

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

#### Fresno, California May 20, 2020

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 Paragraph 3, the May 20, 2020 Board of Education meeting was held via teleconferencing and available for all members of the public seeking to observe via http://go.fresnounified.org/ustream/, or on the Ustream App on your Android or Apple device, Comcast Xfinity Channel 94 and AT&T U-Verse Channel 99, or through the following teleconference line: Teleconference Line – English - Dial in: +1 559-512-2623 Passcode: 141 945 774#. Teleconference Line – Spanish - Dial in: +1 559-512-2623 Passcode: 281 959 252#.

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held on May 20, 2020, there were present Board Members Davis, Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, and President Thomas. Superintendent Nelson was also present.

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

The Board RECONVENED in Open Session at 5:45 p.m.

### Reporting Out of Closed Session

- On a motion by Board Member Mills, seconded by Board Clerk Davis, by a vote of 7-0-0-0 the Board took action in closed session to promote Meegan Grant, Vice Principal at Storey Elementary School to Principal II at Wilson Elementary School.
- On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board Clerk Davis, by a vote of 7-0-0-0 the Board took action in closed session to promote Cari Lopez, Vice Principal at Figarden Elementary School to Principal at Figarden Elementary School.
- On a motion by Board Member Mills, seconded by Board President Thomas, by a vote of 7-0-0-0, the Board took action in closed session to promote Beth Doyle, Vice Principal at Addams Elementary School to Principal at Addams Elementary School.

- On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Islas, by a vote of 7-0-0-0 the Board took action in closed session to promote Toua Chang, Vice Principal at Greenberg Elementary School to Principal at Balderas Elementary School.
- On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Clerk Davis, by a vote of 7-0-0 the Board took action in closed session to promote Noemi Parayno, Vice Principal at Rowell Elementary School to Principal at Jackson Elementary School.
- On a motion by Board Member Isals, seconded by Board Member Cazares, by a vote of 7-0-0-0 the Board took action in closed session to lateral Xee Moua, Principal at Wolters Elementary School to Principal at Hidalgo Elementary School.
- On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Clerk Davis, by a vote of 7-0-0-0 the Board took action in closed session to appoint Brian Vollhardt, Vice Principal at Bullard High School to Principal at Wolters Elementary School.

# HEAR Report from Superintendent

- Acknowledged Classified Employees Appreciation Week. We need you; we see you; we love you; we appreciate all the contributions of our Classified staff.
- Shared, 2.2 million meals served as of last Friday. That is three meals for every single human being in Fresno!
- Highlighted May is Mental Health Awareness month. Taking care of our mental health is crucial and even more so during times of a global pandemic. There is a lot to be stressed about during these times and we must be proactive in taking care of ourselves to function at the extremely high level our community needs us to right now. Fresno Unified has several resources for our students, staff, and families in need of social emotional wellness support. Head to our website at fresnounified.org and click the social emotional wellness picture to be taken directly to those resources including direct referral forms for help. This Friday, tune in live at 12:30 p.m. through our website, Facebook or Instagram for our district livestream conversation, "How Do I Deal with the Stress of a Pandemic?"
- Shared today teams started a pilot program utilizing our school buses to provide Wi-Fi in the Kirk neighborhood for our students. We had two buses parked at Kirk Elementary School today from 10:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Those two buses will be available for students this Thursday and Friday, as well as Tuesday through Friday next week from 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. After next week, we will analyze the utilization and need and talk about expanding the program.
- Stated this board meeting is the first meeting before the end of the traditional school year which ends on Thursday, June 4. We encourage everyone to continue engaging in your learning like you have over these last couple of weeks
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and make sure you get your grades improved before the deadline of May 22 for seniors and June 1 for all other grades. We are so proud of all our students and families for adapting along with us during these school closures.

