



San Juan Unified School District

Board of Education

3738 Walnut Avenue, Carmichael, California 95608

**Board of Education Minutes
February 23, 2021**

Regular Meeting

Board of Education

5:15 p.m.

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

The February 23 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 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 23 regular meeting was conducted telephonically via the Zoom video conferencing platform and also streamed to YouTube.

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

Visitor Comments: Closed Session (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 discuss one personnel matter (education code 44929.21b) non-reelection of one probationary teacher and to conference with legal counsel – existing litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1). Name of Case: Magali Kincaid, Benito Juarez Neighborhood Association, Neighborhood Elections Now, Juan Yniguez, Carolina Flores, Damaris Canton v. San Juan Unified School District, Complaint for Violation of the California Voting Rights Act and in the Alternative, For Violation of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the California Constitution, Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 34-2020-00286475.

Reconvene Open Session/Pledge of Allegiance (C)

At 6:30 p.m. the meeting was called back to order by the president Paula Villescaz. Four members of the Del Campo High School Air Force Jr. ROTC virtually led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Villescaz explained the two methods (electronically or on Zoom) available to submit public comments for tonight's meeting.

Minutes Approved (D)

It was moved by Dr. McKibbin, seconded by Ms. Creason, that the minutes of the February 9 regular meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

Recognition: Arts Education Month (E-1a)

It was moved by Ms. Costa, seconded by Dr. McKibbin, to adopt Resolution No. A-399 recognizing the month of March as Arts Education Month. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

High School Student Council Reports (E-2)

High School Student Council representatives Reem Saleem from Mira Loma High School and Kaylee Gibbs from Casa Roble Fundamental High School updated the board on the goals, activities and achievements at their respective schools.

Board-appointed/District Committees (E-4)

Local Control and Accountability Plan Parent Advisory Committee (LCAP PAC) chair Tom Nelson updated the board on the recent work of the committee.

Employee Organizations (E-5)

SJTA President Bill Simmons spoke regarding distance learning and the return to in-person learning.

Closed Session/Expulsion Actions (E-7)

Ms. Creason reported that the board voted unanimously to non-reelect one probationary teacher, employee ID 578337.

Visitor Comments (F)

[via Zoom]:

Carolina Flores made comments about Encina Preparatory High School, single district elections and increasing the board to seven members.

Scott Rafferty spoke about the need for trustee area elections.

Ben Avey spoke about student learning loss.

Magali Kincaid made comments about neighborhood elections and increasing the board to seven members.

JK spoke about schools being closed and attendance concerns.

Juan Yniguez spoke in support of neighborhood elections.

Cindy Chuck made comments about Casa Roble Fundamental High School and expressed support for in-person learning.

Mario Galvan spoke in support of increasing the school board from five to seven members and neighborhood elections.

Amy Kassouni expressed support for the California Voting Rights Act and reopening schools for in-person instruction.

Call-In User 1 commented about board members receiving the vaccine.

Austin Schlocker spoke in support of neighborhood elections and changing to a seven-member board.

Keri Wanner spoke about comments that were posted on FaceBook, school rallies and board member resignation.

Marina Gabel led a chant to open schools now.

Brett Ewart spoke about recent protests and thanked teachers and the board for their work.

Ana Reilly acknowledged the work of teachers during the pandemic.

Scatha Allison inquired about the status of the COVID-19 safety plan.

Mrs. D made comments related to distance learning.

Christa Green thanked San Juan staff for their work during the pandemic.

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

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

Personnel (G-1)

Appointments and separations – approved as submitted.

Purchasing Report (G-2)

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

Business/Financial Report (G-3)

Quarterly investment report – approved as submitted.

Gifts (G-4)

Acceptance of gifts to Family and Community Engagement and Grand Oaks Elementary School.

Disposal of Surplus Property (G-5)

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

Consolidated Application, Winter Report 2021 (G-6)

Approval to submit the Consolidated Application, Winter Report 2021 (Part II) to the California Department of Education and State Board of Education.

Resolution No. 3028: San Juan High School Lease Amendment for Gymnasiums Upgrades (G-7)

Adoption of Resolution No. 3028, approving the second amendment to the lease agreement for the San Juan High School HVAC and roofing upgrades for gymnasiums project no. 204-9390-P1 between SJUSD and Clark & Sullivan Builders Inc. dba Clark/Sullivan Construction.

COVID-19 Update (I-1)

Superintendent Kern introduced Senior Director of Community Relations Trent Allen who provided an extensive update on the district's COVID-19 safety plans and reopening status. Mr. Allen presented information regarding the latest federal and state health guidelines, noting the areas of agreement and areas of differentiation. Mr. Allen also shared details about the required COVID-19 Safety Plan, including the requirements and timeline. Additionally, Mr. Allen provided an update on athletics and vaccinations for employees. Superintendent Kern commented on the ongoing conversations that are taking place with labor groups.

After the presentation, board members made comments and posed questions, which staff addressed. Mr. Hernandez inquired about when the return to in-person learning might actually be possible. Ms. Costa asked questions related to the side letter agreements and negotiations, testing of students, and social distancing at schools. Ms. Creason asked clarifying questions about the safety plans and reopening in the purple tier versus the red tier, and she also expressed concern about the rifts she is hearing about between teachers and parents. Dr. McKibbin thanked the volunteers at the vaccine clinic last weekend and teachers for their work, and he inquired about classroom preparations, learning options, social emotional wellness and contingency plans. Ms. Villescaz shared information about the evolution of the guidelines and made comments about creating a safety plan.

Public Comments: [via Zoom]

Anmarie Medin spoke about the need to keep parents informed.

Ben Avey made comments about the challenges of distance learning.

L Wohlford thanked SJTA and the district for allowing teachers to remain in distance learning until it is safe to return.

S.A. spoke about a lack of transparency.

Lani Williams asked clarifying questions regarding testing of students and expressed support for teachers.

Ehren Bass expressed support for reopening schools to in-person learning.

Greg Russell expressed support for reopening schools to in-person learning.

Shelly Melgoza expressed the desire for guidance regarding outdoor classrooms, including the need for hand sanitizing stations.

Ken Firl shared information about the importance of balancing the risks of in-person versus distance learning.

Zac Erickson expressed support for moving forward with the return to in-person learning.

Kristen Sorabji shared information about the challenges of distance learning.

Keri Wanner expressed support for returning to in-person learning.

Dexter Morris shared information about why students should return to in-person learning.

Tracy F made comments related to high school sports.

Kesley Dixon supports returning to in-person learning.

Caroline Castaneda expressed support for implementing a plan that focuses on safety.

Amy Stockett thanked those who are working to return to in-person learning and she commented on high school sports.

Christa Green acknowledged the classified staff who has been working tirelessly during this school year.

Sabrina Bernardo supports putting an actual date on the return to in-person learning.

After public comment, board discussion continued. The board shared its support for the district being able to offer an in-person learning option for all students prior to spring break, which is dependent on safety plan updates and local health metrics. Individual board members asked the superintendent to work to identify a specific date in conversations with labor groups. Additionally, the board asked the district to identify a date to return K-6 grade levels while in the purple tier, if the red tier is not reached prior to spring break.

Public Hearing No. 2: Gateway International Charter School Renewal Petition (I-2)

Director of Admissions and Family Services Michele Flagler reported that the district's charter review team thoroughly studied the Gateway International charter school renewal petition, and Gateway International has provided all necessary information, additions and/or changes as requested during the review process. Ms. Flagler also stated the Gateway International charter school renewal petition presented to the Board of Education is in compliance with education code.

Ms. Villescaz declared the topic of the Gateway International charter school renewal petition a public hearing. There being no comments, the public hearing was closed. It was moved by Dr. McKibbin, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, to approve the Gateway International charter school renewal petition for a term of five years from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

Public Hearing No. 1: California Montessori Project San Juan Campuses Charter School Renewal Petition (I-3)

Ms. Flagler introduced staff members from the California Montessori Project San Juan campuses who gave a presentation regarding the charter school renewal petition. After the presentation, Ms. Villescaz declared the topic of the California Montessori Project San Juan Campuses charter school renewal petition a public hearing and invited the public to speak.

Public Comments: [via Zoom]

S.A. expressed support for renewing the California Montessori Project charter school renewal petition.

Caroline Castaneda shared information about her positive experiences with California Montessori Project.

There being no further questions or comments from the public, Ms. Villescaz declared the public hearing closed and invited board members to speak. There being no questions or comments from the board, action was scheduled for April 13.

Recommendation for Reduction in Particular Kinds of Services (TK-12 Certificated) (I-4)

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Paul Oropallo explained a resolution is required by the California Education Code to provide advanced notice to TK-12 certificated employees by March 15 for reducing or discontinuing particular kinds of services (PKS). Mr. Oropallo further explained that an additional resolution establishes criteria to apply to break a tie seniority for certificated staff affected by program reductions and who have the same date of hire. Action was scheduled for March 9.

Recommendation for Reduction in Particular Kinds of Services (Adult Education) (I-5)

Mr. Oropallo explained a resolution is required by the California Education Code to provide advanced notice to adult education certificated employees by March 15 for reducing or discontinuing particular kinds of services (PKS). Mr. Oropallo further explained that an additional resolution establishes criteria to apply to break a tie seniority for certificated staff affected by program reductions and who have the same date of hire. Action was scheduled for March 9.

Notice of Intent to Reduce Classified Positions (I-6)

Mr. Oropallo explained that a resolution is necessary to address the statutory process for reducing or eliminating certain classified positions, effective June 30, 2021, due to lack of work and/or lack of funds. Action was scheduled for March 9.

Variable Term Waiver (I-7)

Mr. Oropallo presented the topic. It was moved by Dr. McKibbin, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, to approve the submission of one Variable Term Waiver to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

Assignment of Teachers Outside Regular Base Credential (I-8)

Mr. Oropallo presented the topic explaining that an amended resolution is needed due to recent audit results. It was moved by Ms. Costa, seconded by Dr. McKibbin, to adopt Resolution No. 3011 as amended authorizing the assignment of certificated employees to areas outside their authorized credential during the 2020-2021 school year per Education Code sections 44256(b), 44258.2, 44263 and 44865. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly Election (I-9)

The board may wish to cast a vote for no more than five (5) candidates for subregion 6-B of the CSBA Delegate Assembly. There were no nominations for a write-in candidate. It was moved by Dr. McKibbin, seconded by Ms. Costa, to approve the nomination of Kelly Kelley (Center Joint USD), Lisa Kaplan (Natomas USD), Chinua Rhodes (Sacramento City USD) and Ed Short (Folsom Cordova USD). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

Board Reports (J)

Ms. Costa complimented staff on the vaccine clinic that was held last weekend at Del Campo High School.

Dr. McKibbin praised special education staff for having monthly special education meetings with parents.

Future Agenda (K)

Mr. Hernandez requested another COVID-19 update at the March 9 board meeting.

Visitor Comments (L)

[via Zoom]:

Kevin Jones requested a COVID-19 update at the next board meeting.

S.A. complimented the board and staff on their efforts.

Tenille Stewart spoke about in-person learning, special education services and touchscreen devices.

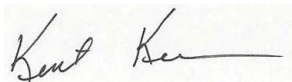
Scatha Allison expressed appreciation for the details of the safety plan.

Adjournment (M)

At 11:29 p.m., there being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned.



Paula Villescaz, President



Kent Kern, Executive Secretary

Approved: 03/09/2021

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