Special Governing Board Meeting

CABRILLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Public Session • Wednesday, January 12, 2022 • 6:00 PM

Via Zoom: https://cabrillok12.zoom.us/j/99135905009 • Webinar ID: 991 3590 5009 • Telephone: +1 669 900 6833

The Cabrillo Unified School District Governing Board values the health and safety of our community and staff. We also honor the public's need and right to meaningfully participate and comment in public proceedings, and in light of the current health emergency, the CUSD Governing Board will hold its meetings remotely via teleconference using Zoom technology. This decision is consistent with AB 361, a bill that formalizes and modifies the teleconference procedures implemented by California public agencies in response to the Governor's Executive Orders N25-20 and N29-20 addressing Brown Act compliance during shelter-in-place periods. AB 361 allows a local agency to continue to use teleconferencing under the same basic rules as provided in the Executive Orders when certain circumstances occur or when certain findings have been made and adopted by the local agency. There will not be a physical location for this meeting.

Adjournment of the Public Session will be no later than 10:00 PM for all regular and special meetings unless extended by a majority vote of the Board. Writings relating to a board meeting agenda items that are distributed to at least a majority of the Board members less than 72 hours before the noticed meeting, and that are public records not otherwise exempt from disclosure, will be available for inspection at the District administrative offices, 498 Kelly Avenue, Half Moon Bay, CA. Such writings may also be available on the District's website. (Government Code 54957.5b).

Individuals who require special accommodations (Spanish interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in an accessible format, etc.) should contact the Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent at acostar@cabrillo.k12.ca.us no later than 48 hours preceding the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS GUIDELINES

There are two ways in which members of the public may provide comments as part of a Cabrillo Unified School District Governing Board remote meeting:

1. Submit Written Comments in Advance:

Members of the public wishing to provide comments in advance of the meeting may submit a Public Comments form bit.ly/cusdcomments or email to the Administrative Assistant. Written comments will be accepted from the time the agenda is posted right up one hour before the meeting start time. Comments will be read out loud by the Board President or a Designee. Written comments should be limited to no more than 300 words; longer comments might not be shared publicly during the meeting. However, all comments received, whether or not they are shared publicly during the meeting, will be made available to all Board members and the public.

2. Provide Live Comment Using the Zoom Hand Raise Feature:

Members of the public wishing to speak during the meeting must use the 'Raise Hand' feature. During the meeting, the President or Designee will announce the opportunity for public comments.

To raise your hand in a webinar:

- If watching on a device, use the 'Raise Hand' feature in Zoom webinar controls.
- If listening from a phone, dial *9 to raise your hand.

When acknowledged by Board President or Designee, you may be prompted to unmute. After the allowed time, speakers will be placed on mute. Individuals are given up to three (3) minutes to speak. However, with Board consent, the President may increase or decrease the time allowed, depending on the topic and the number of persons wishing to be heard. The Administrative Assistant will keep the time and advise the speaker when there are 30 seconds left and again when time is up. We ask all speakers to keep within the time limits.

IMPORTANT BOARD PROTOCOLS REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENTS

The CUSD Governing Board does not act upon any matter that has not been agendized except under limited circumstances as permitted by law. It is the policy of the CUSD Governing Board to refer matters raised in this forum to staff for further examination and/or action where appropriate.

Open Board meetings may be recorded and broadcast.

1. CALL TO ORDER

a. Public Session - 6:00 PM - Welcome

1. Roll Call / Quorum
2. Pledge of Allegiance

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. Adoption of Resolution No. 01-2022 to Make Findings Allowing Continued Remote Meetings Under AB361 (Action)

3.a Board Memo AB361 Resolution.pdf (p. 3)

3.a.1 Resolution 01-2022 AB361 Teleconference Meetings.pdf (p. 5)

4. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

CABRILLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

498 Kelly Avenue, Half Moon Bay, California 94019 • 650 712-7100 • Fax 650 726-0279 • www.cabrillo.k12.ca.us

SUPERINTENDENT
Sean McPhetridge, Ed.D.

GOVERNING BOARD
Mary Beth Alexander
Lizet Cortes
Kimberly Hines
Sophia Layne
Freya McCamant

MEMORANDUM

MEETING DATE: January 12, 2022
TO: Members of the Governing Board
FROM: Sean McPhetridge, Ed.D., Superintendent
CATEGORY: Action
ITEM TITLE: Adoption of Resolution No. 01-2022 to Make Findings Allowing Continued Remote Meetings Under AB361

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21, which rescinded his prior Executive Order N-29-20 and set a date of October 1, 2021 for public agencies to transition back to public meetings held in full compliance with the Brown Act. The original Executive Order provided that all provisions of the Brown Act that required the physical presence of members or other personnel as a condition of participation or as a quorum for a public meeting were waived for public health reasons. If these waivers fully sunsetted on October 1, 2021, legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act would have to contend with a sudden return to full compliance with in-person meeting requirements as they existed prior to March 2020, including the requirement for full physical public access to all teleconference locations from which board members were participating.

