



**San Juan Unified School District**

Board of Education

3738 Walnut Avenue, Carmichael, California 95608

**Board of Education Minutes**

**June 11, 2024**

**Regular Meeting**

Board of Education

5:00 p.m.

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

The June 11 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

Ben Avey, clerk

Paula Villescaz, member

Tanya Kravchuk, member

Manuel Perez, member

Zima Creason, member

Absent:

Saul Hernandez, vice president

**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 three cases (Education Code section 48918[f]); 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); and to discuss one personnel matter – superintendent's evaluation (Government Code section 54957).

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

At 6:30 p.m., the meeting was called back to order by the president, Pam Costa, who led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes Approved (D)**

It was moved by Ms. Villescaz, seconded by Mr. Perez, that the minutes of the May 28 regular meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [AYES: Costa, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hernandez].

**Board-Appointed/District Committees (E-2)**

Kennard Harris, chair of the Curriculum, Standards, Instructional and Student Services Committee (C&S), provided an update on the work of the committee.

**Employee Organizations (E-3)**

Damon Smith, president of the San Juan Professional Educators Coalition (SJPEC), spoke about the tentative agreement between San Juan Unified and SJPEC.

**Closed Session/Expulsion Actions (E-5)**

Mr. Avey reported that the board voted unanimously to approve staff's recommendation to expel the student in case number S-37, but to hold the expulsion in abeyance. The student shall be assigned to an alternative district school and provided with a behavior contract, counseling and other course scheduling consistent with the requirement to continue to acquire course credits. The vote was unanimous. Also, Mr. Avey reported that the board voted unanimously to accept as written two stipulated suspended expulsions in case numbers S-39 and S-40.

In addition, Mr. Avey reported that the board has completed the evaluation of Superintendent Bassanelli for the 2023-2024 school year. The board voted unanimously to give her a positive evaluation, and based upon that positive evaluation, the superintendent will receive the benefits identified in her agreement for employment as the superintendent. Subsequent to her evaluation, the board also took action in closed session to approve and ratify the superintendent's employment agreement. Mr. Avey then read the following statement in announcing the action: "As required by the Government Code, the board is required to provide a verbal summary of compensation and fringe benefits. Ms. Bassanelli's contract is effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2028, and provides for a base compensation in the amount of \$392,080 with an annual salary adjustment of 4%, plus longevity at 8%. Ms. Bassanelli will receive a car allowance of \$1,200 per month, deferred compensation in the yearly amount of \$7,625 under Internal Revenue Code section 403(b), life insurance for no more than \$1,500, and the same health and welfare benefits and retirement contributions as other district administrators."

**Visitor Comments (F)**

Caroline Digman spoke about the importance of literacy training and screening.

**Consent Calendar Approved (G-1/G-12)**

It was moved by Ms. Creason, seconded by Ms. Kravchuk, that the consent calendar items G-1 through G-12 be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [AYES: Costa, Avey, Villescasc, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hernandez].

**Personnel (G-1)**

Appointments, leaves of absence and separations – approved as submitted.

**Purchasing Report (G-2)**

Purchase orders and service agreements, change orders, construction and public works bids, piggyback contract and zero dollar contract – approved as submitted.

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

Warrants and payroll – approved as submitted.

**Gifts (G-4)**

Acceptance of gifts to Andrew Carnegie Middle School, Bella Vista High School and Winston Churchill Middle School.

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

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

**CIF Superintendent's Designation of Athletic League Representatives (G-6)**

Approval of California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) superintendent's designation of athletic league representatives for the 2024-2025 school year.

**Early Childhood Education Program Self Evaluation (G-7)**

Approval of the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) and Children's Center (CCTR) Program, Program Self-Evaluation for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Resolution No. 4141: CalSHAPE Plumbing Grants (G-8)**

Adoption of Resolution No. 4141 delegating authority to approve the agreement for CalSHAPE Plumbing Grants.

**Charter School Memorandums of Understanding: Aspire (G-9)**

Approval of the general memorandums of understanding between San Juan Unified and Aspire Alexander Twilight College Preparatory Academy and Aspire Alexander Twilight Secondary Academy effective for a five-year term from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2029.

**Charter School Memorandum of Understanding: California Montessori Project (G-10)**

Approval of the general memorandum of understanding between San Juan Unified and California Montessori Project effective for a three-year term from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027.

**Charter School Memorandum of Understanding: Gateway International School (G-11)**

Approval of the general memorandum of understanding between San Juan Unified and Gateway International School effective for a three-year term from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027.

**Charter School Memorandum of Understanding: Visions In Education (G-12)**

Approval of the general memorandum of understanding between San Juan Unified and Visions In Education effective for a two-year term from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026.

