



San Juan Unified School District

Board of Education

3738 Walnut Avenue, Carmichael, California 95608

Board of Education Minutes

August 22, 2023

Regular Meeting

Board of Education

5:00 p.m.

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

The August 22 regular meeting was called to order by the president, Zima Creason. The board meeting was held in person and was also streamed to the district's YouTube channel.

Roll Call

Present:

Zima Creason, president

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 conference with legal counsel – Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1) – two cases – Name of Case: William Dunphy, an individual and as a taxpayer on behalf of himself and the taxpayers of San Juan Unified School District v San Juan Unified School District; All persons interested in the matter of the site leaseback and related documents by and between the San Juan Unified School District and Flint Builders, Inc., relative to the construction of the Katherine Johnson Middle School new construction project; Flint Builders, Inc., a California Corporation; Does 1-100, Sacramento Superior Court Case 34-2022-00322093 and Name of Case: Danielle Creedon, an individual and as a taxpayer on behalf of herself and the taxpayers of the San Juan Unified School District; Alex M. Davis, an individual and as a taxpayer on behalf of herself and the taxpayers of the San Juan Unified School District v San Juan Unified School District, a California Unified School District; Does 1-50, inclusive, Sacramento Superior Court Case 34-2022-00333102; and to discuss one personnel matter (Government Code section 54957) – superintendent's goals for 2023-2024.

Reconvene Open Session/Pledge of Allegiance (C)

At 6:30 p.m., the meeting was called back to order by the president, Zima Creason, who then 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 August 8 regular meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Creason, Costa, Hernandez, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk].

Staff Report (E-1)

Chief Financial Officer Jennifer Stahlheber shared information regarding the district's bond ratings. Ms. Stahlheber explained that rating agencies are required by statute to reaffirm ratings at least once every three years for agencies for which they have issued bond ratings. Ms. Stahlheber noted that Fitch Ratings affirmed the rating that was issued in 2020, and the district's rating remains unchanged at AAA for bonds and AA- for the Issuer Default Rating (IDR).

Closed Session/Expulsion Actions (E-5)

There were no closed session actions to report.

Visitor Comments (F)

Monica Burlando shared her excitement about the upcoming school year.

Angela Luna made comments and thanked the board for supporting practitioners and the rights of all students.

Jennifer Harris expressed her concerns regarding pedestrian traffic on Marconi Avenue near the new Katherine Johnson Middle School site.

Consent Calendar Approved (G-1/G-9 and G-11/G-14)

Ms. Kravchuk pulled item G-10. It was moved by Mr. Avey, seconded by Ms. Villescaz, that the consent calendar items G-1 through G-9 and G-11 through G-14 be approved. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Creason, Costa, Hernandez, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk].

Personnel (G-1)

Appointments, leaves of absence, separations, job description/salary range change and charter school personnel actions – 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 and warrants and payroll – approved as submitted.

Gifts (G-4)

Acceptance of gifts to Attendance Improvement, Bella Vista 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.

Revisions to Board Policy 5030 Student Wellness (G-6)

Approval of revisions to Board Policy 5030 Student Wellness (Discussed: 08/08/2023).

Middle School Foundation Academies Planning Grant 2023-2024 (G-7)

Approval to implement the following grant: Middle School Foundation Academies Planning Grant, 2023-2024.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Title II: Adult Education and Family Literacy Act Grant, 2023-2027 (G-8)

Approval to implement the following grant: Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Title II: Adult Education and Family Literacy Act Grant, 2023-2027.

Agricultural Career Technical Education Incentive Grant, 2023-2024 (G-9)

Approval to implement the following grant, if funded: Agricultural Career Technical Education Incentive Grant, 2023-2024.

Resolution No. 4090: Authorizing Emergency Contracting (G-11)

Adoption of Resolution No. 4090 authorizing emergency contracting.

Resolution No. 4091: Power to Contract (G-12)

Adoption of Resolution No. 4091 authorizing power to contract on behalf of San Juan Unified School District.

Resolution No. 4092: Barrett Middle School Modernization Project Lease Amendment No. 5 (G-13)

Adoption of Resolution No. 4092 approving the fifth amendment to the lease agreement for the Barrett Middle School modernization project no. 004-9495-P1 between San Juan Unified School District and Landmark Modernization Contractors dba Landmark Construction.

