



**San Juan Unified School District**

Board of Education

3738 Walnut Avenue, Carmichael, California 95608

**Board of Education Minutes**

**April 9, 2024**

**Regular Meeting**

Board of Education

5:30 p.m.

**Open Session/Call to Order/Announcement of Closed Session Topics (A)**

The April 9 regular meeting was called to order by the president, Pam Costa. The board meeting was held in person and was also livestreamed on the district website.

**Roll Call**

Present:

Pam Costa, president

Saul Hernandez, vice president

Ben Avey, clerk

Paula Villescaz, member

Tanya Kravchuk, member

Manuel Perez, member

Zima Creason, member

**Announcement of Closed Session Topics/Closed Session Visitor Comments (A-1)**

There were no closed session visitor comments.

**Closed Session (B)**

The meeting was then recessed with the board convening in closed session to consider student expulsions in four cases (Education Code section 48918[f]) and to discuss collective bargaining matters – discussion with negotiator Daniel Thigpen, Executive Director, Labor Relations and Government Affairs, regarding CSEA Chapter 127 General/Operations support, Chauffeurs/Teamsters Local No. 150 Transportation, Supervisors, Teachers and Certificated Supervisory units, and regarding non-represented groups: management and confidential units (Government Code section 54957.6).

**Reconvene Open Session/Pledge of Allegiance (C)**

At 6:30 p.m., the meeting was called back to order by the president, Pam Costa. Four members of the Casa Roble Fundamental High School Air Force Jr. ROTC led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes Approved (D)**

It was moved by Ms. Creason, seconded by Ms. Villescaz, that the minutes of the March 19 regular meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Costa, Hernandez, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason].

**Recognition: California School Bus Driver's Appreciation Day (E-1a)**

It was moved by Ms. Creason, seconded by Ms. Kravchuk, to adopt Resolution No. A-437 proclaiming April 23 as California School Bus Driver's Appreciation Day. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Costa, Hernandez, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason].

**High School Student Council Reports (E-2)**

High School Student Council representatives Allyson Dyke and Emmy Moran from Del Campo High School and Heidi Martinez Zacarias and Kalelle Lamar Dawson from Mesa Verde High School updated the board on the goals, activities and achievements at their respective schools.

**Staff Reports (E-3)**

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Rebecca Toto, Ed.D., provided an update on the district's recruitment efforts, which included a certificated job fair last weekend.

**Closed Session/Expulsion Actions (E-7)**

Mr. Avey reported that the board voted unanimously to accept as written one stipulated expulsion in case number M-29 and one stipulated suspended expulsion in case number S-35. The board also voted 6-1 to accept a hearing panel's recommendation of one expulsion in case number S-28 and voted 6-0-1 to accept as written one stipulated expulsion in case number S-34.

**Visitor Comments (F)**

Sherry Skelly Griffith shared information about the upcoming Fair Oaks Chicken Run fundraiser, benefiting the San Juan Education Foundation.

Bernadette Smith, chair of the American Indian Education Program Parent Advisory Committee, requested that land acknowledgements be incorporated into high school graduation ceremonies.

Martin Ross expressed appreciation for the district's bus drivers.

**Consent Calendar Approved (G-1/G-7)**

It was moved by Mr. Perez, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, that the consent calendar items G-1 through G-7 be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Costa, Hernandez, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason].

**Personnel (G-1)**

Appointments, leaves of absence, separations and job description/salary range change – approved as submitted.

**Purchasing Report (G-2)**

Change orders, construction and public works bids/contracts, piggyback contracts and zero dollar contracts – approved as submitted.

**Business/Financial Report (G-3)**

Notices of Completion – approved as submitted.

**Gifts (G-4)**

Acceptance of gift to Bella Vista High School.

**Surplus Property Report (G-5)**

Approval to dispose of surplus property pursuant to Board Policy 3270 and Education Code sections 17545 and 17546.

**Short-Term LCAP Analyst Position (G-6)**

Approval of a short-term Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Analyst position from 04/10/2024 until 07/05/2024.

**Extension of Short-Term Nutrition Services Supervisor III Position (G-7)**

Approval to extend the short-term Nutrition Services Supervisor III position in Nutrition Services until 05/07/2024.

