

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of the Board of Trustees' Special Meeting of December 18, 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. Jamie Wong, Student Board Member - Absent
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Cabinet Members:	Dr. Shawnterra Moore, Superintendent - Present 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
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C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by President Daina Lujan.

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. CEREMONIAL OATHS OF OFFICE

The ceremonial Oaths of Office were administered by Superintendent Shawnterra Moore to newly elected Board member Patricia Murray. SSF Councilmember Mark Nagales, husband of Amy Lam, administered the oath to Amy Lam. (Board members are legally sworn in by the elections office when they file for candidacy.)

President Lujan transitioned the position of the chair to Vice President Anthony.

ACTION

1. ADMINISTRATION

a. Resolution No. 24-60 Ratifying Election Results

Board Clerk Chialin Hsieh read the resolution.

MOTION #111 (Richardson/Hsieh) Adoption of Resolution #24-60: To ratify the results of the November 5, 2024 election of two SSFUSD Board members. (AYES: Richardson, Hsieh, Lam, Murray, Anthony; NOES: None). Motion Carried. (Unanimous)

F. BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REORGANIZATION – THE SUPERINTENDENT ASSUMES THE CHAIR

Superintendent Dr. Moore assumed the chair and facilitated the Board Reorganization using roll call votes.

Election of President

Trustee Murray nominated Amanda Anthony for President. (AYES: Richardson, Hsieh, Lam, Murray, Anthony; NOES: None). Amanda Anthony was elected as President.

Election of Vice President

Trustee Hsieh nominated Patricia Murray for Vice President. (AYES: Richardson, Hsieh, Lam, Murray, Anthony; NOES: None). Patricia Murray was elected as Vice President.

Election of Clerk

Trustee Hsieh nominated Mina Richardson for Board Clerk. (AYES: Richardson,

Hsieh, Lam, Murray, Anthony; NOES: None). Mina Richardson was elected as Clerk.

G. NEW BOARD PRESIDENT ASSUMES THE CHAIR

Board President Amanda Anthony expressed her gratitude for the trust placed in her to lead the Board in the coming year. She emphasized her commitment to upholding the district's core values and fostering a strong community. She shared that her focus as president will be on student well-being, educational outcomes, and responsible financial stewardship. She also reaffirmed the Board's commitment to preparedness, respect, and efficient meetings, looking forward to a productive year ahead.

ACTION *(continued)*

1. ADMINISTRATION

b. Resolution No. 24-61 Honoring President Daina R. Lujan

Vice President Patricia Murray read the resolution.

MOTION #112 (Murray/Hsieh) Adoption of Resolution #24-61: To honor Trustee Daina R. Lujan for her service as President of the Board 2023-24. (AYES: Richardson, Hsieh, Lam, Murray, Anthony; NOES: None). Motion Carried. (Unanimous)

John Baker, former SSFUSD Trustee, commented on his time serving alongside former Trustee Daina Lujan for over six years, recalling their initial appointments in 2016 following a rare double vacancy on the Board. He praised Lujan's ability to ask tough questions, her thorough approach to issues, and her compassion. He credited her for pushing him to improve and expressed gratitude for her dedication to the district, wishing her well.

President Anthony shared that the board would adopt the resolution first. Afterward, they would move on to the second resolution and hold trustee comments. The board would then proceed with items on the agenda.

c. Resolution No. 24-62 Honoring Trustee Daina R. Lujan

Trustee Amy Lam read the resolution.

MOTION #113 (Murray/Hsieh) Adoption of Resolution #24-62: To honor Trustee Daina R. Lujan for her years of service

on the Board. (AYES: Richardson, Hsieh, Lam, Murray, Anthony; NOES: None). Motion Carried. (Unanimous)

Outgoing Trustee Daina Lujan delivered remarks reflecting on her nearly nine years of service with the South San Francisco Unified School District. She acknowledged the progress made during her tenure, including the transition to district elections, the passing of a new bond measure, and a district-wide focus on equity and student success. She emphasized the importance of collaboration and the collective commitment of board members, cabinet, staff, and the community in achieving these milestones.

Ms. Lujan expressed deep gratitude to those who supported her, including her family, district leaders, and fellow trustees. She individually recognized members of the cabinet for their dedication and leadership, highlighting their contributions to financial management, strategic planning, and student-centered decision-making. She also extended appreciation to the district's union leaders for their engagement and open communication.

