



San Juan Unified School District

Board of Education

3738 Walnut Avenue, Carmichael, California 95608

**Board of Education Minutes
October 24, 2023**

Regular Meeting

Board of Education

6:00 p.m.

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

The October 24 regular meeting was called to order by the vice president, Pam Costa. The board meeting was held in person and was also streamed to the district's YouTube channel.

Roll Call

Present:

Zima Creason, president (*via teleconference*)

Pam Costa, vice president

Saul Hernandez, clerk

Ben Avey, member

Paula Villescaz, member

Tanya Kravchuk, member

Vacant:

Trustee area 7, 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 consider student expulsions in two cases (Education Code section 48918[f]).

Reconvene Open Session/Pledge of Allegiance (C)

At 6:30 p.m., the meeting was called back to order by the vice 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. Villescaz, seconded by Ms. Kravchuk, that the minutes of the October 10 regular meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [AYES: Creason, Costa, Hernandez, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk; NOES; None; ABSTAIN: None].

Recognition: National School Psychology Week (E-1)

It was moved by Ms. Kravchuk, seconded by Ms. Villescaz, to adopt Resolution No. A-431 proclaiming the week of November 6-10 as National School Psychology Week. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [AYES: Creason, Costa, Hernandez, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk; NOES; None].

High School Student Council Reports (E-2)

High School Student Council representatives Allyson Dyke and Emmy Moran from Del Campo 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.

Closed Session/Expulsion Actions (E-7)

Mr. Hernandez reported that the board voted unanimously to accept as written one stipulated suspended expulsion in case number M-04 and to accept a hearing panel's recommendation of one suspended expulsion in case number S-10.

Visitor Comments (F)

Norma Martinez shared her concerns about the traffic at Sylvan Middle School and interpretation during board meetings.

Lidia Melendez expressed her concerns about the traffic at Sylvan Middle School.

Veronica Pascual said she supports the previous visitor comments and the need for interpretation during board meetings.

Lucero Soto requested that the district have a Spanish interpreter in attendance at all board meetings.

Janet Pacheco spoke about the traffic at Mira Loma High School and guidance for high school students.

Jennifer Morgan, chair of the Local Control and Accountability Plan Parent Advisory Committee (LCAP PAC), provided an update on the work of the committee.

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

It was moved by Mr. Avey, seconded by Ms. Villescaz, that the consent calendar items G-1 through G-7 be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [AYES: Creason, Costa, Hernandez, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk; NOES: None].

Personnel (G-1) - Appointments, leaves of absence, separations and reassignments/change in work year – approved as submitted.

Purchasing Report (G-2)

Purchase orders and service agreements, change orders and piggyback contracts – approved as submitted.

Business/Financial Report (G-3)

Notices of completion and warrants and payroll – approved as submitted.

Gifts (G-4)

Acceptance of gifts to Encina Preparatory High School and Mesa Verde 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.

Proposed Revisions to Guest Teacher Salary Schedule (G-6)

Approval of the proposed revisions to the guest teacher salary schedule.

Special Education Community Advisory Committee Membership (G-7)

Ratification of Emily Getz as a committee member to the Special Education Community Advisory Committee.

Proposition 28: The Arts and Music in Schools Funding Guarantee and Accountability Act (I-1)

Interim Deputy Superintendent of Schools and Student Support Amy Slavensky, Ph.D. provided information about the district's plan to increase access for all students to quality arts and music education through the use of Proposition 28, which was approved by California voters in November 2022. Dr. Slavensky also shared information about partner engagement, feedback loops and communication tools used to inform the planning process for use of the ongoing funds. Dr. Slavensky explained the phased-in implementation approach that will be undertaken at select Title I school sites (phase 1); Early Childhood Education and elementary/TK-8 school sites (phase 2); and secondary school sites. Dr. Slavensky shared the timeline for implementation, reporting requirements and next steps. Board members made comments and posed questions, which staff addressed. Mr. Avey commented on the differences between traditional and block high school schedules, noting the challenges of adding additional sections to the master schedule at some school sites. Ms. Kravchuk inquired about the student engagement process and she made comments regarding additional participation costs. Ms. Costa shared that San Juan Unified has maintained visual and performing arts programs through past budget cuts, expressing that she is happy to see these programs expand even amidst the current staffing challenges.

Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant (I-2)

Dr. Slavensky provided information about the district's plan to utilize the Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant (LREBG) funds, which is a new one-time funding source. Dr. Slavensky explained that, after the sunsetting of the one-time COVID-related Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) and Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds, the LREBG funds will allow the district to continue some of the high leverage, most impactful actions that are currently in place to support students. Dr. Slavensky also shared information about the partner engagement and feedback loops used to inform the ongoing planning process for use of the funds. Dr. Slavensky provided a list of the ESSER III actions that will continue for the 2024-2025 school year using the LREBG funds. Board members made comments and posed questions, which staff addressed. Ms. Villescaz expressed appreciation for the one-year reprieve, she inquired about the continued staffing percentage and said she looks forward to how future years will unfold. Ms. Kravchuk inquired about metrics, data and the inquiry cycle. Mr. Avey made comments about ELO and ESSER funded programs, test scores and data that will help inform future recommendations and decisions. Mr. Hernandez said he appreciates the allocation to keep instructional assistants in the classroom. Ms. Creason said she is grateful for the funding, acknowledging that the schools she has visited hope to continue effective programs and noting that this funding allows for extra time and is an opportunity for advocacy at the state and federal levels to increase funding for schools. Ms. Costa expressed appreciation for being able to sustain the supports for another school year, thanking staff for the planning process.

Public Hearing: Proposed Fee Restructure for Fee-Based Early Childhood Education Programs (I-3)

Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education and Programs Amberlee Townsend-Snider, Early Childhood Education Program Manager Lisa Teal and Chief Financial Officer Jennifer Stahlheber gave a presentation on the proposed fee restructure for the two fee-based Early Childhood Education programs, Discovery Club and Early Learning Academy. Ms. Townsend-Snider introduced the topic and discussed the analysis that was conducted regarding the proposed fee restructure, including the identification of alternative funding sources and cost-saving measures. Ms. Teal provided information about enrollment, financial history and current status of the two programs, noting that both programs have experienced deficit spending since the 2019-2020 school year. Ms. Stahlheber presented the proposed fee schedules for the two programs, sharing that Discovery Club would benefit from the use of ELO-P funds, the establishment of hourly bands, an increase in the sibling discount and an improved billing process. Ms. Stahlheber explained that the Early Learning Academy does not qualify for ELO-P funds, necessitating an increase in fees. Ms. Teal provided a cost comparison of other preschool programs in the area and explained the feedback loops and next steps, which include a communication plan.

Ms. Costa declared the topic of a proposed fee restructure for fee-based Early Childhood Education programs a public hearing and invited the public to speak. There being no comments, the public hearing was closed. Board members made comments and posed questions, which staff addressed. Ms. Villescaz expressed support for the Discovery Club proposed fee restructure, and she encouraged communication to families regarding the annual increase in the Early Learning Academy fees. Ms. Kravchuk inquired about marketing strategies and recruitment for increasing enrollment in the Early Learning Academy program. Mr. Avey shared his personal experiences with Discovery Club, he noted the importance of Discovery Club with the change in school start/end times and he commented that the fee restructure seemed well thought out and appropriate. Mr. Hernandez expressed appreciation for the district's continued fiscal responsibility in addressing past deficit spending. Ms. Creason expressed gratitude for the programs, and she expressed support for early and frequent communication to families regarding the changes. Ms. Costa acknowledged that the programs are quality educational programs and not just daycare, she recognized that the programs help to keep students in district schools and she expressed gratitude for the expansion and ongoing efforts to provide high-quality Early Childhood Education programs, encouraging more communication within the district about the available programs. Action was scheduled for November 14.

Williams Complaint Report (I-4)

General Counsel Phanysha Clark Gaddis explained 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. Ms. Gaddis stated that, during the time period from July 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023, there were no Williams-type complaints filed.

Board Reports (J)

Ms. Villescaz acknowledged that the special election will have taken place by the next board meeting, encouraging voters in Area 7 to vote.

Ms. Creason reported that she is attending the California Adult Education Program Summit this week.

Ms. Kravchuk shared information about the recent LCAP PAC meeting and said that she has been thoroughly enjoying her school site visits.

Future Agenda (K)

Ms. Kravchuk recommended an update on the district's newcomer programs. Superintendent Bassanelli shared that information regarding newcomer programs would be included in the English Learner report scheduled for May 14.

Adjournment (L)

At 8:47 p.m., there being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned.



Zima Creason, Board President

Trent Allen for

Melissa Bassanelli, Secretary

Approved: 11/14/2023

:sc