

**MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Fresno Unified School District
March 08, 2017**

Fresno, California

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Office of the Board of Education, Fresno Unified School District Board Room, Education Center, 2309 Tulare Street, Fresno, CA 93721.

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held on March 8, 2017, there were present Board Members Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Jonasson Rosas, Mills and President Ashjian. Interim Superintendent Nelson was also present.

President Ashjian convened the Regular Board meeting at 4:30 p.m. in the Board room and ADJOURNED to Closed Session to address items 1 and 5.

Staff Present

Deputy Superintendent/CFO Quinto, Associate Superintendent Aguilar, Chief Academic Officer Mecum, Chief Human Resources/Labor Relations Officer Idsvoog, Chief Operations Officer Temple, Chief Information Officer Arias, Chief Technology Officer Madden, Executive Director of Constituent Services Plascencia, and Executive Director of Student Services Dorsey and Interim Chief of Staff David Chavez.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

- Gia Picchi-Shirley, Principal Dailey Charter School to Principal II, Storey Elementary School
- On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Johnson on the following vote 7-0-0-0 the board took action in closed session to non-re-elect one probationary certificated teacher at the conclusion of the 2016/17 school year.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Laura Murray, a parent that has had a positive impact at Burroughs Elementary led the flag salute.

APPROVE Minutes

APPROVED as recommended, the draft minutes for the January 26, 2017 Special Meeting, and January 30, 2017 Special Meeting. Member Mills moved for approval, seconded by Member Davis, which carried a vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Jonasson Rosas, Mills and President Ashjian.

UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The following individuals spoke in favor of the Board adopting a Safe Place resolution. Fresno Unified is a diverse community and all children should feel safe while learning, in a stress-free environment.

Sallie Prudholm	Gloria Hernandez
Peter Beck	Michael Kurnosoff
Laura Alamillo	Mary Fierro
Willie Lopez	Edward Ponce
Kathia Osuna	Reza Nekumash
Mari Soto	Grace Gutierrez
Efrain Botello	Esmeralda Luna
Keyshawn White	Jesus Martinez
Neng Thao	Ray Mansanalez
Luis Ojeda	Hugo Morales
Guadalupe Gutierrez	Kiera Kaiser
Samah Mohamed	

ADOPT Resolution Recognizing Fresno Unified as a Safe Place School District

Prior to the vote, each Board Member made comments regarding the importance of adopting the resolution, and thanked the public, parents and students for their time, concern and sentiments.

ADOPTED as recommended, a resolution recognizing a safe learning environment for all students. Member Cazares moved for approval, seconded by Member Mills, which carried a vote of 9-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Student Board Member McCoy and Riar. Board Members: Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Jonasson Rosas, Mills and President Ashjian.

HEAR Reports from Student Board Representatives

Student Hope Cruz from DeWolf High School provided a report to the Board of Education, sharing details of their SAB meeting. She thanked Trustee De La Cerda for attending the SAB meeting and his ongoing support. Hope shared a number of activities going on at Dewolf including a total of 25 students who have graduated and 50 more expected by the end of the school year. Hope was joined by friends to share the news that a fellow DeWolf student and leadership member was recently diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Students wore wearing purple to support her and look forward to having her join them on the graduation stage later this year. In addition, students from Wawona Middle School provided highlights of their campus activities and why they enjoy their school.

HEAR Report from Interim Superintendent

- Congratulated the Bullard girls' soccer team on their recent Central Section Division I Valley Championship. With a last minute goal from freshman Jordyne Puentes, the Knights went on to a thrilling 1-0 victory over athletic powerhouse Clovis North. The girls hosted their first CIF Southern California Regional game, beating Santa Clarita's Hart High School 2-0.