Resolution No. 4093: Rio Americano High School CTE Modernization Project Lease Amendment No. 6 (G-14)

Adoption of Resolution No. 4093 approving the sixth amendment to the lease agreement for the Rio Americano High School CTE modernization project no. 208-9495-P1, Health Science project no. 208-9495-P2 and Manufacturing and Product Development project no. 208-9495-P3, between San Juan Unified and CORE Construction Inc. dba CORE Construction Management.

Consent Calendar Continued (H)**Antibias Education Grant, 2023-2026 (G-10)**

Approval to implement the following grant, if funded: Antibias Education Grant, 2023-2026.

Ms. Kravchuk read her prepared comments that explained why she cannot support the implementation of the grant. Mr. Avey and Mr. Hernandez requested more information about the grant. Ms. Villescaz and Ms. Creason expressed support for the grant. It was moved by Ms. Villescaz, seconded by Ms. Costa, that item G-10 be approved. MOTION FAILED 3-1-2 [AYES: Creason, Costa, Villescaz; NOES: Kravchuk; ABSTAIN: Hernandez, Avey]. Superintendent Bassanelli explained that the item would be brought back on a future agenda.

2023-2024 Start of School (I-1)

Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education and Programs Kristan Schnepf gave a presentation regarding the opening of the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Schnepf shared information about staff professional development, student welcoming activities and departmental efforts that took place. Mr. Avey thanked the district for the welcoming environments and he inquired about the open shoe closet, which Ms. Townsend-Snyder explained. Mr. Hernandez thanked the district and community partners for their efforts, noting his participation in backpack and school supply giveaways at two events. Ms. Villescaz echoed her thanks for all the work that went into the start of school, acknowledging the professional development for classified staff and elementary specialists. Ms. Costa commented about the number of staff hours it takes to launch the school year, noting how the efforts are reflected in the students' faces and with the parents talking about how well things were going. Ms. Creason reported that she welcomed Del Dayo Elementary School students on the first day of school, and she expressed appreciation for the time and effort from everyone involved.

2023-2024 Attendance Improvement Initiative (I-2)

Associate Superintendent of Educational Services Debra Calvin, Ed.D., introduced the topic and Director of Student Support Services Dominic Covello who gave a presentation on the district's 2023-2024 Attendance Improvement Initiative, which is a comprehensive plan to restore attendance rates to pre-pandemic rates. Mr. Covello shared an overview of the attendance improvement initiative, the district's historical attendance data and provided a detailed explanation of the three-tiered model for attendance improvement. Board members made comments and posed questions, which Mr. Covello and Supervisor of Attendance Improvement and McKinney-Vento Victoria Rochester answered.

Resolution No. 4094: Notice of Intent to Convey Permanent Easement at Katherine Johnson Middle School (I-3)

Chief Operations Officer Frank Camarda presented the item. It was moved by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Ms. Costa, to adopt Resolution No. 4094, declaring the intent to convey a permanent easement at Katherine Johnson Middle School (Creekside site) to the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) and to call a public hearing to be held on September 12, 2023. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [Creason, Costa, Hernandez, Avey, Villescaz, Kravchuk].

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 April through June 2023, there were no Williams-type complaints filed.

California School Boards Association (CSBA) Directors-At-Large Nominations (I-5)

After hearing no recommendations, Ms. Creason stated that no action would be taken regarding the nomination of candidates to fill the director-at-large seats for African American and American Indian on the Board of Directors of the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

Board Reports (J)

Ms. Kravchuk reported that she was a guest speaker at the Kiwanis Club of Carmichael, and she expressed appreciation for the club, which provides many supports for district schools.

Mr. Avey shared that the Family and Community Engagement (FACE) problem resolution process is a helpful resource for families, and he commented on bicycle thefts at schools.

Mr. Hernandez announced that he went to a well-attended girls flag football game last night, which is a new CIF-sanctioned sport.

Future Agenda (K)

There were no items added to the future agenda.

Adjournment (L)

At 7:35 p.m., there being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned.



Zima Creason, Board President



Melissa Bassanelli, Secretary

Approved: 09/12/2023

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