



**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**
2309 TULARE STREET
BOARD ROOM, SECOND FLOOR
FRESNO, CA 93721-2287
www.fresnounified.org/board

**MINUTES - BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Fresno Unified School District**

**Fresno, California
January 15, 2020**

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

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held on January 15, 2020, there were present Board Members Cazares, Davis, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, and President Thomas. Superintendent Nelson was also present. Attended via teleconference: Board Member Islas.

Board President Thomas CONVENED the Regular Board Meeting at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room and ADJOURNED to Closed Session to address items one through six and RECONVENED in Open Session at 5:57 p.m.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

- On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Member Mills by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, the Board took action in Closed Session for a Workers' Compensation settlement with Susan Sidebotham, Case No. 2018-0087.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meredith Ellis a parent that has had a positive impact at Lawless Elementary School lead the flag salute.

HEAR Reports from Student Board Representatives

The Board heard a report from Alison Sahakian, SAB representative from Bullard High School; and, students from Bullard TALENT spoke about what they love about being a student at Bullard TALENT.

RECOGNIZE High School Athletic Team for the 2019/20 School Year – Fall Season

The following Fresno Unified student athletic team was recognized for the 2019/20 school year – fall season: Hoover High School Unified Soccer Team - North Yosemite League Champions. Head Coaches - Mike Hill and Nic Peterson.

HEAR Report from Superintendent

- Highlighted the ACSA Region 9 nominees, Amy Smith, Bruce Thele, Carson Wood, Maiyer Vang and Julie Severns. These five outstanding leaders will be recognized at the ACSA Region 9 Awards Dinner on Monday, February 24. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication, we are so proud to have you on our team and know you will represent our region well at the State Finals.
- Shared CART's Annual Showcase will take place January 16. Students from all labs will showcase their fall projects. Our teams will have three opportunities to show their work – the morning session is from 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM, the afternoon session is from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, and the evening session is from 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM.
- Shared next week the district's pilot deployment of 900 free hotspots to our high school students through a partnership with the One Million Project foundation. The foundation is working to bring free internet to one million high school students across the nation to help them in their academic journeys. With more than 7 out of 10 high school teachers across the nation assigning online homework, bringing free internet access to our students is crucial to their continued success. Thank you to the One Million Project for including us in this pilot.
- Invited the community to join the Southeast Asian Family Conference taking place this Saturday at Fresno State. The event is a collaboration between Parent University, The Fresno Center, and Fresno State. This year, Tou Ger Xiong, a Hmong artist, educator and activist, is the keynote speaker. The event is from 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM in the Satellite Student Union. Childcare, lunch, parking, and transportation will be available for attendees.
- Shared the Fresno Unified Scholarship Fund has opened for applications. The application can be found on our website and all applications must be submitted with letters of recommendation and transcripts by Friday, February 28. Students can apply online or can talk to their high school counselor for more information.
- Shared the much-anticipated Excellence in Education Awards are on February 4. Tickets go on sale Friday, January 17, this event is always a total sell-out so make sure to grab your colleagues and get your tickets.
- Acknowledged we are amid the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Community Engagement Workshops. Thank you to those that have already attended meetings at Duncan, Edison and Bullard regions. Next week, we continue with meetings at Hoover on January 22, Patiño on February 4, Fresno High on February 13, Roosevelt on February 19, and ending at Sunnyside on February 20.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS

Member Mills – Noted student mock trials are underway. Thanked those involved with the mock trials. Shared Fresno High is celebrating its 130th birthday. Made mention of Fresno High School alumni of 1936.

Member Islas – Acknowledged McLane Highlander Jocelyn Garcia Morales, MPV golfer. Highlighted the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. Thanked London Properties for donation of bicycles to district schools. Acknowledged centennial of her Sorority.

Member Major Slatic – Brought forward a list of requests as follows: Information pertaining to an incident at Bullard High School; Information pertaining to an incident at Fresno High School; Information pertaining to the blackface incident at Bullard High School.

