-making with taking a deeper dive into the data to find out the root of the problem and what can be done about it. “I also like the intentionality regarding the culture and climate, because I think that kids, especially this age, can't learn unless they feel good about learning. So [with a rating of] 3.7 out of 5, you're getting there.” She enjoyed seeing the work that Kaiser was doing on the campus with teachers and the community. She had a lot of fun helping out.

Vice President Anthony thanked Dr. Pallitto for stepping in for Principal Mendez. She found the discussion on letter grades interesting. “I know sometimes grades don't focus on mastery, they focus on effort, they focus on behavior, they focus on things that make your classroom a place to learn but not necessarily the mastery of the materials so I hope you make progress against that. I know it's really hard but I think it will be a great exercise.” Dr. Pallitto said a lot of teachers were working with Mr. Irish on grading for equity.

President Lujan thanked the ALMS staff and families that unite for the benefit of every student. “I just really appreciated the strategic alignment, the honesty, the being okay saying, ‘You know what, we can't keep throwing things to see what's working and what's not, we actually need to understand.’ and it is powerful to dip deep into the questions to get to that reflective space to facilitate change.”

2. BUSINESS SERVICES

a. Annual Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Andrew Park, a representative from Eide Bailly CPAs, reviewed the District's Audited actuals report for the year ended June 30, 2023. He thanked Mr. O and his team for their cooperation. He emphasized that he is actually an agent who technically works for the Board, not Mr. O. Last September, the Board was presented with unaudited actuals and it is his job to audit them and report back.

He said an audit is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance that financial statements are free of mistakes. Auditors render professional opinions by varying levels. The highest level of assurance is an unmodified opinion, known as a clean opinion, followed by a qualified opinion and lastly, the lowest level of assurance they provide on any audit is basically a disclaimer of an opinion.

Auditor Opinions

- **Financial statements** - “unmodified” opinion, the highest level of assurance. Auditors evaluated the District's checks and balances to ensure the financial statements are reporting what they are

supposed to, called internal controls. It is their responsibility to report any type of deficiencies or flaws in the reporting mechanism. Mr. Park said that based on their evaluation and testing, they did not identify any type of material weakness or significant deficiencies as it relates to the preparation and the reporting of SSFUSD's financial statements.

- **Federal awards compliance** - “unmodified” opinion. The District was in compliance with all the programs. They audited two major programs and no significant deficiencies were noted. Mr. Park explained that when a non-federal entity receives and spends in excess of \$750K in federal assistance, it is automatically subject to uniform guidance. This is a federal requirement to hire an independent auditor to obtain an opinion as it relates to the how the entity complied with how these federal funds are spent. For example, during the 2022-23 fiscal year, SSFUSD spent \$10.5M. Out of that amount, they were required to audit the Special Education program needs and a variety of ESSER programs, one-time federal funding as a result of the pandemic. Based on their evaluation of the checks and balances that are in place by the District to ensure compliance with each of the requirements for these programs, there were no deficiencies. The auditors did not have any issues with the District's federal compliance.
- **State awards compliance** - “unmodified” opinion. Annually the State Controller directs independent auditors on what programs to audit and the audit procedures.

Mr. Park concluded his presentation by saying last year there were some findings, and under government auditing standards, they are required to follow up on all of them. He reported that Mr. O and his team basically addressed all the findings and there was not a repeat occurrence of the issues that were identified in 2021-22. “So overall, the audit went pretty smoothly.”

Vice President Anthony asked what is being done to remedy the ASB finding. Mr. O replied that the Director of Business Services is working with an area of Eide Bailly to schedule some staff trainings to make sure they're aware of the requirements for ASB.

Trustee Richardson noted there were significant identified risks and asked about the management override of controls. Mr. Park said this was included in the letter addressed to the Board. He said, “So our profession started to be a lot more transparent to avoid a lot of questions, and...the significant risks identified is basically a full disclosure.” “So management override of controls and revenue recognition are the two biggest priorities that we look for when we

perform our audits. So we're basically informing the governing board that as we develop our audit procedures, these two notions are always in the back of our head, and we basically try to develop audit procedures to...address these. And this is what we would call risk assessment at the highest level, when we're developing audit procedures. So it's just a reminder that this is basically the platform that all auditors operate [upon], and these are the things that we always keep in mind when performing audit procedures.” Trustee Richardson said when the public sees the numbers, they may have a different opinion and she wanted to keep that perspective for parents. Mr. Park confirmed, “...we're just being fully transparent in terms of what we're doing from an audit procedure development standpoint.”

b. Measure J and Measure T Bond Audits for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Mr. Park combined his reports on both the Measure J and Measure T Bond financial and performance audits for the year ended June 30, 2023. He explained that the first half of the audit report is related to the financial activities, specifically for Measures J and T which are housed in pockets of Fund 21, the District's building fund. The second half of the report is what is termed a performance audit, which is basically synonymous with a compliance audit.