On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361, a bill that formalizes and modifies the teleconference procedures implemented by California public agencies in response to the Governor's Executive Orders addressing Brown Act compliance during shelter-in-place periods. AB 361 allows a local agency to continue to use teleconferencing under the same basic rules as provided in the Executive Orders when certain circumstances occur or when certain findings have been made and adopted by the local agency.

AB 361 also requires that, if the state of emergency remains active for more than 30 days, the agency must make findings by majority vote every 30 days to continue using the bill's exemption to the Brown Act teleconferencing rules. The findings are to the effect that the need for teleconferencing persists due to the nature of the ongoing public health emergency and the social distancing recommendations of local public health officials. Effectively, this means that local agencies must agendize a Brown Act meeting once every thirty days to make findings regarding the circumstances of the emergency and to vote to continue relying upon the law's provision for teleconference procedures in lieu of in-person meetings.

AB 361 provides that Brown Act legislative bodies must return to in-person meetings on October 1, 2021, unless they choose to continue with fully teleconferenced meetings because a specific declaration of a state or local health emergency is appropriately made. AB 361 allows local governments to continue to conduct virtual meetings as long as there is a gubernatorially-proclaimed public emergency in combination with (1) local health official recommendations for social distancing or (2) adopted findings that meeting in person would present risks to health. AB 361 is effective immediately as urgency legislation and will sunset on January 1, 2024.

DISCUSSION

Because local rates of transmission of COVID-19 are still in the "substantial" tier as measured by the Centers for Disease Control, we recommend that the Board avail itself of the provisions of AB 361 allowing continuation of online meetings by adopting findings to the effect that conducting in-person meetings would present an imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees. A resolution to that effect, and directing staff to return each 30 days with the opportunity to renew such findings, is attached hereto.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact to the General Fund.

RECOMMENDATION

To continue with remote Governing Board meetings, staff recommend that the Governing Board approve the monthly resolution finding that, as a result of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency declared by Governor Newsom, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

RESOLUTION No. 01-2022
BEFORE THE GOVERNING BOARD
OF THE CABRILLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

FINDING THAT, AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED BY GOVERNOR NEWSOM, MEETING IN PERSON FOR MEETINGS OF THE CABRILLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD WOULD PRESENT IMMINENT RISKS TO THE HEALTH OR SAFETY OF ATTENDEES

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor proclaimed pursuant to his authority under the California Emergency Services Act, California Government Code section 8625, that a state of emergency exists with regard to a novel coronavirus (a disease now known as COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2021, the Governor clarified that the "reopening" of California on June 15, 2021 did not include any change to the proclaimed state of emergency or the powers exercised thereunder, and as of the date of this Resolution, neither the Governor nor the Legislature have exercised their respective powers pursuant to California Government Code section 8629 to lift the state of emergency either by proclamation or by concurrent resolution in the state Legislature; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 that suspended the teleconferencing rules set forth in the California Open Meeting law, Government Code section 54950 et seq. (the "Brown Act"), provided certain requirements were met and followed; and.

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361 that provides that a legislative body subject to the Brown Act may continue to meet without fully complying with the teleconferencing rules in the Brown Act provided the legislative body determines that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and further requires that certain findings be made by the legislative body every thirty (30) days; and,

WHEREAS, California Department of Public Health ("CDPH") and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") caution that the Delta variant of COVID-19, currently the dominant strain of COVID-19 in the country, is more transmissible than prior variants of the virus, may cause more severe illness, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/delta-variant.html); and,

WHEREAS, the CDC has established a "Community Transmission" metric with 4 tiers designed to reflect a community's COVID-19 case rate and percent positivity; and,

WHEREAS, the County of San Mateo currently has a Community Transmission metric of "substantial" which is the second most serious of the tiers; and,

WHEREAS, the CUSD Governing Board has an important governmental interest in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of those who participate in its meetings; and,

WHEREAS, in the interest of public health and safety, as affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the CUSD Governing Board deems it necessary to find that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and thus intends to invoke the provisions of AB 361 related to teleconferencing;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that

1. The recitals set forth above are true and correct.
2. The CUSD Governing Board finds that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

3. Staff is directed to return no later than thirty (30) days after the adoption of this resolution with an item for the Board to consider making the findings required by AB 361 in order to continue meeting under its provisions.
4. Staff is directed to take such other necessary or appropriate actions to implement the intent and purposes of this resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Cabrillo Unified School District on the 12th day of January, 2022, by the following vote:

Mary Beth Alexander:	_____	Aye	_____	No	_____	Abstain	_____ Absent
Lizet Cortes:	_____	Aye	_____	No	_____	Abstain	_____ Absent
Kimberly Hines:	_____	Aye	_____	No	_____	Abstain	_____ Absent
Sophia Layne:	_____	Aye	_____	No	_____	Abstain	_____ Absent
Freya McCamant:	_____	Aye	_____	No	_____	Abstain	_____ Absent

Certified by:

_____
Sophia Layne
Clerk to the Governing Board
Cabrillo Unified School District

Attest by:

_____
Sean McPhetridge, Ed.D.
Secretary to the Governing Board
Cabrillo Unified School District