Member Cazares – Welcomed Student Board Member Jade Johannes. Congratulated student Daeja Holmes for scoring her 1,000th career point. Thanked coach Peterson and Hill for their dedication of sports teams. Invited people to attend LCAP meetings. Thanked Coach Chavira for work with the basketball camp in the Hoover Region.

Student Member Camarillo – Thanked Ambra O'Connor for meeting over Winter Break to discuss social emotional training. Discussed LCAP from a student perspective. Congratulated Santino Danisi for his presentation and work with the LCAP workshops. Talked about opportunities through the paid, teacher academy internship program.

Board President Thomas – Congratulated Edison Tigers coaching team.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

There were no members of the Public wishing to address items on the Consent Agenda.

On a motion by Board Member Mills, seconded by Board Member Cazares, the consent agenda was approved, apart from A-13, on a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, and Board President Thomas.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

A-1, APPROVE Personnel List

APPROVED as recommended, the Personnel List, Appendix A, as submitted.

- A-2, ADOPT Findings of Facts 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 December 18, 2019 Regular Board meeting.
- A-3, APPROVE Minutes from Prior Meeting**
APPROVED as recommended, the draft minutes for the December 18, 2019 Regular Meeting.
- A-4, ADOPT State of California, Fresno Unified School District Resolution 19-01**
ADOPTED as recommended, a State of California, Fresno Unified School District Resolution 19-01. This Resolution reauthorizes Ruth F. Quinto, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Financial Officer to sign and execute all documents required by the California Department of Rehabilitation.
- A-5, APPROVE Memorandum of Understanding for a Consortium Established to Participate in Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act**
APPROVED as recommended, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Clovis Unified School District and Fresno Unified School District to establish the responsibilities of both parties in serving the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) - Section 132 allocation of grant funds and reporting.
- A-6, APPROVE Agreement with Bruce J. Berger Law Firm, Inc. for Legal Services**
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Bruce J. Berger Law Firm, Inc. to provide legal services to Fresno Unified School District. The contract period is January 16, 2020 through June 30, 2020.
- A-7, APPROVE Use of Individual Piggyback Contracts**
APPROVED as recommended, piggyback contracts recommended for use during the remainder of 2019/20 for efficient and cost-effective procurement. These are in addition to piggyback contracts approved by the Board on June 12, 2019 or replace contracts expiring before the end of the fiscal year. All purchases associated with piggyback contracts are presented to the Board for ratification on monthly purchase order reports.
- A-8, APPROVE the Naming of Figarden Elementary School Baseball Field**
APPROVED as recommended, the suggested name for the Figarden Elementary Baseball Field (Bob Beckwith Field).
- A-8a, DENY Claim GL19-0710-4483**
DENIED as recommended, a Claim for Damages by Stephanie Herrera, case GL19-0710-4483.

A-9, RATIFY Grant Award from the California Department of Rehabilitation for the We Can Work Grant

RATIFIED as recommended, a grant award from the California Department of Rehabilitation for the We Can Work grant. Through this grant the California Department of Rehabilitation will reimburse the district for 100% of allowable program costs, up to \$195,438. The We Can Work grant provides paid work training that delivers pre-employment transition services to high school and post-secondary students between the ages of 16 - 21 with active Individualized Education Program goals and objectives. The grant timeline is from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021.

A-9a, RATIFY Amendment to Agreement with Avante Health

RATIFIED as recommended, an amendment to the agreement with Avante Health to provide mental health “run-out” claims administration services on behalf of benefit eligible employees and retirees.

A-10, RATIFY Change Orders for the Projects Listed Below

RATIFIED as recommended, information on change orders for the following projects: Bid 19-10, McLane High School Construction of New Aquatic Center. Change Order 1 presented for ratification: \$72,831; Bid 19-55, Phoenix Secondary Academy Portable Infrastructure and Site Development. Change Orders 2 and 3 presented for ratification: \$59,765.