Results

On both the Measures J and T financial statements report, the District earned an “unmodified opinion” for fairly presenting all material respects as of June 30, 2023. There were no internal control deficiencies related to the preparation of the financial statements and therefore, no deficiencies to report to the Board related to both funds.

On the performance side, auditors tested if all the fiscal year expenditures that occurred during the year were in alignment with what the voters approved in the measures. They tested 100% of all Measure J transactions without finding any deviations or exceptions on where the bond proceeds were spent. They did not find any irregularities or identify any disallowed activities which did not align with the ballot measures on how the proceeds would be spent. The District is using the money on the correct projects as approved by the Board, resulting in a clean opinion. For Measure T, they tested 100% of the total expenditures and based on the audit procedures performed, they did not identify any exceptions as it rates to how the District spent the 2022-23 proceeds.

Trustee Hsieh said she is pleased to see the District-wide and Measures J and T audits are clean. She thanked Mr. O and his team for their excellent work.

Trustee Richardson asked how often Measures J and T should be audited. Mr. Park confirmed that as far as the audit requirements are concerned, the District is subject to an annual performance audit as long as there are remaining proceeds. This requirement will go away only when all the proceeds in the measures have been exhausted. He said Measure J is being phased out and as of June 30, 2023, approximately \$11M in proceeds remain. Measure T at that same time had \$145.8M, since it is new.

Vice President Anthony thanked Mr. O for the audit's unmodified responses, especially when working with federal funds.

President Lujan also thanked Mr. O and his team for their work. She said, "Sometimes when there's audits, there's a lot of requests made and clearly you worked in good partnership to produce the data that was needed in a timely fashion and the results are really pleasing to see."

c. Measure T/Bond Audit for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

This information was combined with #2c, the Measure J Bond audit.

N. PRESENTATION WITH POTENTIAL ACTION - None

O. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #1 (Murray/Hsieh) to approve Item 1a, Minutes to the regular Board meeting, December 14, 2023; Item 1b, America's Next Talented Stars (ANT) Sports Soccer Program; Item 1c, Children's Center CSPP AB 110 rate increase contract for 2023-24; Item 1d, Children's Center CCTR continued funding for 2024-25; Item 2a, Baden HS staff member to travel to Monterey, CA; 2b, SSFHS staff member to travel to Long Beach, CA; Item 2c, ECHS Jazz Band students to travel to Las Vegas, NV; Item 2d, ECHS Varsity Wrestling team to travel to Bakersfield, CA; Item 2e, Human Resources staff and a Personnel Commissioner to travel to Monterey, CA; Item 2f, SSFHS students to travel to Mexico; Item 2g, ECHS students to travel to Italy; Item 2h, SSFHS students to travel to Marin, CA; Item 2i, Sunshine Gardens ES staff to travel to Denver, CO; Item 2j, Addendum with the City of Daly City for the 2023-24 ELOP program; Item 2k, SARCs for all sites; Item 3a, Certificated Personnel Assignment Order; Item 3b, Classified Personnel Assignment Order; Item 4a, Purchase Order Listing, November 1-30, 2023; Item 4b, Warrant Register, November 1-30, 2023; Item 4c, Cash Receipts, November 1-30, 2023; Item 4d, Declaration of surplus items; Item 4e, Gifts to the District, December 2023; Item 4f, 2023-24 fundraising events; Item 4g, Professional service agreements under \$25,000.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

1. HUMAN RESOURCES

a. Williams Uniform Complaints for 2nd Quarter Ending 12/31/23

Mr. Hannon presented the Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints for the quarter ending 12/31/23, per Education Code Section 35186. This form deals with complaints regarding textbooks, facilities, and teacher misassignment.

He stated that there were no complaints filed in the District for this quarter.

