BUCKEYE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

DISTRICT VISION STATEMENT

Working together with families, the community, and highly qualified staff, the Buckeye Union School District ensures that each student masters the knowledge and skills needed to maximize their academic and personal success in a global society.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

Closed Session – 6:00 p.m.
Open Session – 7:00 p.m.

Board of Education meetings are held in person in the Boardroom located at
5049 Robert J. Mathews Parkway, El Dorado Hills, CA, 95762
(Please enter the Board Room from the rear of the building)

If you would like to *view* the meeting remotely, please register at this link in order to receive a meeting link to your email to join the webinar:
https://buckeyeusd.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zzrfcn0JSkCJdRickZ7PzA

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Brenda Hanson-Smith, Ph.D., Kirk Seal, Jon Yoffie, Scott Masten, Ph.D., Melissa Keyzer
Superintendent, David Roth, Ph.D. / Assistant Superintendent, Jacqueline McHaney

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

Public attendance is welcomed and encouraged. The district has taken the following steps in offering public comment:

1. **In-Person Public Comment**: Public comment may be offered in person during the board meeting.

2. **Written Public Comment**: Members of the public who are unable to attend and wish to address the Board can email the Board at *Board@BuckeyeUSD.org*. All correspondence will be shared with the entire Board as well as the Superintendent.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Hanson-Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS **Related to closed session agenda items only*

None

III. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

1. **DISCUSSION -** Conference with District Negotiators, Superintendent David Roth, Ph.D., and Assistant Superintendent Jackie McHaney, in reference to negotiations with the Buckeye Teachers Association (BTA) - Pursuant to Government Code § 54957.6

2. **DISCUSSION -** Conference with District Negotiators, Superintendent David Roth, Ph.D., and Assistant Superintendent Jackie McHaney, in reference to negotiations with the California School Employees Association (CSEA) - Pursuant to Government Code § 54957.6

3. **DISCUSSION -** Conference with District Negotiators, Superintendent David Roth, Ph.D., and Assistant Superintendent Jackie McHaney, in reference to negotiations with the Certificated Site Management, Certificated District Office Management, including Superintendent, Classified Management, including Assistant Superintendent, and Confidential Employee Groups - Pursuant to Government Code § 54957.6

4. **DISCUSSION -** Confidential Student Matter

Board Member Seal called the closed session to order at 6:00 p.m.
Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.
Motion carried 3-0.

Board Member Seal moved to adjourn to open session at 6:50 p.m.
Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.
Motion carried 3-0.

IV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION *(7:00 P.M.)*

Board Member Hanson-Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

V. CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

VI. FLAG SALUTE

Board Member Hanson-Smith led the flag salute.

VII. MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF BLUE OAK STUDENT, JOSIAH DIVODI-LESSA, AND MOTHER, MARISSA DIVODI-LESSA

Board Member Hanson-Smith led a moment of silence.

VIII. ROLL CALL

Present: Brenda Hanson-Smith, Ph.D.
Kirk Seal
Melissa Keyzer

Absent: Jon Yoffie
Scott Masten, Ph.D.

IX. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board Member Seal motioned to approve the agenda, as presented.
Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.
Motion carried 3-0.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS **Related to non-agenda items only*

The Board has received public comment via written correspondence from the following individual(s) since the previous regular board meeting: None

The following individual(s) provided in-person public comment: None

Public comment closed at 7:03 p.m.

XI. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

1. Beginning of the Year Curriculum and Instruction Report *(presentation linked)*
   (Rachelle Ball, Director of Curriculum and Instruction)

   - Rachelle Ball shared the above presentation covering the following:
     - Overview of the first 21 days of school, emphasizing PBIS area expectations, classroom routines, and strong student-teacher relationships.
     - Introduction and orientation of new staff, focusing on logistical readiness and relationship-building.
     - Ongoing new teacher support through weekly Thursday trainings (topics include iReady, Magnetic Reading & Foundations, Amplify Science, and assessments).
     - Targeted training provided for:
       - Sonday System (reading intervention)
       - UFLI (phonics support for early grades)
       - Math intervention (instructional strategies, iReady integration)
       - ELD teachers (resource binders, vocabulary and comprehension strategies)