**Universal Prekindergarten Update (I-1)**

Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education and Programs Amberlee Townsend-Snider and Director of Elementary/K-8 Cassandra Bennett Porter gave a presentation on the current progress for Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) in alignment with state legislation. Ms. Townsend-Snider presented the five focus areas for planning: vision and coherence; community engagement and partnerships; workforce recruitment and professional learning; curriculum, instruction and assessment; and facilities, services and operations. Ms. Bennett Porter elaborated on the five focus areas, reported on the progress that has been made in each area, and discussed new opportunities.

Ms. Creason expressed concerns with the limitations of the legislation and funding. Ms. Townsend-Snider spoke about the braiding of funds using the ongoing ELO-P funds. Executive Director of Labor Relations and Government Affairs Daniel Thigpen shared that the district continues to have ongoing conversations with other districts across the state about the successes and challenges of implementing the legislation. Mr. Avey praised the TK program and made comments related to the credentialing challenges, the implementation schedule and an opportunity to revisit enrollment procedures. Mr. Hernandez commended LeGette Elementary School on its TK/Kindergarten model. Ms. Costa made comments about the credential requirements and playgrounds, expressing excitement about the rollout taking place. Ms. Bennett Porter noted that future TK programs will be added as space and enrollment allow.

#### **Choices Charter School On-going Salary Schedule Adjustment (I-2)**

Director of Admissions and Family Services Brian Ginter presented the item for discussion. There being no questions from the board, action was scheduled for April 23.

#### **2024 Level I Developer Fee Justification Study (I-3)**

Chief Operations Officer Frank Camarda gave a presentation and explained that SchoolWorks Inc. was retained by the district to prepare a Developer Fee Justification Study which identified that the district met the nexus tests necessary to levy the current State of California maximum developer fee rates. Board members made comments.

It was moved by Ms. Villescaz, seconded by Mr. Avey, to adopt Resolution No. 4125 accepting the 2024 Level I Developer Fee Justification Study. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Costa, Hernandez, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason].

#### **Public Hearing: Increase in District's Statutory Developer Fees (I-4)**

Mr. Camarda presented a proposal for an increase in the district's statutory developer fees. Mr. Camarda explained that SchoolWorks Inc. was retained by the district to prepare a Developer Fee Justification Study which identified that the district met the nexus tests necessary to levy the current State of California maximum developer fee rates of \$5.17 per square foot on residential development; \$0.84 per square foot on commercial/industrial development; and \$0.05 per square foot for rental self-storage. Ms. Costa declared the increase in statutory developer fees a public hearing and invited the public to speak. There being no comments or questions from the public, Ms. Costa declared the public hearing closed. Ms. Kravchuk asked questions about the developer fees, which Mr. Camarda addressed.

It was moved by Ms. Creason, seconded by Ms. Villescaz, to adopt Resolution No. 4126 updating the district's statutory developer fees pursuant to Education Code section 17620 and declaring the change in fees as exempt from the provisions of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Costa, Hernandez, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason].<sup>100</sup>

#### **Non-Permitted Use of Facilities (I-5)**

Mr. Camarda gave a presentation regarding the non-permitted facilities use, specifically addressing the potential opening of high school tracks and fields for non-permitted use. Mr. Camarda provided historical background, sharing information about the former decentralized facility use management process, previous work of the Facilities Committee, previous discussions and actions by the Board of Education, implementation of a centralized facility use program, revenue and expenditures, comparison to surrounding school districts, and legal and claim exposure. Lozano Smith Attorney Junaid Halani spoke about the Civic Center Act, protection of public facilities and risk exposure.

#### Public Comments:

Greg Snyder, principal of Del Campo High School, provided comments on behalf of the comprehensive high school principals and athletic directors, noting that the schools oppose the non-permitted use of facilities.

Nick Bloise, chief operating officer of the Sacramento Taxpayers Association, expressed opposition to the non-permitted use of facilities, noting the additional time and money involved.

Jay Martinez expressed his concerns regarding the safety.

Frank Cockrell made comments related to the Facilities Committee recommendation and provided suggestions for community use of facilities.