- Nelson also recognized Bullard sophomore Dawson Sihavong who placed 6th in the State wrestling tournament; as well as Christopher Casillas and Hudson Dorian from Edison High School who are moving on to the VEX Robotics World Championships in Louisville, Kentucky. Interim superintendent congratulated all the district teams and individuals who competed over the last few weeks in playoffs, championships and academic competitions around the valley.
- Another champion will be making her appearance on the big stage – the Fresno County Spell-Off stage. Fifth grader Sharleen Her from Storey Elementary and second-place finisher Sonya Hughes from Fremont Elementary will be representing Fresno Unified in the county’s annual spelling bee at Fresno State’s Satellite Student Union.
- Reminder Friday, March 17, is the last day of the quarter. Nelson encouraged students to stay focused and make every day count. Make sure that if you are struggling or falling behind – connect with an adult, a teacher or a peer mentor and let us help you get back on track.
- Nelson closed highlighting this month’s edition of Building Futures calling out stories about the district’s new school based health centers, Excellence in Education winners and a story on the newest school to implement a food recovery program. Building Futures can be found on the district website or on the education page at ABC30.com.

On a motion by Member Mills, seconded by Member Jonasson Rosas, the consent agenda, exclusive of agenda items: A-4, A-5, and A-8 which were pulled for further discussion, was approved on a roll call vote of 9-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Student Board Member Riar and McCoy, Board Members: Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Jonasson Rosas, Mills and President Ashjian.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

- A-1, APPROVE Personnel List**
APPROVED as recommended, the Personnel List, Appendix A, as submitted.
- A-2, ADOPT Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Board**
ADOPTED as recommended, the Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Panels resulting from hearings on expulsion and readmittance cases conducted during the period since the February 22, 2017, Regular Board meeting.
- A-3, ADOPT Resolution Delineating Authorized District Agents to Sign on Behalf of Fresno Unified School District**
ADOPTED as recommended, Resolution 16-13 presented for adoption to update authorized officials to sign various business transactions on behalf of Fresno Unified School District. This resolution will be effective for the period beginning March 8, 2017, until revoked or superseded.
- A-4, APPROVE Employment Agreement for Robert G. Nelson, Interim Superintendent**
APPROVED as recommended, the Employment Agreement for the Interim Superintendent. The term of the Interim Superintendent’s Employment Agreement began

on February 15, 2017 and will continue until the vacant Superintendent position is filled and the new Superintendent reports for duty, unless otherwise modified pursuant to law and/or the terms of the Employment Agreement.

For the record, comments/questions were made regarding clarification to the caption to paragraph 9, "Retreat" should be "Return." Board President Ashjian was able to provide clarification. Member Mills moved for approval, seconded by Member Cazares, which carried a 7-0-0-0 vote. AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, and President Ashjian.

A-5, APPROVE Agreements with SMG: Fresno Convention & Entertainment Center and Save Mart Center

APPROVED as recommended, graduation facilities, personnel services, and production event services for Fresno Unified graduation ceremonies to be held June 1, 2017 and June 7, 2017 at Saroyan Theatre, and June 4-7, 2017 at the Save Mart Center.

For the record, comments/questions were made regarding the start time for graduation ceremonies and how late they start, and if we could look into using the Savemart center for more days. Manager Leslie Loewen was able to provide clarification. Member Cazares moved for approval, seconded by Member Mills, which carried a 7-0-0-0 vote. AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, and President Ashjian.

A-6, APPROVE Award of Bid 17-13, Terronez Middle School Gymnasium Make-up Air Unit Replacement

APPROVED as recommended, Bid 17-13, for installation of replacement cooling in the gymnasium and exercise room at Terronez Middle School. The existing make-up air units require replacement due to impending failure, and parts are no longer available. The new equipment will improve energy efficiency and conserve water.

Staff recommends award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder:

Servi-Tech Controls, Inc. (Fresno, CA) \$329,124

A-7, APPROVE Award of Bid 17-18, Wood Chips for Playgrounds

APPROVED as recommended, Bid 17-18, to establish a fixed unit price for the purchase of wood chips to be used on playgrounds district-wide. The bid is for a one-year term price agreement with the option to extend for two (2) additional one-year periods.

Staff recommends award be to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder:

My Bark Co. Inc. (Linden, CA) Estimated annual use \$112,840

A-8, APPROVE Contract Agreement with Collaborative Learning Solutions

APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Collaborative Learning Solutions to provide services to address significant disproportionality, support the creation of a districtwide student discipline matrix and develop a MTSS/RTI (Multi-tiered System of

Support/Response to Intervention) model for the district. The agreement is for the period of March 9, 2017-June 30, 2017.

For the record, comments/questions were made regarding the nature and purpose of the agreement, and discrepancies with the indemnity clauses in the backup material. Associate Superintendent Aguilar and Executive Director Ambra Dorsey were able to provide clarification. Member Ashjian moved for approval with requested correction to the indemnity clause, seconded by Member Mills, which carried a 7-0-0-0 vote. AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, and President Ashjian.

A-9, APPROVE Student Innovation and Design Lab Agreement

APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Bitwise to provide space for a Student Innovation and Design Lab inside the Bitwise South Stadium building. The Student Innovation and Design Lab will provide a creative and career-oriented space for students to design, prototype, code and develop real-world solutions. It will be utilized in the afternoons by many of our 13 CoderGirlz and 6 CoderClubs programs to immerse them in a high-energy technology career environment as well as a testing and staging area for our 500 Tournament of Technology students from October until the Tournament in April.

A-10, RATIFY Submission of a Grant Application to the California Department of Education – Fresno County Office of Education After School Education and Safety Program – Program Renewal

RATIFIED as recommended, a grant application to the California Department of Education on behalf of Fresno County Office of Education – After School Education and Safety Program (ASES). This renewal funding will allow Fresno County Office of Education to continue after school programs at the 39 Fresno Unified school sites.

A-11, RATIFY Submission of a Grant Application to the California Department of Education

RATIFIED as recommended, a grant application to the California Department of Education for the 21st Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens (ASSETS) program. An estimated \$17 million in funding has been allocated to serve high school students in grades nine to twelve starting in fiscal year 2017/18.

A-12, RATIFY Change Order for the Project Listed Below

PULLED PER STAFF, no action taken on this item. Change Order for the following project:

Bid 16-13R, Figarden Elementary School New Classroom Building Additions Rebid
Change Order 1: \$36,110

A-13, RATIFY the Filing of a Notice of Completion

RATIFIED as recommended, a Notice of Completion for the following project, which has been completed according to plans and specifications:

Bid 16-30C, Installation of Exterior Lighting at Various Sites
(Baird, Tehipite and Wawona Middle Schools)

Presented for information only

Original contract amount:	\$	19,800
Change order(s) previously ratified:	\$	<u>1,980</u>
Final contract amount:	\$	21,780

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Darius Assemi - Thanked the board for their efforts regarding School-Based Health Centers and wanted to remind them that we still need nurses and more school psychologists.

Jon Bath – Chair of the Fresno Teachers Association Negotiations Team – Stated that they are very encouraged with the direction the board has taken and made in recent weeks. Is hopeful that the Board will work with FTA and SEIU to settle a fair and equitable contract.

Amelia Jones – Spoke on behalf of classified employees and their desire to settle their contract.

Frances Buelna – Thanked the Board for their vision and support. Grateful that the Board added psychologist positions and for adopting the Safe Place Resolution.

Susan Witttrup – Thanked Board President Ashjian, Clerk Cazares, Member Mills and community member Darius Assemi for their support in procuring five psychologist positions.

Donald Levitt – Spoke about his request to have his child’s seat moved in class to see the black board better and how it was denied. Also, spoke about the how the country needs to put a time out on immigration as this would improve the economy.

Manuel Bonilla – Publicly acknowledged Sally Fowler, Kristen Boroski, Catherine Aujero, Kim Mecum and Holland Locker for their leadership in the district. There are concerns at McLane High School and Staff feels they are not being supported by leadership at the high school. Mr. Bonilla invited the board to attend a community meeting to hear their voices of students and staff.