In addressing her fellow trustees, Ms. Lujan praised President Anthony for her advocacy, Vice President Murray for her compassion, Trustee Richardson for her commitment to amplifying underrepresented voices, and Trustee Hsieh for her analytical approach and kindness. She warmly welcomed Trustee Lam, expressing confidence in the board's continued leadership.

She concluded her remarks by reflecting on the importance of gratitude and its role in shaping the district's future. Expressing optimism for the continued success of SSFUSD, she thanked the community for the trust placed in her and shared her excitement for the positive impact that will continue to unfold.

Proclamation(s) from the offices of legislators

Mayor Eddie Flores and former SSFUSD Board President, along with Councilmember Mark Nagales, honored outgoing Board President Daina Lujan, reflecting on their time working together, especially during COVID-19. Mayor Flores praised Ms. Lujan for her focus on student success, advocacy for staff, and commitment to equity. He also highlighted her contributions to the San Mateo School Boards Association

and regional advocacy. He expressed gratitude for learning from her leadership during post-pandemic challenges and concluded by reading a proclamation from the South San Francisco City Council honoring her service.

Councilmember Mark Nagales recalled first meeting Ms. Lujan on the Planning Commission, immediately recognizing her dedication to the community and potential for leadership. He shared his admiration for her appointment to the school board and her consistent focus on students, referring to them as “the kiddos.” As a Westborough resident, Mr. Nagales appreciated Ms. Lujan’s accessibility and support for community concerns. He concluded by expressing gratitude on behalf of Westborough families and the entire district for her dedicated service.

David Burruto congratulated Trustees Murray and Lam and spoke on behalf of Assemblymember and State Senator Josh Becker, expressing gratitude for Ms. Lujan’s service. He acknowledged the challenges of serving on the school board, especially during the pandemic, and praised Ms. Lujan’s experience as an educator and on the Planning Commission. Mr. Burruto wished her well in her next chapter and presented a resolution honoring her service.

Trustee Hsieh praised outgoing Board President Daina Lujan for her leadership, highlighting her kindness, intelligence, and strategic vision. She commended Ms. Lujan’s ability to navigate challenges, resolve conflicts with empathy, and foster a culture of respect and collaboration. Trustee Hsieh emphasized Ms. Lujan’s exceptional communication skills, commitment to teamwork, and ability to inspire others. She expressed deep gratitude for Ms. Lujan’s lasting impact and wished her the best in her next chapter.

Vice President Murray thanked outgoing Board President Daina Lujan for her years of collaboration, especially during the pandemic. She praised Ms. Lujan’s calming kindness, educational knowledge, and the valuable lessons she shared. Lastly, she wished her the best in all future endeavors, confident in her continued success.

Trustee Richardson thanked outgoing Board President Daina Lujan for her calm and steady leadership, especially during conflicts. She recognized key changes, including the transition to distance learning, securing funding for

computers, and the shift to district elections. Despite ongoing challenges, Trustee Richardson appreciated the board's collaboration and progress, wishing Ms. Lujan good luck and thanking her for the memories.

Trustee Lam expressed gratitude for outgoing Board President Daina Lujan, highlighting her impactful legacy and contributions, especially during COVID. She recalled Ms. Lujan's eagerness to serve and her personal sacrifices for the district. Trustee Lam wished her success and happiness in the future.

President Anthony thanked outgoing Board President Daina Lujan for her calm leadership, deep knowledge, and ability to move discussions forward. She expressed gratitude for the lessons learned from Ms. Lujan and wished her well in Polish, offering good luck and farewell.

H. PTA COUNCIL REMARKS - None

I. STAFF ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES' REMARKS

South San Francisco Federation of Adult Educators – None

South San Francisco Classroom Teachers Association – President Shari Giusti shared a heartfelt tribute to former President Daina Lujan, reflecting on the impact of her service. She acknowledged the personal significance of the moment, as it coincided with the birthday of her late husband, reminding everyone that life is fleeting and it's important to leave a lasting impact. Ms. Giusti praised Lujan for leaving a blueprint for others to follow, not just a stamp, highlighting her grace, kindness, and thoughtful decision-making. She thanked Ms. Lujan for her dedication to the community, especially for the sacrifices made in giving time to the district. Ms. Giusti concluded with a quote, "Kindness is like snow. It beautifies everything that it covers," expressing how Ms. Lujan's kindness had touched everyone around her.