- Shared that the end of the school year also means that we are transitioning to our summer meal program: Thursday, June 4, the last day of school, we will be providing meals for both Thursday and Friday at all 23 meal sites as we will NOT be serving meals on Friday, June 5. We will re-open meal services on Monday, June 8 serving at 22 sites from 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. We will post all sites and times on our website and social media. The summer meals program will continue through Friday, August 14 and we will serve on weekdays, except Friday, July 3 which is a district holiday. We will serve two days of meals on Thursday, July 2 to prepare. Monday, May 25 is a district holiday so this Friday, May 22 we will be serving two days of meals to prepare.
- Reminded everyone that our virtual senior celebrations start tomorrow with Design Science. You can find the full schedule on our website and social media. We hope you will join us in celebrating our seniors. Please tag us in all your celebrations from home using the hashtags #WeLoveFUSDSeniors and #FUSDClassOF2020.
- Shared that as the traditional school year winds down there is a lot of concern and anxiety swirling around what next school year will look like. While we don't have any hard and fast answers at this time, I want to ensure you that we are working diligently on how we safely reopen school and serve our students. We are committed to provide high quality instruction and safe environments for our students and our teams. We will keep you informed through our website and social media as we have more information throughout the summer.
- Encouraged the community to complete their Census form if they have not already. It takes just a few minutes and means so much to the funding of crucial services in our community, including schools.

# **BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS**

**Board Member Islas** – Wished a Happy Birthday to Superintendent Nelson. Recognized amazing work of the Food Services staff. Thanked teachers and staff in the McLane Region for help with distribution. Denounced incident that happened with Councilmember Arias. Expressed importance of respecting and supporting each other and agreeing to disagree. Shout out to graduates, acknowledge valedictorians of McLane High School. Thanked all graduates who may one day be future leaders.

**Board Member Major Slatic** – Shared he has received positive feedback from constituents pertaining to Superintendent Nelson's last radio interview. Shared request from constituents pertaining to moving the vote for district budget from June 10 to the June 17, 2020 Board Meeting, and request for the district to create a platform for constituents to share comments in person rather than via email.

Requested timeline for when Trustees will be able to access data pertaining to teacher/home communications.

**Board Member Mills** – Thanked all staff for their work during this school year. Congratulated all graduates at every high school. Requested staff to collect the guidelines for reopening of schools and provide to Board Members via a Board Communication.

**Board Member Cazares** – Thanked teachers, administrators, and staff for their work and support for students. Thanked Board President Thomas for sponsoring a Spanish Town Hall Meeting and thanked parents that participated. Congratulated graduates and recognized Hoover valedictorian, Joseph Cordova. Thanked staff for facilitating virtual graduations. Recognized her son who will graduate from Edison High School.

**Board Clerk Davis** – Thanked staff, administrators, and teachers for their work. Shout out to 2020 Graduates. Personal shout out to her nephew, Ronald Florentino. Congratulated students who won the Fresno Unified Scholarships.

**Board Member Jonasson Rosas -** Wished Superintendent Nelson a Happy Birthday. Recognized Roosevelt student graduates and scholarship winners. Acknowledged Tree Fresno and Tehipite staff for beautification of campus. Requested follow-up on comments made pertaining to reopening; would like a chance for Board Members to discuss and then provide information to the community. Requested clarity on Board Communication pertaining to Designated Schools; would like to see how much has been spent and what the district is recommending being spent; and to compare academic data with monetary data. Would like to see how data fares against other programs before any decisions are made pertaining to Designated Schools. Concerns shared pertaining to community access to COVID-19 testing centers and barriers faced by those who live in southwest Fresno. Hoping the District can work in partnership with the City of Fresno to reopen schools safely and provide services to the community.

**Student Board Member Romero –** Expressed support and love to those working for Fresno Unified.

**Student Board Member Camarillo** – Encouraged those students taking AP exams. Congratulated Seniors who received scholarships and those Seniors who are graduating. Congratulated Teacher's Academy Interns. Commented on textbook drop-off, how will the district communicate to students and families, and recommended a textbook drop-off to elementary school sites.

