



San Juan Unified School District

Board of Education

3738 Walnut Avenue, Carmichael, California 95608

**Board of Education Minutes
February 9, 2021**

Regular Meeting

Board of Education

6:30 p.m.

Open Session/Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance (A)

The February 9 regular meeting was called to order by the president, Paula Villescaz. In the interest of public health, in compliance with California Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-35-20, the California State Public Health Officer's December 3 Regional Stay At Home Order, the California State Public Health Officer's order that included social-distancing guidelines and avoiding group gatherings, the order issued by the Sacramento County Health Officer, directing all individuals to stay at home or at their residence and prohibiting all non-essential gatherings of any number and all applicable provisions of federal and state law, the February 9 regular meeting was conducted telephonically via the Zoom video conferencing platform and also streamed to YouTube. After four members of the Casa Roble Fundamental High School Air Force Jr. ROTC virtually led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Villescaz explained the two methods (electronically or on Zoom) available to submit public comments for tonight's meeting.

Roll Call

Present: (via Zoom from separate locations)

Paula Villescaz, president

Michael McKibbin, Ed.D., vice president

Zima Creason, clerk

Pam Costa, member

Saul Hernandez, member

Minutes Approved (B)

It was moved by Ms. Costa, seconded by Ms. Creason, that the minutes of the January 26 regular meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

High School Student Council Reports (C-1)

High School Student Council representatives Sariah Matthews from El Camino Fundamental High School and Andrea Galvan-Duenas from Encina Preparatory High School updated the board on the goals, activities and achievements at their respective schools.

Staff Reports (C-2)

Superintendent Kern provided an update on a variety of facets related to COVID-19 including recent guideline changes, labor group agreements, vaccines, athletics and graduation. Board members made comments and posed questions, which Superintendent Kern addressed.

Visitor Comments (D)

[via Zoom]:

Miss Alicia Nichols spoke about the income inequities of certificated and classified employees.

Marina Gabel led a chant to open schools now.

Ben Avey made comments about reopening schools to in-person learning.

Lance Christensen spoke about the experiences that students have missed out on during distance learning and expressed support for resuming in-person learning.

Steve Centerwall stated that parents need an advocate and he expressed support for reopening negotiations with the teachers union.

Garrett McDermid made comments about the need to return to in-person learning.

Tracy F. shared data that she collected and asked that the information be used when making decisions about how to protect kids.

Warda Ali spoke about mental health resources.

Christina Aguilar spoke about the importance of mental health resources.

Ashleigh Ford shared information about her children's experiences with distance learning and spoke in favor of returning to in-person learning.

Truman Stockett spoke about the challenges with distance learning.

Spencer Stockett shared information about what he misses about school.

Abigail Stockett made comments about how distance learning has impacted her life.

Logan Stockett expressed support for in-person learning.

Caden Stockett spoke about the challenges of distance learning.

Amy Stockett spoke about the consequences of too much computer time and she expressed support for returning to in-person learning.

John Stockett spoke regarding mental health challenges due to distance learning.

After hearing 30 minutes of public comment, the board agreed to hear comments from the remaining speakers who had their hand raised on Zoom.

Zac Erickson spoke about the historical implications of not reopening schools.

Michael Sayers made comments about the need to return to in-person learning.

Sabrina Bernardo expressed support for reopening schools as quickly as possible.

Kevin Jones made comments about the growing divide between teachers and parents.

Leah Hutchings shared her experiences with distance learning and expressed support for reopening schools.

Carrie Hutchings expressed support for reopening schools to in-person learning.

Consent Calendar Approved (E-2/E-5)

Superintendent Kern requested that item E-1 be pulled.

It was moved by Dr. McKibbin, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, that the consent calendar items E-2 through E-5 be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

Purchasing Report (E-2)

Purchase orders and service agreements, change orders, construction and public works bids and piggyback contracts — approved as submitted.

Gifts (E-3)

Acceptance of gifts to Family and Community Engagement and Howe Avenue Elementary School.

Disposal of Surplus Property (E-4)

Approval to dispose of surplus property pursuant to board policy 3270 and Education Code sections 17545 and 17546.