California School Employees Association Chapter 197 – President Jolene Malfatti expressed deep appreciation to former President Daina Lujan recognizing her dedication and talent, acknowledging her significant contributions at board meetings. She congratulated Trustee Murray on her election, welcomed new Trustee Amy Lam, and praised the work of the district's board and cabinet. Ms. Malfatti referred to the bittersweet farewell to Ms. Lujan, adding a lighthearted note about a future doctorate for Ms. Lujan. She ended wishing her well and offering gratitude for Ms. Lujan's service.

J. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

ACTION *(continued)*

1. ADMINISTRATION

d. Selection of Board Subcommittees/Committee Participants

Dr. Moore explained the subcommittee appointment protocol: the board president and a returning member (usually the clerk) serve on the City Subcommittee, with the vice president as the alternate. The vice president and a new trustee join the Bylaws Committee, and the final trustee serves on the County Committee for District Reorganization, with Trustee Mina Richardson continuing until 2026.

President Anthony acknowledged that the Facilities Subcommittee was not on the agenda and proposed discussing it later. Dr. Moore clarified that the board had already selected two members for that committee, but the matter could still be revisited. It was decided to hold off and bring it back at another meeting.

MOTION #114 (Murray/Hsieh) to approve Vice President Murray and Trustee Lam to serve on the **Board Policies and Bylaws subcommittee**, and President Anthony and Trustee Richardson to serve on the **City-School District subcommittee**, and Trustee Richardson to continue to serve on the **San Mateo County Committee on School District Organization** until 2026 when her term expires. Motion Carried. (Unanimous)

GOOD AND WELFARE

Trustee Lam introduced herself to the public, sharing her background as a second-generation Chinese American, a daughter of immigrants, and a proud product of public schools. She expressed her gratitude to the school community and her family for their support, particularly her mother, who worked hard to earn her high school diploma while supporting the family. Trustee Lam reflected on the importance of education, sharing how her family's educational journey shaped her. She spoke passionately about supporting a safe and inclusive environment for all students, emphasizing the district's commitment to serve everyone, regardless of background. She concluded with a call for unity, community building, and a positive future, wishing everyone a happy holiday season.

Trustee Hsieh expressed excitement and confidence in Trustee Anthony's leadership as Board President, noting her ability to build respectful relationships with staff, trustees, and the community. She praised Amanda's kindness and thoughtful demeanor, which will inspire unity and confidence. Trustee Hsieh highlighted that Amanda's leadership will guide the board in staying aligned with the district's strategic plan and shaping the future.

She offered her full support and looked forward to a successful team under Amanda's leadership.

Trustee Hsieh warmly welcomed newly elected board members Amy Lam and Pat Murray, expressing excitement about their addition to the team. She highlighted their commitment to the district and community, noting their fresh perspectives and unique insights. Trustee Hsieh expressed confidence that their contributions will support the district's strategic goals and reassured them of the board's full support. She looked forward to collaborating on opportunities and challenges, with a focus on supporting students, staff, families, and teachers. She concluded by congratulating Amy and Pat and officially welcoming them to the board.

President Anthony and Trustee Richardson echoed Trustee Hsieh's comments.

Vice President Murray congratulated Trustee Amy Lam, expressing confidence in her new role. She thanked the board for re-electing her as vice president and appreciated the support during her campaign. She reaffirmed her commitment to the district's equity work, the Portrait of a Graduate initiative, and the strategic plan. She also emphasized her advocacy for infrastructure updates through the Facilities Committee. She closed by thanking everyone and expressing excitement for another four years of service.

Dr. Moore expressed excitement about working with Vice President Murray, praising her positive attitude, support for staff, and commitment to the district's strategic plan. She welcomed Trustee Lam, noting her curiosity, eagerness to learn, and strong relationship-building skills. Dr. Moore emphasized the importance of collaboration and good governance, looking forward to working with President Anthony. She concluded by wishing the board and community a joyful holiday season and reaffirmed her focus on the district's priorities for students.

President Anthony thanked everyone welcomed Trustee Amy Lam to the board. She also welcomed Trustee Pat back, and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to lead the board this year.

ADJOURNMENT – 8:18 p.m.