**Board President Thomas** – Expressed appreciation for the Edison Region. Shared there is only one more year of graduates from when she taught at McLane. Shared the African American High School Recognition Celebration has 268 graduates and with community partnerships has \$50,000 in scholarships. Wished Superintendent Nelson a Happy Birthday. Thanked Board Member Major Slatic for positive reinforcements to the District. Expressed support for COVID-19 testing, would like the Board to have a conversation and then vote on the item after taking into consideration staff recommendations. Expressed importance all being on the same page and of taking care of the community.

### **OPPROTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

For the record, there were no public comments for this portion of the agenda.

On a motion by Board Member Islas, seconded by Board Clerk Davis, the Consent Agenda was approved, apart from Agenda Items A-2a, A-10, A-20, on a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Davis, Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, and Board President Thomas.

# A. CONSENT AGENDA

#### A-1, APPROVE Personnel List APPROVED as recommended

### A-2, ADOPT Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators

**APPROVED as recommended**, the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators, which certifies that there may be an insufficient number of certificated persons who meet the District's specified employment criteria for the positions listed on the Declaration.

### A-2A, ADOPT Emergency Resolution 19-42 Pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22050 for Abatement and Demolition of Building at 2526 and 2540 East Hedges Avenue

**ADOPTED as recommended**, Emergency Resolution 19-42 to provide for abatement and demolition of the district-owned building located at 2526 and 2540 East Hedges Avenue.

For the record Board Members had comments/questions regarding Agenda Item A-2A. A summary is as follows: Requested clarity on plans for the parcel after abatement and demolition. Expressed the importance of holding on to the property. Chief of Operations Karin Temple was available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Member Mills, Agenda Item A-2A, was approved, on a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Davis, Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, and Board President Thomas.

#### A-3, APPROVE Minutes from Prior Meeting

**APPROVED as recommended**, the draft minutes for the April 15, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.

A-4, APPROVE Addendum to the Center for Advanced Research and Technology Operating Agreement APPROVED as recommended, an addendum to the Operating Agreement

between Fresno Unified School District, Clovis Unified School District, and the Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART) for the CART Technology Refresh Project.

- A-5, APPROVE Amendment to the Agreement with London Medical Management APPROVED as recommended, an amendment to the agreement with London Medical Management to provide out-of-network medical claims cost reduction services.
- A-6, APPROVE Amendment to Existing Agreement with Care Solace APPROVED as recommended, to amend the existing agreement with Care Solace and extend the term of the agreement to June 30, 2020.
- A-7, APPROVE Grant Application to the Department of Education Teacher and School Leader Incentive Program Grant APPROVED as recommended, to write and submit the grant application to the Department of Education – Teacher and Leader Incentive Program Grant.
- A-8, APPROVE Multiyear Contract with Cisco Systems Capital Corp. from Development Group Inc. for Annual Updates and Technical Support of District Telecommunications Systems

**APPROVED as recommended**, the Cisco Systems Capital Corp. multi-year payment contract for purchase of the annual updates and technical support of the district's Cisco telecommunications system.

A-9, APPROVE Multiyear Contract with Cisco Systems Capital Corp. from Development Group Inc. for Annual Updates and Technical Support of District Content Filter and Firewall Subscriptions APPROVED as recommended, the Cisco Systems Capital Corp. (Cisco Capital) multi-year payment contract for purchase of the annual subscription and support

for the Cisco Umbrella cloud-based content filter and Cisco Firepower firewall.

A-10, APPROVE Award of Request for Qualifications 20-26, Musical Instruments Service and Repair

**APPROVED as recommended**, Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 20-26, to provide a pool of qualified vendors to perform service and repair of musical instruments.

For the record Board Members had comments/questions regarding Agenda Item A-10. A summary is as follows: Asked if the Board should hold off on this item and if students should be allowed to take instruments home. Requested information pertaining to keeping instruments over the summer be provided to all music teachers and communicated to families. Chief of Operations Karin Temple and Manager Catherine Aujero were available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Clerk Davis, Agenda Item A-10 was approved, on a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Davis, Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, and Board President Thomas.