- Strategy collaboration meetings to begin, focusing on:
  - K–2: Differentiated small group instruction
  - Grades 3–5: Writing development
- Model lessons delivered by Rachelle in classrooms to support teacher practice.
- iDay (Aug. 29) professional development included:
  - iReady data review and year-two implementation
  - Brisk AI training across content areas
  - Goalbook and SRSD writing training for special education staff
  - PBIS and CPI training for teacher associates
  - CPR, Alma updates, and procedure training for secretaries
  - Curriculum updates for library clerks and safety training for all staff

Board Member Discussion:

- Board members expressed appreciation for the depth and organization of staff training.
- Positive feedback on new teacher support and thoughtful pacing of professional development.
- Acknowledgment of the district's strong start and instructional focus.

XII. REPORTS

1. Superintendent's Report: David Roth, Ph.D.

   Superintendent Roth began his report by acknowledging the moment of silence held at the start of the meeting in memory of Josiah and his mother, Marissa, who tragically passed away nearly two weeks prior. He shared that the loss deeply affected families and staff across the district's three main communities, El Dorado Hills, Cameron Park, and Shingle Springs, highlighting how interconnected the community is.

   Superintendent Roth commended the tremendous outpouring of love and support from staff, families, and the wider community. Special recognition was given to Blue Oak Elementary Principal, Julie Hughes, for her leadership, along with other site principals, district administrators, school psychologists, and counselors who quickly mobilized to provide support to students and staff. District teams coordinated immediate mental health support beginning Friday and continuing into the weekend, with open access to grief counseling at the Blue Oak Elementary library.

Superintendent Roth expressed deep gratitude to several external partners who quickly responded with support:

- Summit View Child and Family Services, for providing grief counselors for both individual and class-wide support sessions.
- Levi Cambridge (Principal at Marina Village) and team, for sending a counselor to assist onsite.
- Cameron Park and Shingle Springs Rotary, for providing lunch to staff during a difficult time.
- Foothill Church, for delivering care baskets for teachers and staff at the end of the day.
- El Dorado County Sheriff's Department, for seamless communication and partnership during a sensitive situation.
- El Dorado County Office of Education, for outreach and support, particularly for staff in the shared extended day program.

Superintendent Roth noted that students continue to find ways to express support to Josiah's sister, who is still attending Blue Oak Elementary. He reminded everyone that grief is not linear and emphasized the importance of continued attention to the emotional well-being of students and staff in the coming weeks and months.

He concluded by announcing that a public memorial service for Josiah and Marissa would be held at **Foothill Church on September 6 at 11:00 a.m.**, and extended continued condolences and support to the family and all members of the district touched by this tragedy. He expressed pride in how the school community came together during an extraordinarily difficult time.

2. Association Reports:
    - Buckeye Teachers Association (BTA) - None
    - California School Employees Association (CSEA) - None
3. Enrollment Report: Jackie McHaney
    - Ms. McHaney reported that there are currently 4,218 students enrolled in our District, an increase of 41 students from the previous report ending last school year.
4. Charter Quarterly Reports:
    - Rising Sun Montessori Charter School Report: Karl Zierhut - None
    - Clarksville Charter School Report: Jenell Sherman *(presentation linked)*
5. Reports and Requests by Board Members - None

Following all reports, the Board will accept Public Comments regarding any report(s).

Public Comment: None

XIII. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered by the Board to be routine and will be enacted by the Board in one motion. There will be no discussion on these items prior to the time the Board votes on the motion unless members of the Board, staff, or public request specific items to be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Agenda. If items are pulled for discussion, a separate vote will occur on the items(s). The Superintendent and staff recommend approval of all Consent Agenda items.