Annual Policy Review (E-5)

Approval of the following board policies (BP) as required by state and local law (annual policy review): BP 3430 Investing and Debt Management; BP 5116.1 Intradistrict Open Enrollment; BP 6020 Parent Involvement; and BP 6145 Extracurricular/Cocurricular Activities. (Discussed: 01/26/2021)

Consent Calendar Continued (E-1 continued) (F)**Personnel - appointments, separations and job description/salary range change (E-1)**

Superintendent Kern requested that employee discipline number CL-500 be removed from the personnel pages. It was moved by Ms. Costa, seconded by Ms. Creason, that the consent calendar item E-1 be approved as amended. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

Learning Status Update (G-1)

Teaching and Learning staff provided a comprehensive mid-year update on student academic progress and the actions the district is taking to respond to student need. Deputy Superintendent of Schools and Student Support Melissa Bassanelli provided an overview of the process that took place in the fall to create workgroups in order to study the quantitative and qualitative data and build comprehensive support systems for students, staff and families. Ms. Bassanelli explained that the workgroups continue to solicit feedback, review data and adjust the actions using the cycle of inquiry. Director of Assessment, Evaluation and Planning Susan Green shared quantitative data related to attendance and grades and she discussed the connection findings between the two. Each school division leader then shared information about their respective school level related to lessons learned from Fall 2020. Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education Rick Messer spoke about high school, Assistant Superintendent of Middle Schools and Labor Relations Jim Shoemake spoke about middle schools and Senior Director of Elementary Education Amberlee Townsend-Snider spoke about elementary schools. Vice Principal of Thomas Edison K-8 Language Institute Jamal Hicks shared information about a grant-funded project called W.E.S.T. (West End Support and Technology). Mr. Hicks discussed the purpose, outcomes and components of W.E.S.T. and provided a list of schools benefitting from the focused services. Darryl Jenkins, 100 Black Men of Sacramento board member, spoke about the work of the mentoring organization and its partnership with W.E.S.T.

Public Comments: [via Zoom]

Ben Avey made comments about parent engagement and he inquired about underperforming student groups.

Katie Reid inquired about how student groups are performing compared to other districts and she also inquired about the attendance and grades statistics that were presented.

Karen Mark made comments regarding the Rapid Learner and International Baccalaureate programs.

Miss Alicia Nichols thanked Mr. Hicks for offering families additional technology support.

NSayers72 made comments regarding the budget, child abuse reporting rates and data regarding grades and absences.

Mr. Hernandez expressed appreciation for the work that is taking place. Ms. Costa said that she had the opportunity to hear the presentation at the Curriculum and Standards meeting last week and thanked Mr. Hicks and Mr. Jenkins for their contributions, and she also shared that she had the opportunity to speak with several principals about the work that is taking place. Ms. Creason made comments related to data, tutoring, and unions, and she inquired about attendance guidelines and learning loss strategies; Ms. Creason also acknowledged the work of Mr. Hicks and the W.E.S.T. project. Dr. McKibbin inquired about CareSolace statistics, student assignments, materials pick up, grading and the W.E.S.T. project, which staff addressed, and he expressed interest in attending the middle school lunch bunch event. Ms. Villescaz echoed the previous comments about the work that is being done and thanked the team for the presentation.

PARS Supplementary Retirement Plan (G-2)

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Paul Oropallo presented the topic. Superintendent Kern explained that, if approved, the plan would allow for significant financial savings to the district as well as potentially minimize the number of positions on the forthcoming layoff list.

Public Comment: [via Zoom]

Krissie Jones spoke about the rules related to picking up materials at schools.

It was moved by Dr. McKibbin, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, to adopt Resolution No. 3022 approving the Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS) supplementary retirement plan and accept the resignation of 223 employees who enrolled into the plan. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

Board Reports (H)

Mr. Hernandez expressed appreciation for including a COVID-19 update at the next board meeting.

Ms. Creason shared that she has spent time speaking with parents over the past week and she gave a shout out to Kimber Rice for bringing the Universal Design for Learning to her attention.

Future Agenda (I)

There were no items added to the future agenda.

Visitor Comments (J)

[via Zoom]:

Katie Reid made comments regarding the lack of effort being made to return to in-person learning.

Miss Alicia Nichols made comments regarding the mental health of staff and students.

Judith Karnesky Stevens shared information regarding her daughter's attendance and inquired about the reopening plan.

Sunny Darling conveyed her disappointment with distance learning and expressed the need for choice.

David Barrie expressed support for remaining in distance learning until staff is vaccinated.

Adjournment (K)

At 10:11 p.m., there being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned.



Paula Villescaz, President



Kent Kern, Executive Secretary

Approved: 02/23/2021

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