



**San Juan Unified School District**

Board of Education

3738 Walnut Avenue, Carmichael, California 95608

**Board of Education Minutes  
January 12, 2021**

**Regular Meeting**

Board of Education

5:45 p.m.

**Call to Order (A)**

The January 12 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 January 12 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 with negotiator Jim Shoemake, Assistant Superintendent, Schools and Labor Relations, 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 Paula Villescaz. Four members of the Casa Roble Fundamental 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 Ms. Creason, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, that the minutes of the December 15 regular meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

**High School Student Council Reports (E-1)**

High School Student Council representatives Carmen Saguilan from San Juan High School and Mclean Burke from Rio Americano High School updated the board on the goals, activities and achievements at their respective schools.

**Staff Reports (E-2)**

Superintendent Kern spoke about the availability of the vaccine for educators, plans for the return to in-person learning and the work being done regarding mitigating learning loss.

Assistant Superintendent of Schools and Labor Relations Jim Shoemake provided an update on the annual San Juan Cares event.

**Employee Organizations (E-4)**

CSEA Chapter President Karen Smith spoke regarding the inequity of classified staff not receiving a \$500 stipend. Ms. Creason acknowledged the comments made by Ms. Smith and asked clarifying questions.

**Closed Session/Expulsion Actions (E-6)**

There were no closed session actions to report.

**Visitor Comments (F)**

*[via Zoom]:*

Alicia Nichols spoke regarding the work and wages of instructional assistants in the district.

Kim Sell made comments about the need for instructional assistants to be reimbursed for expenses incurred during distance learning.

Debbie Pelucca spoke about her experiences as a child development assistant and asked for consideration of a \$500 stipend for classified employees.

Laura Kramm expressed support for instructional assistants receiving reimbursement for supplies and a \$500 stipend.

Amber B. expressed concerns over navigating the district website, stating that the way the information is laid out is not accessible to all parents.

Ana Quinonez spoke regarding school choice programs.

Araceli Reed made comments regarding the stipend and the Bridges afterschool program returning to a full-time status.

Johanna Wright shared her experiences as an employee working with the Bridges afterschool program.

**Consent Calendar Approved (G-2/G-11)**

Superintendent Kent requested that item G-1 be pulled.

It was moved by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Ms. Costa, that the consent calendar items G-2 through G-11 be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

**Purchasing Report (G-2)**

Purchase orders and service agreements, construction and public works bids and zero-dollar contracts — approved as submitted.

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

Warrants and payroll — approved as submitted.

**Gifts (G-4)**

Acceptance of gifts to Dyer-Kelly Elementary School, Greer Elementary School and Kingswood K-8.

**Disposal of Surplus Property (G-5)**

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

**Resolution No. 3018: Authorizing Emergency Contracting (G-6)**

Adoption of Resolution No. 3018 authorizing emergency contracting.

**Resolution No. 3019: Power to Contract (G-7)**

Adoption of Resolution No. 3019 authorizing power to contract on behalf of San Juan Unified School District.

**Resolution No. 3020: Delegating Signature Authority (G-8)**

Adoption of Resolution No. 3020 delegating signature authorization to the superintendent.

**CAC Membership (G-9)**

Approval of four members to the Community Advisory Committee for Special Education.

**Grant: California Community Schools Partnership Program (G-10)**

Approval to implement, if funded, the following grant: California Community Schools Partnership Program Grant 2020-2022.

**Grant: First 5 Sacramento School Readiness Program Grant (G-11)**

Approval to implement, if funded, the following grant: First 5 Sacramento School Readiness Program Grant 2021-2024.

**Consent Calendar (G-1 Continued) (H)****Personnel – appointments, leaves of absence and separations (G-1)**

Superintendent Kern requested that employee discipline number CL-499 be removed from the personnel pages, which will be brought back for consideration at a later date. It was moved by Ms. Costa, seconded by Dr. McKibbin, that item G-1 be approved as amended. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

**Equity Update: Part 2 (I-1)**

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Debra Calvin Ed.D. explained that tonight's presentation would include an overview of the summary of actions that took place last fall as well as a status update on the equity working groups. Director of Equity and Student Achievement Diana Marshall reviewed the 8 Point Commitment to Educational Justice and provided an overview of the actions that took place last fall. Coordinator of Equity and Student Achievement Lori Vine shared information about professional learning related to equity and the integration of the social justice standards. Early Childhood Education Teacher on Special Assignment Alicia Williams, Whitney Avenue Elementary School teacher Dana Levy and Ms. Marshall shared details about each of the equity working groups.

Mr. Hernandez thanked the team for their efforts and expressed excitement about our district having an equity department to do this important work. Ms. Costa stated that the equity team has done a remarkable job, noting that the plan is very comprehensive and she has great hope for the district becoming a place where everyone is treated with respect and individual understanding. Ms. Creason expressed thanks for this continuing to be a long-term meaningful focus of the district, rather than just a one-time effort. Ms. Creason inquired if classified staff has had the opportunity to participate in equity professional development, which Ms. Marshall explained that several school sites have provided opportunities which classified staff may attend. Dr. McKibbin stated that he was impressed with the number of people who have gone through the training and that he looks forward to the upcoming student forums. Dr. McKibbin inquired about using past initiatives to lead future work and shared that he would also like to be included in the future accountability discussions. Ms. Villescaz thanked the team for this significant work and posed questions related to accountability and indicators of success, which Ms. Marshall addressed.