1. Board Meeting Minutes - August 20, 2025
2. Approval of Overnight Field Trip(s) for 2025/2026:
    - Valley View, Sly Park Outdoor Education (November 3-7, 2025)
3. Donations to School - Silva Valley Elementary
    - $500 Orange Theory of Fair Oaks
4. Donations to School - Oak Meadow Elementary & BUMI (Adopt-a-Class)
    - $300 Mr. Mezhuev and Mrs. Panfilova (BUMI)
    - $400 Mr. and Mrs. Camacho (Oak Meadow)
    - $400 Judy Chang and Steven Jiang (BUMI)
    - $400 Tsung (BUMI)
    - $400 Breanna Patel, Granite Bay Allergy (BUMI)
    - $500 Rod and Anna Youssefi (Oak Meadow)
    - $500 Tris Tanadi - A & E (BUMI)
    - $500 Mr. and Mrs. LeMieux (BUMI)
    - $600 Team Chou Cheung (BUMI)
    - $750 Todd and Minna Wieck (BUMI)
    - $750 Mrs. Jenny McGinnis (BUMI)
    - $1,000 Kasandra and Chris Orme (Oak Meadow)
    - $1,000 Mr. Mark Babella (BUMI)
    - $1,000 Claudia Lee and Eli Gervais (BUMI)
    - $1,000 Taz Singh (BUMI)
    - $1,500 Chris and Evie Berninger (BUMI)

The Board will accept Public Comment regarding any Consent Agenda item(s) prior to the Board's action.

Board Member Seal motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.
Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.
Public Comment: None
Motion carried 3-0.

XIV. PUBLIC HEARING

Conduct of Each Hearing:

a) Staff report and discussion;
b) Open Public Hearing;
c) Public Testimony/Comment;
d) Close the public hearing;
e) ***Board discussion and Vote***

1. **ACTION -** Consideration/Adoption of *Resolution No.* ***26-01*** Ensuring Sufficiency of Textbooks and Instructional Materials

In order to comply with the requirements of Education Code 60119, a public hearing will be held on or before the eighth week of school to provide information regarding sufficient standards-aligned textbooks or instructional materials consistent with the cycle and content of the curriculum for all students in the Buckeye Union School District.

(Rachelle Ball, Director of Curriculum and Instruction)

Conduct of Hearing:

a. Staff Report:
   - Rachelle Ball reported that this is an annual item to ensure that all students have sufficient textbooks and instructional materials. Ms. Ball is pleased to report that the District meets the sufficiency standard for textbooks and instructional materials. Buckeye monitors enrollment throughout the school year and uses an inventory process in order to make sure that all students have access to textbooks and instructional materials both in the classroom and at home. Ms. Ball asked the Board to consider and adopt *Resolution No. 26-01*: Ensuring Sufficiency of Textbooks and Instructional Materials as presented.
   - Board Discussion: None

b. Open Public Hearing:
   - Board Member Hanson-Smith opened the public hearing at 7:41 p.m.

c. Public Testimony/Comment:
   - Public Comment: None
   - Public Comment closed at 7:41 p.m.

d. Close Public Hearing:
   - Board Member Hanson-Smith closed the public hearing at 7:41 p.m.

e. Board Discussion and Vote:
   - Discussion: None
   - Board Member Seal motioned to adopt *Resolution No. 26-01*: Ensuring Sufficiency of Textbooks and Instructional Materials as presented. Board Keyzer seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

2. **ACTION -** Consider and Approve Receipt of 2025-2026 Contract Opener Proposals from the Buckeye Teachers Association (BTA) to the Buckeye Union School District
(This hearing is provided for the public to become informed and express itself regarding the Proposal).

In accordance with California Government Code Section 3547, BTA's initial contract reopeners are sunshined for public inspection and comment.

(Jackie McHaney, Assistant Superintendent)

*****Board Member Seal reported that the Board would like to address item XIV.2. and item XIV.3. together.**

Conduct of Hearing:

a. Staff Report:
   - Ms. McHaney reported the Buckeye Teachers Association (BTA) is presenting their initial contract openers to the Buckeye Union School District, for public inspection and comment. The public hearing is conducted and the proposals are presented for Board approval.

b. Open Public Hearing:
   - See item XIV.3.

c. Public Testimony/Comment:
   - See item XIV.3.

d. Close Public Hearing: See item XIV.3.

e. Board Discussion and Vote:
   - Discussion: See item XIV.3.
   - See item XIV.3.

3. **ACTION -** Consider and Approve the Response/Initial Proposals of the Buckeye Union School District to the Buckeye Teachers Association's (BTA) Initial Contract Opener Proposal for 2025-2026 school year
(This hearing is provided for the public to become informed and express itself regarding the Proposal).

In accordance with California Government Code Section 3547, the District's response to BTA and its initial contract reopeners are sunshined for public inspection and comment.