**Public Hearing: Local Control and Accountability Plan (I-1)**

Interim Deputy Superintendent of Schools and Student Support Amy Slavensky, Ph.D., introduced Director of Continuous Improvement and LCAP Gianfranco Tornatore, Ed.D., who gave a detailed presentation on the district's Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) which included an overview of the LCAP, an update on the notable changes to the goals, actions and metrics, an overview of the budget and information regarding engagement of the LCAP Parent Advisory Committee. Ms. Costa declared the topic of the LCAP a public hearing and invited the public to speak. There being no questions or comments from the public, Ms. Costa declared the public hearing closed. Ms. Costa then invited board members to speak. Ms. Creason expressed appreciation for the educational partners and encouraged participation on district committees. Ms. Villescaz acknowledged areas of improvement and areas of concern, noting that the investments appear to adequately address the actions. Ms. Kravchuk recognized the addition of more educational partners and listening sessions, highlighted some of the notable changes and asked clarifying questions, which Dr. Tornatore addressed. Mr. Avey spoke about the input received from the LCAP Parent Advisory Committee and educational partners, the notable changes, successes and challenges, and the significance of the plan. Ms. Costa spoke about school personnel making a difference and how the strategic plan and LCAP are woven together. Action was scheduled for June 25.

**Public Hearing: Choices Charter School Local Control and Accountability Plan (I-2)**

Director of Admissions and Family Services Brian Ginter introduced Director of Choices Charter School Brent Givens who gave a presentation on the LCAP for Choices Charter School which included information on engaging educational partners; identification of key themes; goals, actions and notable changes; and a 2024-2025 budget overview of revenues and expenditures. Ms. Costa declared the topic of the Choices Charter School LCAP a public hearing and invited the public to speak. There being no questions or comments from the public, Ms. Costa declared the public hearing closed. Ms. Costa then invited board members to speak. Ms. Kravchuk acknowledged the Zoom help desk and online tutoring schedule as two of the notable changes. Ms. Costa noted the school satisfaction survey results. Action was scheduled for June 25.

**Public Hearing: Presentation of the 2024-2025 Budget (I-3)**

Chief Financial Officer Joel Ryan presented the proposed 2024-2025 budget, including staffing standards, the use of Education Protection Account (EPA) funds, and the substantiation of excess reserves (required by Senate Bill 858) for discussion. Mr. Ryan shared information about the district's revenues, including general funds, Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) funds and one-time COVID-19 funds. Mr. Ryan also discussed the district's expenditures, noting that 85 percent are allocated to salaries and benefits. Mr. Ryan explained that the district meets the requirement for 2 percent reserves, reviewed the planning factors and discussed the multi-year projections. Mr. Ryan mentioned that the 45-day revision would reflect the final COLA from the state-adopted budget as well as the recent labor agreements. Ms. Costa declared the topic of the 2024-2025 budget a public hearing and invited the public to speak. There being no questions or comments from the public, Ms. Costa declared the public hearing closed. Board members made comments and posed questions, which Mr. Ryan addressed. Action was scheduled for June 25.

**Middle School Boundary Adjustments (I-4)**

Chief Operations Officer Frank Camarda presented the item, explaining the need to adjust the middle school boundaries in the western region of the district due to an increase in enrollment. Mr. Camarda provided historical background, information about demographics and growth in the western region, and the formation and work of the middle school boundary committee. Director of Communication Raj Rai provided an overview of the two phases of outreach efforts that took place

in the spring of 2023. Mr. Camarda presented three map scenarios for consideration which would be effective for the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year, explaining that map scenario no. 3 best meets the attendance boundary goals and the criteria for map development. Mr. Ginter spoke about enrollment options and the potential impacts on families. Mr. Camarda explained next steps, which includes outreach to impacted families in fall 2024.

Visitor Comment:

Martin Ross expressed his support for open enrollment.

Board members made comments and posed questions related to the timing of the changes, the Katherine Johnson Middle School construction delay, walk distances, alternative transportation, safe routes to schools, legacy enrollment, mid-year enrollment transfers, and communication and problem-solving for the families impacted by the changes. Action was scheduled for June 25.

**Proposed Name Change for Encina Preparatory High School (I-5)**

Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education and Programs Kristan Schnepf and Encina Preparatory High School Principal Greta Scholtes gave a presentation about the proposed name change for Encina. Ms. Schnepf provided background information about the proposed name change, and Ms. Scholtes shared information about the feedback that was collected from a ThoughtExchange involving students, families and staff. Board members expressed support for the name change. Action was scheduled for June 25.