A-11, 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 19-18 Phase 2B, Installation of District Video Security System at Elementary Schools (Addams, Ericson, Ewing, Greenberg, Jefferson, Lincoln, Robinson and Winchell).

A-12, RATIFY Purchase Orders from October 01, 2019 – October 31, 2019 – Primary Report

RATIFIED as recommended, information on purchase orders issued from October 01, 2019 through October 31, 2019. Two agenda items are presented to ratify purchase orders. The first item includes the Primary Report with all purchase orders issued during the reported dates with the exception of those that may present a potential conflict of interest for an individual Board member. All remaining purchase orders are in the Supplemental Report and presented as a second agenda item.

A-13, RATIFY Purchase Orders from October 01, 2019 – October 31, 2019 – Supplemental Report

RATIFIED as recommended, information on purchase orders issued from October 01, 2019 through October 31, 2019. Two agenda items are presented to ratify purchase orders. The first item includes the Primary Report with all purchase orders issued during the reported dates with the exception of those that may present a potential conflict of interest for an individual Board member.

All remaining purchase orders are in the Supplemental Report and presented as a second agenda item.

For the record, Member Jonasson Rosas read the following statement:

“Item A-13 on tonight’s agenda contains a purchase orders for Fresno Economic Opportunity Commission. I am employed by Fresno EOC, which is a nonprofit corporation. I did not participate in making the contracts related to these purchase orders; but because of my employment with Fresno EOC, I have a remote financial interest in the contract. Therefore, consistent with my prior recusals relating to Fresno EOC, and in the interest of full transparency, I am abstaining from this vote pursuant to Board Bylaw 9270.”

On a motion by Member Davis, seconded by Member Mills, Agenda Item A-13 was Ratified by a roll call vote of 6-0-1-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Mills, Islas, Major Slatic and Board President Thomas. ABSTAINED: Member Jonasson Rosas.

UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATION

Bruce Ratcliffe – Spoke regarding proposal to build storage.

Carlos Loza – Spoke regarding concerns of discrimination.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-14, HOLD a Public Hearing in the Matter of the Endeavor Charter School Petition

Available in the Board Office for review is a petition presented by Western Sierra Charter Schools for the establishment of a new charter, Endeavor Charter School, to operate July 01, 2020 through June 30, 2025. The educational program will serve approximately 254 students in grades transitional kindergarten through twelve, in an independent study, personalized learning format.

Board President Thomas Opened the Public Hearing in the Matter of the Endeavor Charter School Petition.

For the record, Mr. Michael Cox spoke regarding the Endeavor Charter School education program.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM B-14

Adeline Fouch – Spoke in support of Endeavor Charter School Petition.

Jeff Rice – Spoke in support of Endeavor Charter School Petition.

Glenn Reid – Spoke in support of Endeavor Charter School Petition.

Willow Winrow – Spoke in support of Endeavor Charter School Petition.

Austin Lord – Spoke in support of Endeavor Charter School Petition.

Kristi Allen – Spoke in support of Endeavor Charter School Petition.

Ryan Nelson – Spoke in support of Endeavor Charter School Petition.

Stephanie Ganzenhuber – Spoke in support of Endeavor Charter School Petition.

Darin Soukup – Spoke in support of Endeavor Charter School Petition.

Board President Thomas Closed the Public Hearing in the Matter of the Endeavor Charter School Petition.

For the record, there were questions/comments from Board Members to address Agenda Item B-14. A summary is as follows: Request to staff for a board communication which will provide the calculations used to figure the fiscal impact to the district. Request for clarification if petition request was for a seated program or non-seated. Requested clarification pertaining to what the moratorium covers pertaining to Charter Schools. Requested clarification on when the district received the charter petition; when does the calculation of time begin? Legal Counsel Susan Hatmaker, Michael Cox, Debra Odom, Jeff Rice were available to provide clarity.

For the record, no action was required for this item.