(Jackie McHaney, Asst. Superintendent)

Conduct of Hearing:

a. Staff Report:
   - Ms. McHaney reported that the Buckeye Union School District is presenting its response to the Buckeye Teachers Association's Initial Proposal and initial contract openers to the Buckeye Teachers Association, for public inspection and comment. The public hearing is conducted and the proposals are presented for Board approval.

b. Open Public Hearing:
   - Board Member Hanson-Smith opened at 7:43 p.m.

c. Public Testimony/Comment:
   - Public Comment: None
   - Public Comment closed at 7:43p.m.

d. Close Public Hearing
   - Board Member Hanson-Smith closed the public hearing at 7:43 p.m.

e. Board Discussion and Vote:
   - Discussion: None
   - Board Member Seal motioned to approve items XIV.2. and item XIV.3., as presented. Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

XV. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

Public Comment is welcomed prior to the Board's action on any of the following items or in response to any discussion item(s).

1. **ACTION -** Consideration/Adoption of the Offering of the Golden Handshake Early Retirement to Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) staff members and set the retirement window period from November 21, 2025, through March 2, 2026

   (Jackie McHaney, Assistant Superintendent)

   Ms. McHaney reported on this annual item and requested that the Board approve the Golden Handshake window period from November 21, 2025, through March 2, 2026, to offer an early retirement incentive to CALPERS (Public Employees Retirement System) staff members. Participation in the Golden Handshake must net out as cost savings for the District.

   Board Member Seal motioned to approve the window of November 21, 2025, through March 2, 2026, as presented.
   Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.
   Public Comment: None
   Motion carried 3-0.

2. **ACTION -** Adoption of Revised Certificated Stipend Rate sheet for the 2025/2026 school year only

   (David Roth, Ph.D., Superintendent)

   Superintendent Roth reported on the proposed revisions to the Certificated Stipend Rate Sheet for the 2025/2026 school year only and asked the Board to approve the stipend improvements as outlined in the board packet. He noted that the Buckeye Education Foundation would fund these improvements, with a 60% increase (up to $599 per stipend) for positions providing direct service to students. The estimated districtwide impact is just over $60,000.

   Board Member Seal motioned to approve the revised Certificated Stipend Rate sheet for 2025/2026, as presented.
   Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.
   Board Discussion: Board President Hanson-Smith expressed appreciation for the generosity of the Buckeye Education Foundation, noting that while the individual stipend increases may appear modest, the cumulative districtwide benefit is significant.

Public Comment: None
Motion carried 3-0.

3. **DISCUSSION -** 2024-2025 District Goals and Objectives Progress Report
(David Roth, Ph.D., Superintendent)

Superintendent Roth reported on the 2024-2025 District Goals and Objectives Progress Report included in the Board packet.

4. **ACTION -** Consideration/Adoption of 2025-2026 District Goals and Objectives
(David Roth, Ph.D., Superintendent)

Superintendent Roth reminded the Board that the District maintains ongoing District Goals and focuses on specific objectives that are points of focus related to the goals. Superintendent Roth shared the current year's proposed goals and objectives included in the Board packet.

Board Member Keyzer motioned to approve the 2025-2026 District Goals and Objectives.
Board Member Seal seconded the motion.
Public Comment: None
Motion carried 3-0.

XVI. NEXT MEETING

- Regular Board Meeting - Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
@ Buckeye Union School District - VIA Zoom and in-person

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Hanson-Smith stated that this meeting stands adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Board Member Seal motioned to adjourn.
Board Member Keyzer seconded the motion.
Motion carried 3-0.

Approval Date:_____

By: _____ By: _____
Kirk Seal, Clerk David Roth, Ph.D., Secretary

Any writings or documents that are public records and are provided to a majority of the governing Board regarding an open session item (or closed session statement threatening litigation) on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the District Office located at 5049 Robert J. Mathews Parkway, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762 during normal business hours.

Individuals requiring special accommodations (American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in accessible formats, etc.) should contact the Superintendent at least two days before the meeting date at (916) 985-2183 ext. 1012.

Parents/guardians may request that directory information or personal information of the student or parent/guardian, provided at the Board meeting, be redacted from the minutes. To request information be redacted, please contact the Superintendent at (916) 985-2183 ext. 1012.