2. BUSINESS SERVICES

a. Update on Governor's 2024-25 Budget Proposal

Assistant Superintendent O reviewed information on Governor Newsom's proposed State budget for the upcoming fiscal year as well as any potential implications to the District. On January 10, the Governor released his budget proposal. Mr. O and staff attended a workshop afterwards to gather details which he will incorporate in his 2023-24 2nd Interim Financial Report. The Governor can make changes in the budget from now until he releases his revision in mid-May.

Overview

- Unlike budgets during the past few years, the State of California is projecting a huge budget deficit due to a severe revenue decline.
- According to SSC, this is the riskiest State budget since the Great Recession.
- It started with the current 2023-24 Enacted Budget, which was built on multibillion-dollar pillars of hope.
 - Hope that the stock market would rebound rapidly from gross under-performance.
 - Hope that inflation would abate.
 - Hope that the Federal Reserve would halt monetary tightening policies that make the cost of doing business more expensive.
- When these hopes did not materialize, it resulted in what the Governor estimates to be a \$37.9B budget shortfall.
- This is largely due to the 2022 tax collections which are well below the State's budget assumptions.
- The Governor proposes to close the gap through reserve withdrawals, reductions, internal borrowing, funding delays, funding shifts, and deferrals.

- For education, Governor Newsom proposes a State Budget to preserve investments made during the boom years.
- There are no mid-year cuts, no deferrals and no program rollbacks, like in the past.
- He recognizes that Districts will need to make significant staffing reductions for next year due to the expiration of many pots of one-time Federal/State stimulus funds.
- Mr. O shared, during his 1st interim presentation last month that the District has approximately \$2.3M worth of positions charged to one-time stimulus funds that expire at the end of this school year.
- Other bad news for education is a shrinking Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) due to heavy declining enrollment and a tiny Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2024-25.

Proposition 98 Minimum Guarantee

- The Governor's revenue estimates in the current 2023-24 Enacted Budget for 2022-23 and 2023-24 are reduced by \$9.1B and \$2.7B, respectively, for a total reduction of \$11.8B.
- This is due to the lower-than-expected State tax collections in these years.
- Rather than make mid-year cuts, Governor Newsom's 2024-25 Budget Proposal enables districts to retain this additional funding for 2022-23 with the intension of accounting for it in the future.
- This is a huge concern, especially since the projected State revenue is coming in below projection the past two years.

Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)

- On the LCFF, there is a shortfall of State revenue to cover the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) given out in 2023-24 (8.22%) and the proposed 0.76% COLA for 2024-25.
- This proposed COLA is a significant revenue reduction for school districts from the proposed \$3.94% COLA in the final 2023-24 State budget for this fiscal year.
- In addition, the Governor is proposing to use one-time funds from the State reserves to pay for this, which is a huge concern.
- Unfortunately, this funding does not benefit SSFUSD as it is a "Basic Aid/Community Funded" district, which means the bulk of our revenue comes from property taxes and not from the State.

CalSTRS and CalPERS (Employee Pensions)

- On employee pensions, the Governor did not provide any new funding for the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) or the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) in his 2024-25 Proposed Budget.
- The employer (District) rate for CalPERS would increase from 26.67% to 27.80% in 2024-25.

- The CalSTRS rate would remain the same from the prior year at 19.10%.

Instructional Continuity

- The Governor's Budget proposes several instructional continuity measures.
- In response to multiple years of academic interruption due to increased student absences, the Governor's Budget includes measures aimed at offsetting student absences and mitigating learning loss. These measures include:
 - Expanding the allowable days and times of day (Saturday school, intersessional school, and before/after school) used for recovering attendance both for the purposes of funding and chronic absentee mitigation.
 - Requiring school districts to offer remote instruction, during emergencies of longer than five days, including instruction through enrollment at neighborhood school districts.
 - Encourages hybrid or remote learning opportunities for students who are unable to attend school.
- The Governor's Budget also proposes \$6M in one-time funds for the purpose of researching and developing models of hybrid learning to enable instructional continuity.

Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant

- Governor Newsom is not including any cuts to the one-time Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant that was given to Districts in 2022-23.
- However, the Budget proposes to change the use of the remaining funds to focus on students most impacted by learning loss.
- A needs assessment and the development process used for the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) will guide how unspent funds are used.
- The allowable uses of these funds will also be amended to include professional development for the recently adopted mathematics framework.