B-15, PRESENT and DISCUSS Update on Fresno Unified Personalized Learning Initiative: Results from Year Three, Update on Year Four, and Rollout Plan

Update on the district's work related to Personalized Learning Initiative and Learning Analytics Models and Partnership. There will also be a high-level review of the rollout plan for personalized, blended learning across the district built upon choice/commitments by teachers' and school sites.

For the record, there were questions/comments from Board Members to address Agenda Item B-15. A summary is as follows: Requested clarification on rollout of program; why is it not happening faster. Expressed appreciation for this initiative. Requested clarification on the plug-in with iReady. Questions pertaining to information on slide No. 18. Requested clarification on return of investment. Executive Officer Phil Neufeld and Director Ryan Coe were available to provide clarity.

For the record, no action was required for this item.

B-15a, DISCUSS and DECIDE in the Matter of the Aspen Ridge High School Charter Petition

Aspen Public Schools, Inc. has delivered a petition to the district seeking authorization to open a new charter, Aspen Ridge High School. The charter seeks to open in the Fall of 2020 with 100 freshmen expanding each year to ultimately reach 420 students in grades nine through twelve. The charter petition was presented to the Board for receipt on November 20, 2019, and a Public Hearing was held at the December 11, 2019 Board meeting.

For the record, Member Jonasson Rosas read the following statement:

“Fresno EOC does business with Aspen Public Schools, Inc., the Petitioner seeking approval of this Charter for Aspen Ridge High School. I am employed by Fresno EOC, which is a nonprofit corporation. I did not participate in the making of this Charter; however, because of my employment with Fresno EOC, I have a remote financial interest in this matter. Consequently, consistent with my prior recusals relating to Fresno EOC, and in the interest of full transparency, I am abstaining from this vote pursuant to Board Bylaw 9270. Because this recusal concerns Item B-15a on the Conference/Discussion portion of the agenda, Board Bylaw 9270 requires that I leave the room until the discussion and disposition of the matter is concluded.”

For the record, Member Jonasson Rosas left the room while this item was discussed.

For the record, Legal Counsel Susan Hatmaker provided clarification on action required for this item.

On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Member Cazares, to approve the Aspen Ridge High School Charter Petition with an amendment from two to four years failed, by a roll call vote of 2-3-1-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares and Davis. NOES: Board Members Islas, Major Slatic, and Board President Thomas. ABSTAINED: Board Member Mills. ABSENT: Board Member Jonasson Rosas.

On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Cazares, to deny the Aspen Ridge High School Charter Petition was approved, by a roll call vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members Cazares, Davis, Islas, Mills, Major Slatic, and Board President Thomas. ABSENT: Board Member Jonasson Rosas.

B-16, PRESENT and DISCUSS Overview of the Governor’s 2020/21 Proposed State Budget

Staff presented an overview of the 2020/21 Proposed State Budget.

For the record, Board Member Jonasson Rosas returned to the meeting.

For the record, there were questions/comments from Board Members to address Agenda Item B-16. A summary is as follows: Requested clarification pertaining to allocation to nutrition/food budget. Request to consider quantity of food in student meals; students would like more. Comments made pertaining to local food procurement. Request for preview of new LCAP document format. Requested clarity on spending funds pertaining to kindergarten.

Deputy Superintendent/CFO Ruth F. Quinto and Executive Directors Santino Danisi and Kim Kelstrom were available to provide clarity.

For the record, no action was required for this item.

B-17, DISCUSS and APPROVE the 2020 List of Board Member Committees and Organizations

APPROVED with modifications, the list of committees and organizations to which Board Members are appointed each year. The Board President has solicited input from Members as to their preferences.

On a motion by Member Cazares, seconded by Member Davis, Agenda Item B-17 was approved with modification to the Audit and ROP committees by a roll call vote of 6-0-1-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, and Board President Thomas. ABSTAINED: Member Major Slatic.

