



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
September 09, 2020**

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 Paragraph 3, the September 09, 2020 Board of Education meeting was held via teleconferencing and was available for all members of the public seeking to observe via [Uhttp://go.fresnounified.org/ustream/U](http://go.fresnounified.org/ustream/U), 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: 982 851 552#; **Teleconference Line – Spanish**: Dial in: +1 559-512-2623, Passcode: 951 997 541#.

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held on September 09, 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 five.

The Board RECONVENED in Open Session at 5:30 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGE the 2020/21 Student Board Representatives and Alternates

The Board recognized Joshua Camarillo, Edison High School, and Richard Romero, Fresno High School as the 2020/21 Student Board Members. Alternate is Ishan Singh of Sunnyside High School.

HEAR Reports from Student Board Representatives

The Board heard a report from Gwendolyne Aguilar & Ishan Singh, Student Advisory Board representatives from Sunnyside High School; and students from Terronez Middle School spoke about what they love about Terronez.

For the record, Board Members took a moment to congratulate the student board members and share words of encouragement.

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 on a Workers' Compensation claim for Patrick Adams, Case No.2009-0078, 2010-0821.

HEAR Report from Superintendent

- Recognized Deputy Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer, Ruthie Quinto's contributions to the Fresno Unified School District. Ruthie has given our district 15 years of service and will be moving on from the district at the end of the month. Over that period, Ms. Quinto has established an annual strategic budgeting process that has provided increased clarity, transparency, and predictability for Board members, employees, and members of the public alike. During her tenure, the district has maintained a positive budgetary certification, reduced, and ultimately eliminated financial audit findings across the system, and ensured adequate district reserves for California's third largest school district, most particularly in times of global economic downturn.
- For the record, Superintendent Nelson provided Deputy Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer, Ruth F. Quinto a moment to address staff and the public.
- Reminded everyone to please complete the 2020 Census. The census must be completed by the end of September and it can be completed online, by phone, or by working with a Census representative who comes to your door. Our community has about a 67% response rate at this time and we do not want to miss the opportunity to ensure our community is properly represented.
- Shared our After-School Programs are currently enrolling all students at all campuses. All after-school programs are virtual at this time and we are excited that this virtual format has allowed us to expand our program offerings to all students for free. If you'd like to get your student registered, please call your school directly to register. You can find your school's phone number at schools.fresnounified.org.
- Announced the Virtual Innovation Program (VIP) brought to our students through a partnership between our College and Career Readiness Department and the Lyle's Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Fresno State. The VIP program is available to all students pre-k to 12th grade and will hold monthly challenges for our students to stretch and build their skills. If you are interested in getting involved check out the College and Career Readiness webpage at Fresnounified.org
- Shared the [virtual groundbreaking of Juan Felipe Herrera Elementary School](#). The video is a bit longer than usual for a board meeting, but we felt this accomplishment and moment could not be under-valued even in this time where we could not celebrate in person.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION

Trustee Jonasson Rosas - Requested clarity pertaining to the National Assessment Educational Progress state sampling. Requested if an Agenda Item

regarding the Transfers process could be added to the next Board Agenda.

Trustee Cazares – Thanked Superintendent Nelson for sharing the Juan Felipe Herrera Elementary School video. Thanked the voting and tax paying community for helping the district by passing the bond measure so that work like Juan Felipe Herrera can continue. Shared the district would love for students to return to class but we are required to follow recommendations provided by the California Department of Public Health. Thanked Kurt Madden and his team for helping fill the digital divide. Expressed deep appreciation for Ruth F. Quinto.

Trustee Davis – Thanked and honored our labor partners. Thanked the community for investing in our children by supporting the bond measure. Expressed appreciation for Ruth F. Quinto and recognized her honesty, transparency and dedication to the work, and her financial discipline.

Trustee Major Slatc – Referenced a board communication pertaining to mandated reporting. Requested clarity as to who mandated reporters report to. Requested clarity as to what number/percentage of students have yet to be contacted, by high school region. Requested clarity as to why school events are scheduled on board meeting nights, when in past it was not the case. Referenced incidents in the news relating to unacceptable conduct during a virtual class and requested clarity as to if the district has a policy to address issue. Requested clarity as to who has access to observe a class at a site in which they are not connected.

Trustee Islas – Thanked and acknowledged Ruth F. Quinto for her service. Thanked her for being an incredible role-model. Shared that as a woman of color she has been a great example for Latinas. Commended her for taking time to care for her family. Echoed comments shared by her colleagues regarding the Juan Felipe Herrera groundbreaking. Shared a quote by Juan Felipe Herrera. Shared shout out to Ericson Elementary regarding attendance. Recognized Mrs. Lee for making sure that students have devices at Ewing Elementary. Thanked Food Services and Custodial staff. Requested a town hall conversation be organized to discuss police reform.