Lorrie Warren-Hoyt – Spoke about concerns regarding the closure of SPED classes at Hidalgo Elementary.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

Agenda Item B-14, Discuss and Decide in the Matter of the Charter Renewal Petition for Sierra Charter School

Sierra Charter School (Sierra) has delivered a renewal petition to the district seeking authorization to operate July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2022. Sierra is currently serving approximately 386 students in grades kindergarten through twelve. The school is located at 1931 N. Fine Avenue in Fresno.

Presentation by Manger, Debra Odom

An opportunity was provided to hear questions/concerns from members of the board and staff was available to respond.

For the record, comments/questions were made regarding the percent of SPED students being served, the type of SPED population being served and thanks given to Ms. Odom for her time. Manager Debra Odom and Lisa Marasco, Principal of Sierra Charter School, were available to answer questions and provide clarification. Member Mills moved for approval, seconded by Member Johnson, which carried a 7-0-0-0 vote. AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, and President Ashjian.

Agenda Item B-15, Present and Discuss the 2017/18 Strategic Budget Development

At the January 25, 2017, February 8, 2017 and February 22, 2017 Board of Education meetings, the 2017/18 Governor's Proposed Budget and the District's preliminary strategic budget development were discussed. On March 8, 2017, staff and the Board will continue budget development discussions.

Presentation by Deputy Superintendent/CFO, Ruth F. Quinto

An opportunity was provided to hear questions/concerns from members of the board and staff was available to respond.

For the record, comments/questions were made regarding preference for option two relating to daily coverage of health services, how many students will the additional FTE cover for the growing programs, with the requested addition of five school psychologists what will our total be, what is our method of deploying our school psychologist, why are we no longer referring the adult students to the Fresno County Office of Educations program, which regions do not have early intervention programs, are we adding support to schools when we are adding classes for students with Autism, how many registered nurses do we have currently, are all the nursing positions filled, are we looking at making our hiring packages more attractive to entice applicants, is the addition of the two requested Speech Language Pathologists enough, how do we rate compared to the state average ratio, clarification regarding Computech and school psychologists, are we doing anything to help our registered nurses get their credential, the providing of daily coverage at all sites and the addition of psychologists does that include our specialty schools, with the moving of our Adult Transition Students back from Fresno County Office of Education are we prepared with our staff and facilities, how many students are we projecting to return to the Adult Transition Program, will this be an on-going cost, with the current priorities what programs are you looking at reducing, clarification regarding which students are reflected in slide three - graduation rates for students with disabilities, caution with graduating students instead of transitioning them to the Adult Transition Program (ATP), we should not strive to be at the state average but instead be better, why ae we cutting back on consulting services if they have shown to have a proven track record, the location of the Adult Transition Program, what do the students get out of the Adult Transition Program, we need more Speech Language Pathologists (SLP), how many students does each SLP work with, services at growing programs has Patiño and ATP could Design Science be added to

the list, going forward can you present the number using ADA instead of enrollment, are we planning on adding more school psychologists. Deputy Superintendent/CFO, Ruth F. Quinto, and Assistant Superintendent Brian Beck, were available to answer questions and provide clarification. No action was required for this item.

Agenda Item B-16, Discuss and Approve the 2016/17 Second Interim Financial Report with a Positive Certification

California school districts are required to approve interim financial reports twice each fiscal year. Fresno Unified School District's 2016/17 Second Interim Financial Report is presented for approval and reflects a positive certification of the district's financial condition. The report is based on the January 31, 2017 year-to-date revenue and expenditures as required by state law.

Presentation by Deputy Superintendent/CFO, Ruth F. Quinto

An opportunity was provided to hear questions/concerns from members of the board and staff was available to respond.

