

Work Study Session (Thursday, December 18, 2025)

Members present

Kris Erickson, Stephen Glass, Sara Pelly, Matthew Thomas, Sierra Vane, Andrea Yamasaki

Absent: Ana Page

1. CALL TO ORDER - REGULAR SESSION

Procedural: A. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm

Procedural: B. Establish Quorum

There were six members present for a quorum: Kris Erickson, Stephen Glass, Sara Pelly, Matthew Thomas, Sierra Vane, Andrea Yamasaki.

Procedural: C. Pledge of Allegiance

Action: D. Adoption of Agenda

Approval

Motion by Matthew Thomas, second by Sierra Vane.

Final Resolution: Motion carries

Yea: Kris Erickson, Stephen Glass, Sara Pelly, Matthew Thomas, Sierra Vane, Andrea Yamasaki

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Procedural: A. Guidelines: As required by the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54956, at special meetings/study sessions, members of the audience may only address the Board of Education on items that are agendaized.

There are 3 public comment cards on agenda items.

On 3A, Community Schools: Graciela Magana and Kassie Bravo spoke about the importance of community schools as trusted hubs that support the whole child and family by removing barriers and connecting families to essential resources. They highlighted successful efforts at Esplanade Elementary, including food distribution, partnerships with the Mexican Consulate, access to technology, and holiday support, emphasizing the positive impact these services have on student success and community well-being.

On 3B, Facilities Master Plan: David Imboden, OUSD parent, spoke about the McPherson Education Foundation's long history of investing in innovative programs and facilities, and urged the district to partner with the foundation to move forward with the long-planned outdoor science lab included in the Facilities Master Plan, noting delays have stalled progress and jeopardized funding opportunities.

3. WORK/STUDY SESSION

Information: A. Community Schools Presentation

Assistant Superintendent for Student Support & Community Engagement, Mr. Gonzalez, introduced the item. Executive Director Mr. Angel and a team of Community Leads presented a detailed update on Orange Unified's Community Schools initiative, emphasizing its continued expansion and positive impact across multiple school sites. They explained that community schools serve as hubs supporting the whole child and the whole family by addressing academic, social-emotional, and basic needs. The presentation highlighted strong partnerships with community organizations that provide access to food, health services, family resources, and cultural connections. Data and examples were shared to demonstrate increased family engagement, improved student attendance, and stronger trust between schools and the communities they serve. The team underscored the role of community school site leads in building relationships and removing barriers to student success. They also discussed how these supports help students arrive at school ready to learn, and families feel welcomed and valued. Sustainability of the program was a key focus, including strategic use of funding and alignment with district goals. Equity was emphasized as a guiding principle, ensuring resources are directed to sites with the greatest need. The presentation also highlighted the importance of collaboration across departments to strengthen implementation.

Discussion, Information: B. Facilities Master Plan Presentation

Superintendent Monarrez introduced the item. Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, Ms. Holguin, and representatives from LPA presented a comprehensive overview of the Facilities Master Plan, explaining both the original development process and the documents' structure as a long-term planning tool rather than an implementation schedule. They reviewed how the plan is organized into chapters covering purpose and process, planning assumptions, educational specifications, cost frameworks, individual campus assessments, and supporting appendices with demographic data and detailed estimates. Presenters emphasized that the plan reflects a point-in-

time assessment of district needs based on extensive stakeholder input, enrollment trends, and educational visioning conducted during 2019–2021, including through the challenges of the COVID period. It was clarified that the tiered framework categorizes the scope of work rather than project priority and that no projects have yet moved forward due to funding limitations and competing district needs. The discussion highlighted that the master plan functions as a roadmap or needs assessment, with future implementation dependent on identifying funding sources and aligning priorities. Staff outlined next steps, including updating the plan to meet Proposition 2 requirements, incorporating high schools, and ensuring eligibility for state matching funds. Trustees reflected on the depth of community engagement involved in creating the plan and expressed concern that its vision had stalled, while also recognizing significant deferred maintenance and bond-funded work completed since adoption. The importance of aligning facilities planning with resource optimization, demographic shifts, transportation considerations, and program offerings was repeatedly emphasized. Board members stressed the need to move from planning to action, even if only on a limited number of projects, to avoid further delay and loss of momentum. Overall, the presentation and discussion reinforced a shared commitment to revisiting, refining, and actively using the Facilities Master Plan as a realistic and flexible guide for future district investments.

Trustee Thomas left at 7:35 pm.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Procedural: **A. Meeting Adjourned by Call of the Chair at:**
The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm