



San Juan Unified School District

Board of Education

3738 Walnut Avenue, Carmichael, California 95608

**Board of Education Minutes
February 13, 2024**

Regular Meeting

Board of Education

5:45 p.m.

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

The February 13 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 (*via teleconference*)

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 a student enrollment in one case and a student expulsion in one case (Education Code section 48918[f]); and to discuss 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 Del Campo High School Air Force Jr. ROTC led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes Approved (D-1, D-2)

It was moved by Ms. Kravchuk, seconded by Ms. Villescaz, that the minutes of the January 20 special meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED 6-0 [AYES: Costa, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hernandez].

It was moved by Ms. Creason, seconded by Mr. Perez, that the minutes of the January 23 regular meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED 6-0 [AYES: Costa, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hernandez].

High School Student Council Reports (E-1)

High School Student Council representatives Zubin Tagore and Danica Piper from San Juan High School and AJ Rodriguez and Jason Perry from Encina Preparatory High School updated the board on the goals, activities and achievements at their respective schools.

Staff Reports (E-2)

Superintendent Bassanelli introduced and welcomed new Chief Financial Officer Joel Ryan.

Board-appointed/District Committees (E-3)

Melinda Avey, chair of the Facilities Committee, and Lupita Alcala, assistant chair of the Facilities Committee, provided an update on the committee's work regarding the non-permitted community use of high school track and fields, which included a recommendation. Board members made comments, posed questions and thanked Ms. Avey and Ms. Alcala for their year-long efforts on this topic.

Closed Session/Expulsion Actions (E-6)

Mr. Avey reported that the board voted unanimously to accept a hearing panel's recommendation of one denied enrollment in case number OS-21 and to accept as written one stipulated suspended expulsion in case number M-17.

Visitor Comments (F)

Marsha Hesch expressed concerns about systemic and illegal issues in the district that deny special education students their civil rights.

Benjamin Hesch continued the previous speaker's comments about special education.

Ashley Freer expressed opposition to opening the high school track and fields to the community.

Cerissa Brown spoke about her daughter's experiences in fourth grade.

Ken Press expressed support for opening high school track and fields to the community.

Consent Calendar Approved (G-1/G-10)

Ms. Costa pulled items G-11 through G-21. It was moved by Ms. Creason, seconded by Ms. Kravchuk, that the consent calendar items G-1 through G-10 be approved. MOTION CARRIED 6-0 [AYES: Costa, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hernandez].

Personnel (G-1) - Appointments, leaves of absence, separations and job descriptions/salary range change – approved as submitted.

Purchasing Report (G-2)

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

Business/Financial Report (G-3)

Notices of completion – approved as submitted.

Gifts (G-4)

Acceptance of gifts to Mesa Verde High School, Starr King K-8 School, Visual and Performing Arts and White House Counseling Center.

Surplus Property Report (G-5)

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

Proposed Name Change to Arcade Fundamental Middle School (G-6)

Approval to change the name of Arcade Fundamental Middle School to Arcade Middle School. (Discussed: 01/23/2024).

Resolution No. 4114: Emergency Contracting (G-7)

Adoption of Resolution No. 4114 authorizing emergency contracting.

Resolution No. 4115: Power to Contract (G-8)

Adoption of Resolution No. 4115 authorizing power to contract on behalf of San Juan Unified School District.

2023-2024 Retiree Salary Schedule (G-9)

Approval of the Retiree Salary Schedule for the 2023-2024 school year.

Curriculum, Standards, Instructional and Student Services Committee Membership (G-10)

Ratification of Kelsey Nelson as a committee member to the Curriculum, Standards, Instructional and Student Services (C&S) Committee.

Consent Calendar Continued (H) (G-11 through G-21)**CEQA Notice of Exemption Arlington Heights Elementary School (G-11)**

Approval of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption for the Arlington Heights Elementary School site security project.

CEQA Notice of Exemption Del Campo High School (G-12)

Approval of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption for the Del Campo High School site security project.

CEQA Notice of Exemption Howe Avenue Elementary School (G-13)

Approval of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption for the Howe Avenue Elementary School site security project.

CEQA Notice of Exemption Kingswood K-8 School (G-14)

Approval of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption for the Kingswood K-8 School site security project.

CEQA Notice of Exemption Lichen K-8 School (G-15)

Approval of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption for the Lichen K-8 School site security project.

CEQA Notice of Exemption Mesa Verde High School (G-16)

Approval of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption for the Mesa Verde High School site security project.

CEQA Notice of Exemption Orangevale Open K-8 School (G-17)

Approval of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption for the Orangevale Open K-8 School site security project.

CEQA Notice of Exemption Schweitzer Elementary School (G-18)

Approval of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption for the Schweitzer Elementary School site security project.

CEQA Notice of Exemption Sierra Oaks K-8 School (G-19)

Approval of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption for the Sierra Oaks K-8 School site security project.

CEQA Notice of Exemption Will Rogers Middle School (G-20)

Approval of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption for the Will Rogers Middle School site security project.

CEQA Notice of Exemption Winston Churchill Middle School (G-21)

Approval of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption for the Winston Churchill Middle School site security project.

Ms. Costa commended Chief Operations Officer Frank Camarda and the facilities team for their efforts in bringing the school site security projects to fruition. It was moved by Ms. Villescaz, seconded by Ms. Kravchuk, that the consent calendar

items G-11 through G-21 be approved. MOTION CARRIED 6-0 [AYES: Costa, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk, Perez, Creason; NOES: None; ABSENT: Hernandez].

Strategic Planning Update (I-1)

Chief of Staff Trent Allen introduced the topic and Director of Family Engagement and Partnership Development Amy Rovai Gregory and Center for Effective School Operations (CESO) Senior Communications Strategist Susan Brott who gave a presentation on the development of the district's new strategic plan, which will serve as a roadmap to prioritize efforts, align resources and guide the work of the district for the next five years. Ms. Brott provided background information, explaining that the strategic plan development process began last fall and has included a wide-range of voice collection across the district with a variety of students, families, staff and community. Ms. Rovai Gregory shared information about the community engagement process, activities and participants, which included community workshops, virtual and in-person focus groups, student feedback forums, lunchtime popups at schools, surveys, and individual interviews to hear responses to the engagement focus question. Ms. Brott discussed the key themes and findings from the community engagement process. Ms. Brott and Ms. Rovai Gregory then spoke about the work of the Strategic Core Planning team and the Strategic Design team, which included reviewing the feedback that was collected through the community engagement process and begin drafting the strategic roadmap. Ms. Brott discussed next steps, which includes additional community engagement, plan refinement and plan adoption. Board members made comments and posed questions, which Ms. Brott and Ms. Rovai Gregory addressed. Ms. Creason spoke about prioritizing the district's efforts and engaging with a diverse array of stakeholders, and she inquired about the four priority actions. Ms. Villescaz made comments about safety, which was a common word in the ThoughtExchange. Ms. Kravchuk suggested gathering input from district committee members, which Ms. Rovai Gregory said was scheduled for March. Ms. Costa encouraged more input from young learners such as preschoolers and transitional kindergarten students, as well as traditional K-5 elementary students and traditional 6-8 middle school students.

Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Mid-Year Update (I-2)

Interim Deputy Superintendent of Schools and Student Support Amy Slavensky, Ph.D. introduced the topic and Director of Continuous Improvement and LCAP Gianfranco Tornatore, Ed.D. who provided a mid-year update on the LCAP, which included an overview of the LCAP, community engagement, metrics and data, and budget. Dr. Tornatore began by providing background information about the development of the 2021-2024 LCAP, which is currently in year three of the three-year cycle, including details about the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), the eight state priority areas, LCAP goals and continuous improvement. Dr. Tornatore also spoke about the educational partnership engagement strategy that took place with the community to help inform the LCAP, noting the increase in the number of groups and participants this year. Dr. Tornatore then discussed LCAP actions, expenditures, metrics, and data, which included information about types of data and the California School Dashboard, noting that the district did not qualify for differentiated assistance for 2023 due to improved student outcomes. Dr. Tornatore concluded by discussing areas to celebrate and areas for growth, providing a budget overview and outlining next steps. Board members made comments and posed questions, which Dr. Tornatore addressed. Ms. Villescaz inquired about underspending and redirecting budget allocations, which Dr. Tornatore explained that many actions are encumbered but not spent, some actions will be expended later in the school year and staffing shortages still remain an issue. Ms. Kravchuk made comments regarding differentiated assistance and the Dashboard results, and she inquired about test scores for the Asian student group. Ms. Costa commented on the increase in the number of partnerships, acknowledging that there is still work to do but noting that the district has come a long way with engagement. Superintendent Bassanelli thanked the Teaching and Learning team for their efforts.

Choices Charter School Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Mid-Year Update (I-3)

Director of Admissions and Family Services Brian Ginter introduced Choices Charter School Director Brent Givens who gave a mid-year update on the Choices Charter School LCAP, which included an overview of the LCAP, 2023-2024 mid-year data and a budget overview of funding sources. Mr. Givens also highlighted areas of success and growth for Choices Charter School. Ms. Kravchuk asked a clarifying question about the data, which Mr. Givens addressed. Ms. Costa acknowledged the positive outcomes related to safety and anxiety.

Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 0410 Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities (I-4)

General Counsel Fhanysha Gaddis presented the proposed revisions to Board Policy 0410 Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities and the new accompanying exhibit. Action was scheduled for February 27.

Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 1312.2 Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials (I-5)

Ms. Gaddis presented the proposed revisions to Board Policy 1312.2 Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials and the new accompanying exhibit. Action was scheduled for February 27

Recommendation for Reduction in Particular Kinds of Services (TK-12 Certificated) (I-6)

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Rebecca Toto, Ed.D., 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). Dr. Toto 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. Board members made comments and posed questions, which Dr. Toto addressed. Action was scheduled for February 27.

Recommendation for Reduction in Particular Kinds of Services (Early Childhood Education) (I-7)

Dr. Toto explained a resolution is required by the California Education Code to provide advanced notice to early childhood education certificated employees by March 15 for reducing or discontinuing particular kinds of services (PKS). Dr. Toto 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 February 27.

Recommendation for Reduction in Particular Kinds of Services (Adult Education) (I-8)

Dr. Toto 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). Dr. Toto 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 February 27.

Notice of Intent to Reduce or Discontinue Certain Classified Positions (I-9)

Dr. Toto explained that a resolution is necessary to address the statutory process for reducing or discontinuing certain classified positions, effective June 30, 2024, due to lack of work and/or lack of funds. Board members made comments and posed questions, which Dr. Toro and Superintendent Bassanelli addressed. Action was scheduled for February 27.

Board Reports (J)

Mr. Avey reported that he attended the winter equity summit, expressing his appreciation to staff for their efforts and for the smaller group setting.

Ms. Creason spoke about a recent site visit where she took part in an impactful hands-on disability awareness programs for students, expressing kudos to staff for their hard work in promoting the inclusion of special needs students.

Ms. Costa shared information about last month's meeting of the San Juan Education Foundation (SJEF), the district's equity summit and the Sacramento School Boards Association (SCSBA) dinner meeting featuring a speaker who talked about Artificial Intelligence (AI). Ms. Costa also thanked Ms. Kravchuk for attending the recent Curriculum, Standards, Instructional and Student Services (C&S) committee meeting as the alternate.

Future Agenda (K)

Mr. Avey requested that an item regarding non-permitted use of facilities be added to the future agenda, which received support from a majority of the board.

Adjournment (L)

At 9:07 p.m., there being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned.

Saul Hernandez for

Pam Costa, Board President

Melissa Bassanelli

Melissa Bassanelli, Secretary

Approved: 02/27/2024

:sc