The board took a recess from 8:30 p.m. - 8:40 p.m.

**Districtwide Dress Code Revision Process (I-6)**

Ms. Schnepf introduced the topic and gave a presentation on the process for revising the districtwide dress code. Ms. Schnepf spoke about the timeline, the dress code committee process and the public review process that took place in the spring of 2024. Ms. Schnepf explained that common themes were identified and revisions were made to the dress code based on feedback, and she outlined next steps. Board members made comments and posed questions, which Ms. Schnepf addressed. Ms. Kravchuk acknowledged the thoroughness of the process, noting that the dress code addresses the community concerns she has received, and she inquired about pajama bottoms and midriff shirts. Mr. Avey spoke about the proposed revisions, consistent universal enforcement and the dress code as a minimum standard for schools. Ms. Villescaz said she was happy that the process was student-led, expressed appreciation for the gender-neutral language and inquired about hoodies. Ms. Costa said she appreciated staff listening and crafting language that captures what is reasonable for students.

**Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 5132 Dress and Grooming and Retirement of Board Policy 5132.4 School Uniforms (I-7)**

Ms. Schnepf presented the item and reviewed the proposed revisions to Board Policy 5132 Dress and Grooming, explaining that the proposed revisions are in response to the work of the dress code committee and will ensure that all school sites adhere to the districtwide dress code. Ms. Schnepf also explained that staff recommends the retirement of Board Policy 5132.4 School Uniforms. Action was scheduled for June 25.

**Public Hearing: Conveyance of Easement at Garfield Elementary School (I-8)**

Mr. Camarda presented the item. Ms. Costa declared the topic of conveying a permanent easement at Garfield Elementary School a public hearing and invited the public to speak. There being no questions or comments from the public, Ms. Costa declared the public hearing closed. It was moved by Ms. Villescaz, seconded by Mr. Avey, to adopt Resolution No. 4136, conveying one permanent easement at Garfield Elementary School to the Carmichael Water District. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [AYES: Costa, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hernandez].

**Public Hearing: Conveyance of Easement at Schweitzer Elementary School (I-9)**

Mr. Camarda presented the item. Ms. Costa declared the topic of conveying a permanent easement at Schweitzer Elementary School a public hearing and invited the public to speak. There being no questions or comments from the public, Ms. Costa declared the public hearing closed. It was moved by Ms. Creason, seconded by Mr. Perez, to adopt Resolution No. 4138, conveying one permanent easement at Schweitzer Elementary School to the Carmichael Water District. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [AYES: Costa, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hernandez].

**Public Hearing: Conveyance of Easement at Del Paso Manor Elementary School (I-10)**

Mr. Camarda presented the item. Ms. Costa declared the topic of conveying a permanent easement at Del Paso Manor Elementary School a public hearing and invited the public to speak. There being no questions or comments from the public, Ms. Costa declared the public hearing closed. It was moved by Ms. Villescaz, seconded by Ms. Creason, to adopt Resolution No. 4140, conveying one permanent easement at Del Paso Manor Elementary School to the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [AYES: Costa, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hernandez].

**Tentative Agreement: San Juan Professional Educators Coalition (I-11)**

Executive Director of Labor Relations and Government Affairs Daniel Thigpen presented the item. Ms. Villescaz acknowledged the new articles related to the work of school psychologists. It was moved by Ms. Villescaz, seconded by Ms. Creason, to approve the tentative agreement between the San Juan Professional Educators Coalition (SJPEC) and the San Juan Unified School District. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [AYES: Costa, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez; Creason; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hernandez].

**District's Initial Bargaining Proposal with Teamsters Local No. 150 (I-12)**

Mr. Thigpen presented the topic. Ms. Costa stated there were no requests for public comment. It was moved by Mr. Perez, seconded by Ms. Kravchuk, to adopt, pursuant to Government Code section 3540 et seq. and district Board Policy 4243.1, the bargaining interests of the Board of Education for negotiations with the Teamsters Union Local No. 150. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [AYES: Costa, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hernandez].

**Board Reports (J)**

Ms. Villescaz reported that she and Mr. Avey attended the Sacramento Pride Parade, and she expressed enthusiasm for the recent graduation ceremonies.

Mr. Avey shared his experiences about attending the last day of school.

**Future Agenda (K)**

No items were added to the future agenda.

**Adjournment (L)**

At 9:10 p.m., there being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned in memory of Valerie Pasdera, Mariposa Elementary School teacher, and Brett Sargent, Bella Vista High School mathematics teacher.



Pam Costa, Board President



Melissa Bassanelli, Secretary

Approved: 06/25/2024

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