



BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
2309 TULARE STREET
BOARD ROOM, SECOND FLOOR
FRESNO, CA 93721
fresnounified.org/board

MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Fresno, California

December 10, 2025

Fresno Unified School District, Education Center, 2309 Tulare Street, Fresno, CA 93721.

At the regular meeting of the Fresno Unified School District Board of Education held December 10, 2025, there were present Board Members Cazares, Davis, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Wittrup. Superintendent Her was also present as well as Student Members Mayes and Souksamlane.

Board President Davis CONVENED the Regular Board Meeting at 4:45 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

David Chavez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Closed Session Items

For the record, the Board received no public requests to address the Board on Closed Session items.

A. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

For the record, the Board was in receipt of agenda items A-1 through A-4 as follows:

- A-1, Receive the Constituent Services Quarterly Reporting.
- A-2, Receive the List of Board Committees and Organizations.
- A-3, Receive the Fresno Unified School District First Quarterly Investment Report for Fiscal Year 2025/26.
- A-4, Receive the 2024/25 School Facility Fee Public Information Report.

ANNUAL ORGANIZATION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

Superintendent Her presided over the organizational meeting and called for motions to affirm the position of Genoveva Islas as Board President, pursuant to Board Bylaw 9100 Organization.

On a motion by Board Member Wittrup, seconded by Board Member Levine, the Board affirmed the election of Genoveva Islas as Board President by a vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Wittrup.

Newly affirmed, Board President Islas called for motions to affirm the position of Andy Levine as Board Clerk, pursuant to Board Bylaw 9100 Organization.

On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Cazares, the Board affirmed the election of Andy Levine as Board Clerk by a vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, and Wittrup.

Board President Islas called for a brief RECESS at 4:47 p.m. and ADJOURNED the Regular Board Meeting to Closed Session at 4:55 p.m.

Board President Islas RECONVENED the meeting to Open Session at 6:10 p.m.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

For the record, there were no reports from closed session.

For the record, Clerk Levine read the approved Board Shared Agreements as follows:

- **Respect and Civility** – Honor our shared agreements.
- **Be Honest and Honorable** – Honor my word and do not lie, deflect, or disparage others.
- **Honor the Process and any Time Limits**
- **Honor Confidentiality**
- **Be Prepared and On Time** – Be on time. Read materials or share questions ahead of time. Share as early as possible if I will be late or miss a commitment.
- **Represent All Students** - Do not represent solely my region/area.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-1, DISCUSS and APPROVE the Appointment of Board Member Voting Representative and Alternate Voting Representative to the Fresno County Committee on School District Organization

For the record, the Board received no public requests to speak on agenda item B-1, Discuss and Approve the Appointment of Board Member Voting Representative and Alternate Voting Representative to the Fresno County Committee on School District Organization.

For the record, Ambra O'Connor was available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Member Davis, the Board approved the appointment of Board Member Levine as the Voting Representative to the Fresno County Committee on School District Organization, by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, and President Islas. Student Members Mayes and Souksamlane voted yes as well.

On a motion by Board Member Levine, seconded by Board Member Davis, the Board approved the appointment of Board Member Jonasson Rosas as the Alternate Voting Representative to the Fresno County Committee on School District Organization, by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, and President Islas. Student Members Mayes and Souksamlane voted yes as well.

B-2, PRESENT and DISCUSS Charter School Renewal Process Review for 2025/26

For the record, the Board received no public requests to speak on agenda item B-2, Present and Discuss the Charter School Renewal Process Review for 2025/26.

For the record, Board Members provided comments and raised questions regarding agenda item B-3. A summary of Board Member feedback is outlined below:

Member Wittrup requested clarity as to the responsibility of the district and why the district is asked to sponsor charter schools when the district does not have oversight into what is happening at the charter school.

Member Jonasson Rosas asked what the different criteria for consideration from a renewal process are versus accepting a charter petition, are there different items which are part of an initial petition that are not part of the renewal process.

Clerk Levine requested clarity as to the Local Educational Agency (LEA) related to charter schools and asked when the district is the charter authorizer is the charter school then referred to as the LEA. Requested clarity as to the district's responsibility related to material revision requests, specifically those pertaining to waiting lists. Member Levine asked during the renewal process if the Board is authorized to provide a conditional two-year renewal with the requirement of a program improvement plan if the charter school is in the lower performance range. Member Levine asked if the district as the authorizing agent can require a charter school to commit to being measured by the district's Board adopted goals and guardrails.

Member Davis asked how long a charter school had been in a low performance level and why Dashboard Alternative Status Schools were not categorized in the same performance levels of high, middle, and low. Member Davis requested the number of students attending charter schools and if charter schools experienced declining enrollment.

Member Thomas asked if there are issues with the district's belief in a charter school's ability, can the district legally instead of extending it for a five-year term extending for a three or two-year term.