Educator Pipeline Access

- The Governor's Budget includes modest solutions to the teacher shortage.
- It directs the California Commission on Teaching credential to create a new Elementary Arts and Music Education authorization as an additional Career and Technical Education (CTE) credential.
- This will allow for additional pathways for artists to provide instruction in school.

Facilities

- To address the projected budget shortfall, the Governor's budget proposes additional reduction and delays to funding previously intended for school facilities.
- He proposes reducing the 2024-25 funding by \$500M from \$875M to \$375M.
- His proposed budget also continues the delay in the \$550M funding for the Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten and Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program into 2025-26.

Special Education

- The Governor's budget proposal maintains funding levels for Special Ed and provides a 0.76% COLA.

Summary

These are only proposals from the Governor at this time. During the next few months, the legislature (State Senate and State Assembly) will go through the proposals, either pushing back on the Governor's priorities or proposing their own. In mid-May, based on the latest financial information, the Governor will release his May Revision, which is an update to his proposed budget for next year. District staff will be attending a workshop and getting more information at that time to share with the Board and community.

The Board recessed at 8:30 p.m. for a break and reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

Student Trustee Sergio left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

ACTION

1. ADMINISTRATION

a. Resolution No. 24-01 African American History Month

Board Clerk Trustee Hsieh read the resolution.

MOTION #2 (Murray/Anthony) to adopt Resolution #24-01: Honoring African American History Month. (AYES: Anthony, Hsieh, Lujan, Murray, Richardson; NOES: None). Motion Carried. (Unanimous)

b. Resolution No. 24-02 School Counseling Week

Trustee Murray read the resolution.

MOTION #3 (Anthony/Murray) to adopt Resolution #24-02: Honoring School Counselors. (AYES: Anthony, Hsieh, Lujan, Murray, Richardson; NOES: None). Motion Carried. (Unanimous)

2. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

a. Approval of a Special Education Agreement with Lindamood-Bell

MOTION #4 (Hsieh/Murray) to approve an independent contractor agreement with Lindamood-Bell for tutoring services in order to fulfill administrative agreement requirements beginning January 2024 - January 15, 2025. Motion Carried (Unanimous)

b. Approval of New Course Implementations

Mr. Irish said Educational Services is getting Board-approval on all secondary courses. Some of these courses are new electives based on the new middle school schedule. Course descriptions are included in the memo.

Trustee Richardson shared that she has heard very positive comments from parents and teachers on the pathways. She struggles with the fact that so many pathways are offered. Mr. Irish said specific programs are offered at only one site and "...part of the reason of having common schedules is then we can work together." For example, ECHS students can access the Science Garage program at SSFHS. He noted that the Baden HS principal is trying to strengthen the trades and readiness pathways at her site.

Vice President Anthony said she spoke at the Kiwanis Club concerning CTE opportunities and was excited to share Construction 2 and Green Engineering were starting soon.

President Lujan said middle schoolers she speaks with are excited about having two electives this year. She is looking forward to more CTE courses being offered."

MOTION #5 (Murray/Hsieh) to approve the following two CTE courses, Construction Tech 2, for implementation at the high school level, Green Engineering, for implementation at the middle school level, and World Cultures, for implementation at the middle school level in 2023-24, and the CTE course, Health Sciences 1, for implementation at the high school level, beginning in the 2024-25 school year. Motion Carried (Unanimous)

3. HUMAN RESOURCES

a. Approval of the Minimum Wage Increase

MOTION #6 (Anthony/Richardson) to approve the SSFUSD minimum wage increase to \$17.25 per hour, beginning January 1, 2024. Motion Carried (Unanimous)

b. Approval of Variable Term Waiver

MOTION #7 (Murray/Richardson) to approve the Variable Term Waiver for Daniel Weir, a certificated employee at Westborough MS, retroactive to December 1, 2023. Motion Carried (Unanimous)

4. BUSINESS SERVICES

a. Acceptance of Raposo Engineering, Inc. Hillside Parking and Drop-Off Project as Complete and Authorization to file a Notice of Completion

Trustee Richardson asked if the employees have started using the completed area yet. Mr. O confirmed it is open. President Lujan said she drives by the school and the final look is incredible.