B-18, DISCUSS and APPROVE Master Agreement with Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District for Payment of Drainage Fees

APPROVED as recommended, the master agreement with Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District (Flood Control) to establish a structure for payment for drainage fees for development and improvements to district school sites, including prior development of certain sites. The agreement, negotiated over a period of several years, will benefit the district by ensuring that future school site improvements will not be hampered by Flood Control concerns and will assure regulatory obligations are satisfied through the permits, management activities and infrastructure held and coordinated by Flood Control.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM B-18

Alan Hoffman – Spoke to the importance of the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District Agreement with Fresno Unified.

On a motion by Member Cazares, seconded by Member Mills, Agenda Item B-18 was approved by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic and Board President Thomas.

B-19, DISCUSS and CONSIDER Modifying Resolution No. 19-18 to Censure Trustee Major Slatic

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the Board an opportunity to discuss and consider modifying Resolution No. 19-18 to Censure Trustee Major Slatic, which was adopted on August 7, 2019. The Board may give direction to the Censure Subcommittee to modify Resolution No. 19-18 to Censure Trustee Major Slatic.

For the record, Member Major Slatic made the following statement:

“When a matter is brought before a court, a judge, I’ve been advised by my attorney, asks if informal attempts have been tried to remedy the situation prior to going into a court. This is that informal attempt. Thank you.”

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM B-18

Jessica Mahoney – Spoke to Censure of Trustee Major Slatic. Requested no changes be made to reduce censure.

Elisha Henderson – Spoke to Censure of Trustee Major Slatic. Requested no changes be made to reduce censure but to include more restrictions.

Marisa Moriza – Spoke to Censure of Trustee Major Slatic. Requested the Board denounce Trustee Major Slatic’s behavior.

Howard Watkins – Spoke to Censure of Trustee Major Slatic. Expressed that he did not see a basis to refer to the Censure Committee that would warrant further review.

For the record, there were questions/comments from Board Members to address Agenda Item B-19. A summary is as follows: Board Members have not been provided specific revisions Member Major Slatic is requesting. Request for the Board to refer the matter to legal counsel. Item will not be referred to legal counsel as Member Major Slatic has not provided Board Members with a line item of requests to consider. Chief of Staff was available to provide clarity and advice from legal counsel to revisit this item in six months to review behaviors and if necessary, make modifications.

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

The Board was in receipt of four items as follows:

C-20, RECEIVE Proposed Academic Calendars for 2020/21 and 2021/22

Included in the Board binders are the proposed 2020/21 and 2021/22 academic calendars for Fresno Unified School District. The proposed 2020/21 and 2021/22 academic calendars have been developed to address important calendar components and incorporate recent stakeholder feedback. The proposed academic calendars will return to the Board on January 29, 2020 for discussion and adoption. Fiscal impact: There is no fiscal impact to the district at this time. Contact person: Kim Mecum, telephone 457-3731.

C-21, RECEIVE the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers 2019 – 2022 Initial Proposal to the Fresno Unified School District

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers 2019 – 2022 initial proposal to the Fresno Unified School District. In accordance with Government Code 3547, all initial proposals of the exclusive representative shall be presented at a public meeting of the public-school employer, and thereafter shall be public record. Fiscal impact: There is no fiscal impact to the district at this time. Contact person: Paul Idsvoog, telephone 457-3548.

C-22, RECEIVE the Fresno Unified School District 2019 – 2022 Initial Proposal to the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers

Fresno Unified School District 2019 – 2022 initial proposal to the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers. In accordance with Government Code 3547, all initial proposals of the public-school employers shall be presented at a public meeting of the public-school employer, and thereafter shall be public record. Fiscal impact: There is no fiscal impact to the district at this time. Contact person: Paul Idsvoog, telephone 457-3548.

C-23, RECEIVE Proposed Revisions for Board Policy

Included in the Board binders are proposed revisions for one Board Policy (BP):

- BP 5125 Student Records

These revisions meet the California Department of Education Federal Program Monitoring requirements and best practices. The item will be brought back for approval at a future Board meeting. Fiscal impact: There is no fiscal impact to the district at this time. Contact person: Kurt Madden, telephone 457-3868.

ADJOURNMENT

Board President Thomas declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.