Alluria Smith, a coach at Mira Loma High School, expressed opposition to allowing the non-permitted use of high school tracks and fields.

Matt Costa, a coach at Del Campo and Mesa Verde High Schools, expressed opposition to allowing the non-permitted use of high school tracks and fields.

Lindsey McDermid expressed support for shared use of school facilities and commented on student wellness.

Board members posed questions and took part in a lengthy discussion on the topic. Mr. Perez shared his experiences as a parks volunteer, noting that a change in policy could create an unsafe environment for students and additional work for staff. Mr. Avey said that the district's permitted use process works for organized activities, sharing that he sees an opportunity to create space for student use outside that process. Chief of Staff Trent Allen shared additional information regarding the reported vandalism losses. Mr. Avey referenced Folsom-Cordova Unified School District's board policy 1000 and asked clarifying questions regarding the Use of Facilities Handbook and the Facilities Committee recommendation, which Mr. Camarda addressed. Ms. Creason made comments regarding the community use of tracks and fields, student access to facilities and the function of the Facilities Committee. Ms. Villescaz spoke about the vandalism information and expressed support for the current permitted use of facilities process. Mr. Hernandez thanked the Facilities Committee for its work, and he spoke about risk versus benefit. Ms. Kravchuk inquired about the proximity of school sites to parks or nature spaces, she noted that an overwhelming number of site administrators that she has talked to feel that the non-permitted use of schools is too risky, and she also spoke about student wellness and the need to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars. Ms. Costa shared her experiences cleaning up campuses as a former principal, and she spoke about community use of parks for outdoor sports, risk versus benefit and the work of the Facilities Committee. Mr. Avey suggested further exploration of Folsom-Cordova Unified School District's policy on community use of fields, while other board members indicated a preference to suspend consideration of the item. After further board discussion, the board gave direction to Superintendent Bassanelli to not proceed with the exploration of the non-permitted use of facilities, but to explore ways to advocate for space in different ways and to strengthen relationships with district committees.

The board recessed from 9:22 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

#### **Board Governance Handbook (I-6)**

Mr. Allen presented proposed edits to the Board Governance Handbook for discussion. Ms. Kravchuk inquired about the equity wording, which Mr. Allen addressed. Action was scheduled for April 23.

#### **Williams Complaint Report (I-7)**

Mr. Allen presented the item explaining that the district must report on the status of Williams-type complaints filed with the district per Education Code section 35186(d), which requires each school district to publicly report, on a quarterly basis, summarized data on the nature and resolution of all Williams-type complaints. Mr. Allen stated that, during the time period from January through March 2024, there were no Williams-type complaints filed.

#### **Employment Contract Amendment (I-8)**

It was moved by Mr. Perez, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, to approve the employment contract for Interim Deputy Superintendent of Schools and Student Support Amy Slavensky. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Costa, Hernandez, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason].

#### **Proposed Board Meeting Dates for 2024-2025 (I-9)**

It was moved by Ms. Villescaz, seconded by Ms. Kravchuk, to approve the 2024-2025 board meeting dates as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Costa, Hernandez, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason].

#### **Board Reports (J)**

Ms. Kravchuk reported that she attended the Special Education Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting, and she encouraged attendance at the You Light the Way event tomorrow night.

Ms. Creason reported that she attended several school site visits, San Juan Sings, the District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) meeting and the San Juan Education Foundation (SJEF) meeting.

Mr. Avey reported that he attended the Bella Vista High School and Carnegie Middle School band concert, noting the collaboration between the two schools.

Ms. Costa reported that she attended the career technical education visit at Rio Americano High School with Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra and U.S. Representative Ami Bera, where the medical assistant pathway was showcased. Additionally, Ms. Costa shared that she was able to visit the robotics and jazz band programs while she was at

Rio Americano. Lastly, Ms. Costa also reported that she, along with Ms. Kravchuk, attended the teacher of the year nominee reception.

**Future Agenda (K)**

Ms. Creason requested that an item regarding land acknowledgements be added to the future agenda, which received support from a majority of the board.

**Adjournment (L)**

At 9:46 p.m., there being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned.



Pam Costa, Board President



Melissa Bassanelli, Secretary

Approved: 04/23/2024

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