Trustee Mills – Thanked Ruth F. Quinto for her years of service and wished nothing but the best to her and her family. Recognized Officer Teklemariam at Fresno High for her years of service.

Student Member Camarillo – Thanked the Board for their kind words. Shared he is glad to return as a student board member. Thanked Food Services for their work in distributing meals. Thanked the technology team for their work getting devices to students. Shared he is in the works to create a tech club at Edison High School. Shared interest in a town hall to discuss police presence on campuses. Thanked Ruth F. Quinto for her great service to the district.

Student Member Romero – Expressed excitement for the new school year. Thanked Ruth F. Quinto for her service to the district.

Board President Thomas – Requested staff to think about the importance of knowing why a school is named what it is named, possible opportunity to create and advisory lesson for sites. Expressed appreciation for the district’s labor partners. Requested to have a discussion regarding mandated reporting, and the need to have the call number visible and easily located. Expressed appreciation for Ruth F. Quinto and her work for the district.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

For the record, there were zero submissions received for public comments for the Consent Agenda.

On a motion by Board Clerk Davis, seconded by Board Member Mills, the Consent Agenda was approved, apart from Agenda Item A-11, 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 Variable Term Waiver for Bilingual, Cross-cultural, Language and Development Authorization

ADOPTED as recommended, a Variable Term Waiver request for Carina Huizar-Herrera to serve as Dual Immersion Multiple Subject teacher.

A-3, ADOPT Variable Term Waiver for Career Technical Education Credential Holders

ADOPTED as recommended, the communication from Fresno County Superintendent of Schools explaining the recommendations for the Variable Term Waiver for Career Technical Education (CTE) Credential holders.

A-4, ADOPT Variable Term Waiver

ADOPTED as recommended, Variable Term Waivers for teachers that have exhausted the Provisional Internship Permit and the Short-Term Staff Permit.

A-5, APPROVE Minutes from Prior Meeting

APPROVED as recommended, the draft minutes from the August 26, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.

A-6, APPROVE Provisional Internship Permits

APPROVED as recommended, are Provisional Internship Permit recommendations to rehire or hire upon Board approval.

- A-7, APPROVE Agreement with Delta Dental of California**
APPROVED as recommended, a renewal agreement with Delta Dental of California.
- A-8, APPROVE Award of Bid 21-05, Hoover High School Career Technical Education (CTE) Classroom Improvements**
APPROVED as recommended, is information on Bid 21-05, to modify two existing classrooms into digital laboratories to house the CTE pathway for Digital Media Arts and Entertainment at Hoover High School.
- A-9, APPROVE/RATIFY Agreements for Additional Distance Learning Support**
APPROVED/RATIFIED as recommended, agreements from the general fund regarding additional investments to enhance the instructional delivery of distance learning.
- A-10, RATIFY Agreement with Fresno County Early Stars Program**
RATIFIED as recommended, the Fresno County Early Stars Program grant to Fresno Unified School District Early Learning Department of \$40,000 in a service agreement for the entire project period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022.
- A-11, RATIFY Agreement with City of Fresno for Grant Funding for the COVID-19**
RATIFIED as recommended, an agreement with the City of Fresno for a grant of up to \$2,324,300 to support the cost of meals provided to adults at schools in the central, southeast and southwest regions of Fresno from August 17 to December 31, 2020.

For the record, Board Members had questions/comments pertaining to Agenda Item A-11. A summary is as follows: Thanked the City of Fresno for partnership as it allows the district to recoup resources and continue service to the community. Requested clarity as to the number of schools served. Expressed appreciation to staff. Chief of Operations Karin Temple was available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Member Islas, seconded by Board President Thomas, Agenda Item A-11 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.

- A-12, RATIFY Change Orders for the Projects Listed Below**
RATIFIED as recommended, information on Change Orders for the following projects:
- Bid 19-41, Wawona K-8 School Classroom and Restroom Additions