Member Jonasson Rosas asked if the district's upward academic trajectory has anything to bear in terms of the charter school's high, middle, and low performance levels, and because district neighborhood schools are now meeting higher proficiency levels compared to charter schools, how will this effect the rating of performance tiers.

President Islas asked for the number of charter schools the district has authorized and the number of those that are within the boundaries of Fresno Unified. President Islas requested the financial impact to the district of the ten authorized charter schools. President Islas requested clarity as to the next steps when the district has to intervene with a remedy plan for a charter school and if a remedy isn't achieved at some point there may be the potential for a revocation plan, at that point what is the transition plan for students. Is there a timeline for the process? Would students return to their home schools?

For the record, at this time an individual of the public requested to address the Board. The individual's name and a summary of topic are as follows:

1. Kristina Homes-McIntyre shared a personal experience of filing a complaint

against a charter school and their concerns of the process.

Student Member Souksamlane commented on understanding Fresno Unified oversees charter schools, and charter schools oversee their own daily oversight, and asked if Fresno Unified is responsible for dealing with a charter school's conflicts, and if the district is held accountable for something the district does not see. Student Member Souksamlane requested clarity as to what the district considers necessary for intervention.

For the record, Felicia Olais, legal counsel Davina Harden, and Patrick Jensen were available to provide clarity.

B-3, PRESENT and DISCUSS the 2024/25 Audited Financial Statements Prepared by Crowe LLP

For the record, the Board received no public requests to speak on agenda item B-2, Discuss and Approve the 2024/25 Audited Financial Statements Prepared by Crowe LLP.

For the record, Board Members provided comments and raised questions regarding agenda item B-2. A summary of Board Member feedback is outlined below:

Member Cazares thanked Patrick Jensen and staff for the big lift of preparing for the audit to ensure compliance in all departments and coming away with such great findings.

Member Wittrup echoed comments of Member Cazares and expressed appreciation for the work by the staff and both internal and external auditors.

Member Davis expressed appreciation for the great findings which have allowed the district to have bonds issued and top ratings.

President Islas expressed congratulations to staff and thanks for all the hard work that went into this matter.

For the record, Patrick Jensen and Jen Ares were available to provide clarity.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items

For the record, the Board received no public requests to speak on the Consent Agenda.

On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board approved the Consent Agenda with the exception of agenda item C-12, which was pulled for a Trustee recusal, by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, and President Islas. Student Members Mayes and Souksamlane voted yes as well.

ALL CONSENT Agenda items are considered routine by the Board of Education and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of items unless a Board member requests, in which event, the item(s) will be considered following approval of the Consent Agenda. Pulled Consent Agenda items will be considered for approval after the Conference/Discussion Agenda.

C. CONSENT AGENDA

- C-1, ADOPT Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Board**
ADOPTED as recommended, the Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Panels resulting from Hearings on expulsion and readmittance cases conducted during the period since the regular meeting of the Board held November 19, 2025.
- C-2, ADOPT Provisional Internship Permits**
ADOPTED as recommended, Provisional Internship Permit recommendations to rehire or hire upon Board adoption.
- C-3, ADOPT Variable Term Waiver for Bilingual Cross-Cultural, Language and Development Authorization**
ADOPTED as recommended, Variable Term Waiver requests for Bilingual Cross-Cultural, Language and Development Authorization for the 2025/26 school year.
- C-4, APPROVE Personnel List**
APPROVED as recommended, the personnel List, Appendix A, as submitted.
- C-5, APPROVE Meeting Minutes**
APPROVED as recommended, the draft minutes for the regular meeting of the Fresno Unified School District Board of Education held, November 19, 2025.
- C-6, APPROVE Monitoring Calendar Revision**
APPROVED as recommended, the 2025-2030 Student Outcomes Focused Governance revised monitoring calendar. The Equitable Access Interim Goal #3 (EA3), initially set for monitoring discussion at the December 17, 2025, meeting, has been rescheduled to March 25, 2026, when data will be available. The calendar revision reflects that change.

C-7, APPROVE the Fresno Unified School District 2025/26 First Interim Financial Report

APPROVED as recommended, the Fresno Unified School District First Interim Financial Report. California school districts are required to approve interim financial reports twice each fiscal year. The Fresno Unified School District 2025/26 First Interim Financial Report is presented for approval and reflects a positive certification of the district's financial condition. The report is based on October 31, 2025, year-to-date revenue and expenditures as required by state law.

C-8, APPROVE Award of Bid 26-18, Columbia Elementary School Recycled Water Conversion

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 26-18, Columbia Elementary School Recycled Water Conversion. The project consists of converting the existing irrigation system to utilize the City of Fresno's recycled water supply, conserving potable water, and supporting the city's sustainability efforts. Staff recommend the award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: Geometric Construction, Inc. (Fresno, California) \$247,446.

C-9, APPROVE Disposal List of Items to Remove from District Inventory

APPROVED as recommended, a list of district inventory items that have been disposed of to remove from the district inventory. Staff recommends Board approval to remove disposed and obsolete district property from inventory, in accordance with Board Policy 3270, for items verified as no longer needed and beyond their useful life.