MOTION #8 (Hsieh/Anthony) to accept the Hillside Parking and Drop-Off Project #17-23 as complete, and ratify staff's action to execute and file the Notice of Completion. Motion Carried (Unanimous)

b. Approval of Cumisky Construction Corporation Toilet Pod Repairs Project as Complete and Authorization to file a Notice of Completion

MOTION #9 (Anthony/Hsieh) to accept the Toilet Pods Repairs Project #01-23 as complete, and ratify staff's action to execute and file the Notice of Completion. Motion Carried (Unanimous)

c. Approval of Award of Contract to Capital Engineering for the HVAC Projects Package B

MOTION #10 (Anthony/Hsieh) to approve the award of contract to Capital Engineering, in the amount of \$48,600, for commissioning services for the HVAC Projects Package B. Motion Carried (Unanimous)

d. Approval of Award of Contract to Game Time for the Playground Equipment at the Hillside School Site

MOTION #11 (Murray/Richardson) to approve the award of contract to Game Time, in the amount of \$102,141.68, for playground equipment at the Hillside School Site. Motion Carried (Unanimous)

e. Approval of Award of Contract to Game Time for the Playground Equipment at the Mills Montessori Pre-school

Vice President Anthony said she appreciates information in the memo which indicates where the awardee is located.

MOTION #12 (Hsieh/Anthony) to approve the award of contract to Game Time, in the amount of \$66,762.01 for playground equipment at the Mills Montessori preschool, located at the Hillside School Site. Motion Carried (Unanimous)

REVIEW OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND MEETINGS *(subject to change)*

February 8, 2024

- Introduction of new Student Trustee Wong
- Teaching and learning presentation - ECHS
- Presentation on Performance Management - Special Education
- Approval of Supplementary Instructional Materials
- Approval of DTS agreement for 2024-25
- Approval of 2024 Young Audiences Professional Development MOU
- Approval of MOU w/ SVEF Elevate Math - 2024 Summer School Programs

February 15, 2024 - Board study session *(Board room)*

- Presentation and approval - Strategic Plan
- Presentation - CA Dashboard and Differentiated Assistance
- Presentation - LCAP mid-year report/update pre

February 29, 2024

- Teaching and learning presentation - Skyline ES
- Teaching and learning presentation - Junipero Serra ES
- Presentation on Performance Management - English Learners
- Resolution for Women's History Month (March)
- Resolution for Red Cross Month (March)
- 2024 CSBA Delegate Assembly election
- Approval of declaration of need for fully qualified educators, 2024-25

March 14, 2024

- Teaching and learning presentation - Buri Buri ES
- Presentation on Structured Literacy Block
- Presentation and approval of Second interim budget report "positive certification"
- Approval of recommended dates for 2024-25 LCAP and budget hearings and adoptions

March 28, 2024

- Teaching and learning presentation - Los Cerritos ES
- Teaching and learning presentation - Children's Center
- Presentation on Induction

- Presentation on Nutrition Services Department
- Resolution for Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month (April)
- Resolution for Autism Awareness Month (April)
- Approval of LCFF supplemental funded positions
- Resolutions for retirees

SUMMARY OF BOARD DIRECTIVES - None

GOOD AND WELFARE

Vice President Anthony said she visited Westborough MS and Monte Verde ES schools for the first time and it was good to see those campuses. On Monday, she attended an informative SMCSBA meeting on the criminal justice system. Unfortunately, she learned that SSF is the third highest source of students and youth in the County jail. She thanked the Kinder Fair participants for providing resource information to help parents understand what the District has available to them. On Tuesday, she spoke at the Kiwanis Club and thanked them for being invited.

Trustee Murray reported that she joined staff and community volunteers on the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. Together they worked on projects at Alta Loma MS including painting, gardening, and sprucing up the school. She attended the PTA Superintendent's Luncheon last week and said it was interesting listening to the other County superintendents' talk about their districts.

Trustee Hsieh said she also attended the Superintendent's Luncheon and heard them present on their progress, but SSFUSD was the best.

Trustee Richardson said that at the Superintendent's Luncheon, it was nice to hear all the superintendents speak about the great things happening in their schools. She also attended the SMCSBA meeting and heard an amazing speaker speak of his time in prison as a teenager and appealing his conviction to the US Supreme Court. He has turned his life around and is now running for a seat on the Board of Supervisors. She went to the Personnel Commission meeting. She attended last night's DELAC meeting and noted that Dr. Marcos Garcia runs the meetings in full Spanish. There were presentations and dances and parents were very engaged.

President Lujan said she hoped students and families were able to rest and recharge during the break and that the semester for high school and middle school students is off to a great start.

ADJOURNMENT - 9:06 p.m.