A-11, APPROVE Award of Request for Proposals 20-31, Security Guard Services APPROVED as recommended, Request for Proposals (RFP) 20-31, to provide security guard services including vehicle and foot patrol of district sites during nonschool hours, emergency response to fire and intrusion alarms, and standing guards for school events and other needs

### A-12, APPROVE Proposed Revisions for Board Policies

APPROVED as recommended, proposed revisions for twenty-three Board Policies

- A-13, DENY Claim GL19-0409-2945 DENIED as recommended, Claim for Damages by a minor, case GL19-0409-2945.
- A-14, DENY Claim GL19-0409-2946 DENIED as recommended, Claim for Damages by a minor, case GL19-0409-2946.
- A-15, RATIFY Application to No Kid Hungry for the Share Our Strength Grant Program

**RATIFIED as recommended**, the district's application to the No Kid Hungry national campaign operated by Share Our Strength, a non-profit working to solve problems of hunger and poverty in the United States and around the world.

- A-16, RATIFY Grant Application to the David and Lucile Packard Foundation: Starting Smart and Strong Initiative for a Two-year Grant Cycle RATIFIED as recommended, the 2020/21 and 2021/22 Grant Application for the David and Lucille Packard Foundation:
- A-17, RATIFY Grant Application to the 2020 Community Oriented Policing Services – School Violence Prevention Program to Provide Technology Safety Enhancements for Schools

**RATIFIED as recommended**, the district's grant application to the 2020 Community Oriented Policing Services – School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) which provides up to 75% funding to improve school safety through projects on K-12 school grounds.

### A-18, RATIFY Change Orders for the Projects Listed Below

**RATIFIED as recommended**, information on Change Orders for the following projects: Bid 19-51 Sections B and C, Mechanical Improvements for Various Schools: Malloch Elementary School and Tehipite Middle School, Change Order 1

presented for ratification (Malloch) \$8,348, Change Order 1 presented for ratification (Tehipite) \$14,648; Bid 20-02 Sections A and B, McLane and Roosevelt High Schools Ballfield Scoreboards Installation Rebid, Change Order 1 presented for ratification (McLane) \$8,722, Change Order 1 presented for ratification (Roosevelt) \$4,467; Bid 20-15, Viking Elementary School Portable Classrooms and Restroom Infrastructure, Change Order 1 presented for ratification \$23,729.

### A-19, RATIFY Purchase Orders from March 1, 2020 through March 31, 2020 – Primary Report

**RATIFIED as recommended**, information on purchase orders issued from March 01, 2020 through March 31, 2020. 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-20, RATIFY Purchase Orders from March 01, 2020 through March 31, 2020 – Supplemental Report

**RATIFIED as recommended**, information on purchase orders issued from March 01, 2020 through March 31, 2020.

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

"Item A-20 on tonight's agenda contains a purchase order for the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission. I am employed by Fresno EOC, which is a nonprofit corporation. I did not participate in making the contract related to the purchase order; 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 Board Clerk Davis, seconded by Board Member Mills, Agenda Item A-20 was approved, on a roll call vote of 6-0-1-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Davis, Cazares, Islas, Mills, Major Slatic, and Board President Thomas. ABSTENTION: Board Member Jonasson Rosas.

# UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

**Shelby Ortiz –** Good evening members of the Board and Superintendent Nelson, I wanted to express my continued concern for safety at Wawona K-8 School for our elementary students, especially with the restroom situation. I came and spoke to the Board in February about this concern. I met with a few District Administrators that seemed eager to address my concern but after talking with them over a few days, I was directed to speak with the Principal. The Principal showed me how the restroom safety process/protocol is handled with the older students. The 2nd grade restroom is connected to classrooms used by 7th and 8th graders. They have directed 7th & 8th students not to walk down the main hall and use different paths to get to their classrooms. This procedure/protocol is not adequate and unsafe especially with minimal adult supervision since teachers are in the classroom teaching and our CA's can only be in so many places at once. I feel like my concerns were not addressed when I met with District Administration. Our site administration can only do so much with their facility and now is the time to address and hopefully modify the construction plan. I continue to be concerned about the safety of my child and all our students at Wawona and will continue to ask for a better restroom plan. Starting next year we will have double the amount of students using these restrooms (2nd-3rd graders) meaning there is more opportunity for something to happen. Shelby Ortiz