For the record, there were no comments/questions made by board members. Deputy Superintendent/CFO, Ruth F. Quinto was available to answer questions and provide clarification. Member Davis moved for approval, seconded by Member Mills, which carried a 7-0-0-0 vote. AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, and President Ashjian.

Member of the public who spoke on this item:

Jon Bath – Spoke on behalf of Fresno Teachers Association – commented on the districts positive growth, the need for reserves and is pleased to see the figures are improving.

Agenda Item B-17, Present and Discuss Proposed Revisions for Board Bylaws (BB) 9100, 9122, 9123, 9200, 9320, 9322 and Exhibit (E) 9270

Below are proposed revisions to the following seven Board Bylaws (BB) and Exhibit (E):

- BB 9100 Organization
- BB 9122 Secretary
- BB 9123 Clerk
- BB 9200 Limits of Board Member Authority
- E 9270 Conflict of Interest
- BB 9320 Meetings and Notices
- BB 9322 Agenda Meeting Materials

Presentation by District Legal Counsel, Mary Beth de Goede

An opportunity was provided to hear questions/concerns from members of the board and staff was available to respond.

For the record, comments/questions were made with concerns to some of the proposed Board Bylaws, stating concerns that the changes directs the transition of power and final authority from the Superintendent to the Board, why would we suggest taking money away from needed areas of the district, moving board meeting start time to be able to have discussions without the fear of running late into the evening, concerns with students and staff staying too late, the board should not feel required to wait for the government or CSBA to tell us to make changes, we may want to consider taking some of these off the table because of the districts recent change in leadership, we don't want a new Superintendent to feel we don't trust him/her, the organization of the board should remain an election process, there should be a level of trust and camaraderie, final approval should not be with the Board President because there is a system of checks and balance with the Superintendent's Evaluation, the board should have no limits or boundaries to do good for all students, the rotation of the organization is a good idea because it lessens tensions and builds relationships, maybe moving closed session to another day other than a board day would be good, every board member should have an opportunity to place an item on the agenda as long as it is within the scope of the Board parameters, proposed changes are an attempt to achieve a balance to the existing Bylaws, we are the policy body and these are policies, it is the role of the board to establish and adopt Bylaws, we may want to get a second legal opinion if anyone has any questions or concerns. District Legal Counsel, Mary Beth de Goede was available to answer questions and provide clarification. No action is required on this item.

Member of the public who spoke on this item:

Kay Bertken – Spoke on behalf of League of Women Voters – voiced concerns on some of the proposed Bylaws. Specifically those transitioning authority of the agenda from the Superintendent to the Board President and the individual discretionary funds.

Agenda Item B-18, Discuss and Approve the Appointment of a Community Member to the JPA Board of Directors for the Center for Advanced Research and Technology by the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District

Item was pulled from Agenda, no action was taken on this item.

An opportunity is provided for the Board of Education to discuss and appoint a community member to the JPA Board of Directors to the Center for Advanced Research and Technology.

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

The Board was in receipt of Agenda Item C-19, Aspen Public School Renewal Petition

Aspen Public School (Aspen) has delivered a renewal petition to the district seeking authorization to operate July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2022. Aspen is currently serving approximately 95 students in grades transitional kindergarten through second. The school is located at 1400 E. Saginaw Way in Fresno.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS

Member Davis – Wanted to know where we were with the search firm contract. Chief Operations Officer Karin Temple was available to answer questions and provide clarification.

Member Mills – Requested a list of the Search Firms that we reached out to. Would like to recognize Women’s history month at the next March board meeting. Also, wanted to remind everyone that March 21 was the next County Trustees General Membership Meeting in Easton.

Member Cazares – Wanted to congratulate the female colleagues in the room on International Women’s Day.

Member Jonasson Rosas – Wanted to recognize the week of the 22nd as Safe Place Week, and would hope a resolution could be presented at the next board meeting.

D. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board of Education, Board President Ashjian declared the meeting adjourned at 10:29 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, March 22, 2017 – OPEN SESSION AT 5:30 P.M.