C-10, APPROVE Use of Individual Piggyback Contracts

APPROVED as recommended, a list of seven piggyback contracts for use during 2025/26 for efficient and cost-effective procurement. This is in addition to the piggyback contracts approved by the Board previously, to allow for expedited purchases related to furniture and instructional supplies, buses, irrigation materials and supplies, electronic items, and cloud solution software. Use of piggyback contracts is allowed under Public Contract Codes 10299 and 20118 and is a procurement best practice that takes advantage of competitive pricing from a contract formally bid by another school district or public agency.

C-11, RATIFY Purchase Orders from September 01, 2025, through September 30, 2025 – Primary Report

RATIFIED as recommended, information on purchase orders issued from September 01, 2025, through September 30, 2025-Primary Report. Two items are presented to ratify purchase orders. The first item includes the Primary Report with all purchase orders issued during the reported dates with the exception of those that may present a potential conflict of interest for an individual Board member. All remaining purchase orders are in the Supplemental Report and presented as a second agenda item.

C-12, RATIFY Purchase Orders from September 01, 2025, through September 30, 2025 – Supplemental Report

RATIFIED as recommended, information on purchase orders issued from September 01, 2025, through September 30, 2025-Supplemental Report. Two agenda items are presented to ratify purchase orders. The first item includes the Primary Report with all purchase orders issued during the reported dates with the exception of those that may present a potential conflict of interest for an individual Board member. All remaining purchase orders are in the Supplemental Report and presented as a second agenda item.

For the record, Clerk Levine read the statement as follows:

Agenda item C-12 on tonight's Consent Agenda, contains purchase orders between Fresno Unified School District and the California Teaching Fellows Foundation, the CSUF Fresno Foundation, California State University, Fresno, the CSUF Athletic Corp., The CSUF/Downing Planetarium as well as the Friends of the Bulldog Marching Band.

I did not participate in the making of the purchase orders related to this agenda item; however, because of my employment with Fresno State, I have a remote financial interest in the purchase orders.

Therefore, in the interest of full transparency, I am abstaining from this vote pursuant to Board Bylaw 9270.

On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, the Board approved agenda item C-12 by a roll call vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Thomas, Wittrup, and President Islas. Student Members Mayes and Souksamlane voted yes as well. ABSTENTIONS: Board Clerk Levine.

OPPORTUNITY FOR UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

For the record, the Board received one (1) request to address the Board during Unscheduled Oral Communications. The individual's name and a summary of topic are as follows:

1. Carl D'Souza expressed appreciation for the extension through the end of the year of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Fresno Unified and the California State University, Fresno, Joyce M. Huggins Early Education Center, and presented information in support of the continuation of the MOU.
2. Chamrouen Yann shared personal experience of working at the Joyce M. Huggins Early Education Center and advocated in support for continuation

- of the MOU.
3. Samuel Ortiz shared personal experience of working at the Joyce M. Huggins Early Education Center and advocated in support for continuation of the MOU.
 4. Christine Tang shared personal experience from their child attending the Joyce M. Huggins Early Education Center and advocated in support for continuation of the MOU.
 5. Amanda Whitehead read a statement on behalf of a parent who could not attend the Board meeting and advocated in support for continuation of the MOU.

OPPORTUNITY for Board Member Reflections on the Board Shared Agreements

Member Jonasson Rosas commented that while acknowledging staff and expressing appreciation is amazing it reminded Jonasson Rosas of the Board's time study and goals. Member Jonasson Rosas would like to continue to improve the Board's goal monitoring and put that forth as her own reflection.

Member Thomas shared that the district received an award from the California Association of Black School Educators (CABSE). The association was interested in the work Fresno Unified is doing towards student outcomes focused governance.

Member Thomas requested an overview of Board Bylaw 9100 Organization and asked why the Board changed to a rotation schedule as well as what avenues are available to the Board in the event leadership responsibilities are not taken seriously or a member is overbearing in the role of president.

For the record, Chief of Staff O'Connor was available to provide clarity.

Member Davis shared that Student Board Member Souksamlane was elected as the Squadron Commander of the ROTC Unit at Duncan Polytechnical High School and because members represent all student in Fresno Unified Member Davis was there to witness the honor bestowed upon Jonaven Souksamlane. Member Davis shared as part of her work with a service organization she will be a Farber next week to present a bicycle to a student with perfect attendance.

President Islas reflected on the Board Shared Agreements and wanted to emphasize the importance of respect and civility and commented there may be times that members are clearly not in agreement but can appreciate the willingness to agree to disagree in a respectful manner. President Islas hopes the Board can keep that in the forefront and are cooperative in efforts to improve student outcomes in Fresno Unified.

President Islas provided a special shout out in recognition of the achievements of Hoover and McLane High Schools as they have increased 20 points in their academic performance.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Islas ADJOURNED the meeting at 7:51 p.m.