Juan Ortiz - We are a group of parents from Wawona K-8 School. We are concerned about bathroom safety for our 2nd graders in the Dual Immersion program. During kindergarten and 1st grade our students were in a gated area, completely separated from the middle school students. At the beginning of this year the classrooms were located outside of the gate and connected to the end of the building of middle school classrooms. Several of us brought this to the Administration at the beginning of the year and voiced our concern about student safety, especially in the bathrooms. We have continued to voice the concern with several apologies from the Administration but without any action to solve the problem. There have been incidents throughout the year with the middle school students going in the designated 2nd grade bathroom and students feeling uncomfortable. We want to be able to send our children to school and know they are safe, especially in a vulnerable place like the bathroom - there is no adult supervision and no way of monitoring it. We are requesting a plan that involves the best interest of our little ones and ensures their safety when we start school in the Fall. Our school is in the middle of construction, right now is the time to rethink and adjust our plans. We want to work with the District and Wawona's administration on making Wawona feel safe for our students. Juan Ortiz, Chloe Cardoza, Amanda Contreras, Clemencia Salazar and Trina Sanchez

# **B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA**

### B-21, PRESENT and DISCUSS the State's May Revised Budget Proposal PRESENTED and DISCUSSED, Governor Newsom's State's May Revised Budget Proposal for 2020/21. Staff presented the updated information to the Board of Education including the budget risks and the impact to Fresno Unified School District.

# **OPPROTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM B-21**

For the record there were no public comments to address Agenda Item B-21.

For the record, there were questions/comments from Board Members to address Agenda Item B-21. A summary is as follows: Commented on the Designated Schools Model and expressed concerns pertaining to the model and costs related to the program. Requested to suspend the Designated Schools program through the 2020/21 school year. Thanked staff for time to review presentation before the Board meeting, for their tireless work, and the laser focus on student outcomes. Asked what it could look like with the deferred State income tax in July. Noted, additional resources will need to be allocated for new instructional delivery models with the reopening of schools. Suggested, maintaining afterschool programs, does not want to sweep resources but have resources dedicated to program. Expressed thought that reductions be made now to save programs and not lay-off staff. Suggested the suspension of the Designated Schools program during the 2020/21 school year. Requested a vote on the budget be held on June 17, 2020. Expressed deep commitment to disadvantaged student populations. Student populations that are struggling with COVID-19, who do not have technology or internet access, and who are showing up for meals. Reminded colleagues some programs were put in place to serve disadvantaged student populations. Preserving and expanding programs in service to African American, Special Education, English Language Learners, and Foster Youth and Homeless student populations. Expressed appreciation for the district reserves which are in place due to work of Ruth F. Quinto. Requested clarity pertaining to the State's COVID-19 Relief Fund. Requested clarity regarding the State's next round of relief. Requested the District to focus on providing as many resources as possible to teachers and students in August 2020. Expressed appreciation for the finance team. Suggested to have action items available for discussion at next Board Meeting and making decisions sooner rather than later. Recommended implementing a hiring freeze, looking at foregoing raises and reducing the Board stipend instead of furlough days. Suggested a Board Meeting in July be scheduled. Deputy Superintendent/CFO Ruth F. Quinto, Chief of Staff David Chavez, and Superintendent Nelson were available to provide clarity.

For the record, no action was required for Agenda Item B-21.

# **C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS**

The Board was in receipt of Agenda Items C-22 and C-23.

### ADJOURNMENT

Board President Thomas declared the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.