**Textbook Adoption: Science TK-5 (I-2)**

Deputy Superintendent of Schools and Student Support Melissa Bassanelli presented the topic. After staff answered questions from the board, it was moved by Dr. McKibbin, seconded by Ms. Creason, to approve the Reports II related to the new textbook adoption for science for grades TK-5. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

**Public Hearing: Gateway International Charter School Renewal Petition (I-3)**

Director of Admissions and Family Services Michele Flagler introduced staff members from Gateway Community Charters, who gave a presentation regarding the charter school renewal petition for Gateway International School.

Ms. Villescaz declared the topic of the Gateway International Charter School renewal petition a public hearing and invited the public to speak.

**Public Comments: [via Zoom]**

April Atkinson-Sauler shared her positive experiences as a teacher at Gateway International School.

Randy Hackett shared information about the positive experiences his children have had at Gateway International School.

Anya Varkentin shared her positive experiences as a student at Gateway International School.

Chris Shields inquired if distance learning would continue until the end of the school year.

There being no further questions or comments from the public, Ms. Villescaz declared the public hearing closed and invited board members to speak. Board members made comments and posed questions, which Gateway Community Charters staff answered. Action was scheduled for February 23.

#### **Public Hearing: Conveyance of Easement at Howe Avenue Elementary School (I-4)**

Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Facilities and Transportation Frank Camarda presented the topic. Ms. Villescaz declared the topic of conveying a permanent easement at Howe Avenue Elementary School to the County of Sacramento a public hearing and invited the public to speak. There being no questions or comments from the public, Ms. Villescaz declared the public hearing closed. It was moved by Ms. Costa, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, to adopt Resolution No. 3017 conveying a permanent easement at Howe Avenue Elementary School to the County of Sacramento. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Villescaz, McKibbin, Creason, Costa, Hernandez].

#### **One-Time, Off-Schedule Payment: Side Letters of Agreement with SJTA, CSEA, SJPEC, Teamsters, Supervisors (I-5)**

Assistant Superintendent of Schools and Labor Relations Jim Shoemake explained that side letters of agreement have been reached between SJUSD and the following bargaining groups regarding a one-time, off-schedule payment: San Juan Teachers Association (SJTA); California School Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter 127; San Juan Professional Educators Coalition (SJPEC); Teamsters Local No. 150 and San Juan Supervisors Association (SJSA). Mr. Shoemake also presented the proposed 2021-2022 school year calendar, which was developed collaboratively with SJTA per their contract. Mr. Shoemake also made additional comments regarding the recent correspondence that board members have received related to the additional \$500 stipend for teachers and the reimbursement of expenses for instructional or clerical-related materials.

#### Public Comments: [via Zoom]

Amber B. spoke about the services that the Mutual Assistance Network offers.

Kim Sell inquired about reimbursement for supplies purchased by instructional assistants.

Alicia Nichols spoke about the challenges of the Chromebooks that were supplied to instructional assistants.

After public comments, Mr. Hernandez thanked Mr. Shoemake for the clarification and he reiterated the reimbursement process. Mr. Shoemake explained he would also be reaching out to site administrators to ensure better communication about the reimbursement process. Superintendent Kern explained a letter would be drafted centrally and sent to employees regarding the reimbursement process. Ms. Costa stated she was thankful for the clarification and that she appreciated Mr. Shoemake's opening remarks. Ms. Creason expressed thanks that clarification would be sent out and she encouraged employees to follow the safety measures that are in place while picking up supplies at school sites. Ms. Creason also made comments related to school funding. Dr. McKibbin thanked Mr. Shoemake for taking the time to connect with staff and he inquired about the status of the CSEA contract, which Mr. Shoemake addressed. Ms. Villescaz thanked Mr. Shoemake for his work on this topic, reiterating that all San Juan employees are valued and she is hopeful that the inconsistent communication will be resolved. Action was scheduled for January 26.

#### **One-Time, Off-Schedule Payment: SJAA, Cabinet, Confidential, Unrepresented (I-6)**

Assistant Superintendent of Schools and Labor Relations Jim Shoemake explained that a one-time, off-schedule payment is being proposed for the following groups: San Juan Administrators Association (SJAA), Cabinet, Confidential and Unrepresented. Action was scheduled for January 26.

#### **Williams Complaint Report (I-7)**

General Counsel Linda Simlick 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. Simlick stated that, during the time period from October through December 2020, there were no Williams-type complaints filed.

#### **Board Reports (J)**

Ms. Costa shared that the San Juan Education Foundation hopes to have one board member attend its monthly meetings.

Ms. Creason took a moment to honor CSEA leader Norma Pyle, who recently passed away.

**Future Agenda (K)**

There were no items added to the future agenda.

**Visitor Comments (L)**

*[via Zoom]:*

Alicia Nichols spoke regarding her work as an instructional assistant.

Ana Quinonez commented on the work of the equity department, thanking the department for its excellent work.

Kim Sell spoke about diversity training, future professional development opportunities for classified staff and classified wages.

*[via electronic comment form, and read aloud by Trent Allen, Senior Director of Community Relations]:*

Mary Stokke Vides commented about open enrollment.

Thong Cha expressed concerns about the Bridges afterschool program.

**Adjournment (M)**

At 9:10 p.m., there being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned in memory of Norma Pyle and retired special education teacher Tom Laythe.



Paula Villescaz, President



Kent Kern, Executive Secretary

Approved: 01/26/2021

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