Change Order 7 presented for ratification: \$31,135

- Bid 19-42 Sections B, C and D, Lighting Improvements at Various Schools Phase 3: (Section B) Heaton, Manchester, Mayfair, Norseman, Phoenix Academy Elementary Schools and Fresno High School; (Section C) Balderas, Calwa, Greenberg, Storey Elementary Schools, Terronez Middle School and Sunnyside High School; (Section D) Hidalgo, Leavenworth, Lowell Elementary Schools, Edison High School, Cesar Chavez Adult School and The Center for Professional Development
Change Order 1 presented for ratification (Sections B, C, D): \$33,788
- Bid 19-52 Sections B, D, and E, Energy Management Controls Upgrades for Various Schools: (Section B) Bullard Talent; (Section D) Greenberg; (Section E) Terronez
Deduct Change Order 1 presented for ratification (Sections B, D, E): \$-65,377
- Bid 19-55, Phoenix Secondary Academy Portable Infrastructure and Site Development
Change Order 5 presented for ratification: \$106,704
- Bid 20-15, Viking Elementary School Portable Classrooms and Restroom Infrastructure
Change Order 3 presented for ratification: \$13,632
- Bid 20-40 Sections A and B, Cooper and Fort Miller Middle Schools Electrical Upgrades
Change Order 1 presented for ratification (Cooper): \$28,715
- Bid 20-41, Scandinavian Middle School Gymnasium Make-Up Air Units Replacement
Change Order 1 presented for ratification: \$1,375

A-13, RATIFY the Filing of Notices of Completion

RATIFIED as recommended, Notices of Completion for the following projects, which have been completed according to plans and specifications:

- Bid 19-52 Sections B, D, and E, Energy Management Controls Upgrades for Various Schools: Bullard Talent, Greenberg Elementary Schools and Terronez Middle School
- Bid 20-59, Abatement and Demolition of Building Located at 2526 and 2540 E. Hedges Avenue

UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

For the record twenty-three submissions of public comment were received for Unscheduled Oral Communications. They are as follows:

1. Samantha Ceja – Voicemail Transcribed

Hello, my name is Samantha Ceja, an alumni of FUSD, and I will be commenting on the contract with Fresno PD that FUSD will be deciding on to keep or not. I think it's really important that we stay away from funding the police, especially on our school campuses. I think it's very important to instead fund mental health services and the police on campus they really instill fear in many students and especially with everything going on in America right now I think it's important to foster a community of safety and trust and I believe that the police don't really go along with those guidelines and I as an FUSD alumni I have been harassed by a cop before for being in my own car and I felt really unsafe on campus and I think that shouldn't be happening to any other students and so I think we should fund care and not the police. Thank you.

2. Holly Hiatt

As a student who attended school in the Central Valley throughout my whole adolescent years until I graduated in 2018, my campuses were police free. There was no need for any armed authority, and I am confident that the presence of one would have created a much more hostile environment, one not at all conducive to growth let alone learning. To summarize an educator in FUSD shared, safety on campus is created within relationships of trust, open communication, and support. Funding for school programs to actually support students should be made available from funding now going to terrorize students at schools with police. #FUNDCARENOTCOPS

3. Kadee Hiatt

Hello, my name is Kadee Hiatt and I am a recent graduate of the class of 2020.

My experience of having the police on campus was not a positive one. Friends of mine that were of color experienced intimidation from officers on campus that myself and other white classmates never experienced. I personally experienced anxiety around the officers on campus and found myself uneasy whenever they were around. I urge you to not renew the contracts and instead invest other methods of safety on campus that would deal with mental health and prevention against dangerous situations.

I also believe that it would help students of color feel safer and more secure on campus especially in light of the many recent officer involved shootings of people of color.

Again, I urge you to NOT renew the contracts.
Thank you for your time and consideration.

4. Lani Duarte - Voicemail Transcribed

Hi, my name is Lani Duarte and I am pleading with the Fresno Unified School District to keep their contracts with Fresno PD. First of all I'd like to state I am confused as to why we are contemplating keeping officers off of campus but we have campus security, both are there to serve the same purpose and that is not to just protect teachers from students but vice versa. To protect students from teachers and in addition, protect students from other students. Unfortunately, we humans have not made our world a Utopia due to our own weak flesh, we lose our tempers, we sin against each other each and every day and will do so for the rest of our lives as a result of our imperfections. Therefore, we can not rely on trust as we can only trust each other to a certain extent. Believe me, I would love for us to get along and talk our problems through but that is not always the case. For instance, at my school fights occur and our one police officer along with campus security was there to break up the fight in the proper manner. At my school, I have never seen a cop be a threat to a student. It is only at other schools have I heard the students be a threat to the cops. The officer's purpose is to protect not threaten and our school police officers have and will always do just that. School is not as safe as it used to be, and we need all the protection we can get from outside threats or from each other. We need our officers for they are our protection.

5. Vanessa Romero

As a former student I'm very aware that most students would feel safer without police at their campus. Fresno unified is made up of diverse students that cannot flourish or be completely happy in schools that have police. Police commit violent acts against our communities too often to feel safe around them.

6. Christy Lind – Voicemail Transcribed

Hi, my name is Christy and I have some comments not about an agenda item but just about the subject teacher leveling. I'm a teacher here in Fresno Unified, I just wanted to comment on the overage process. We had to overage a wonderful teacher this year even though our four kindergarten classes are sitting at twenty-seven students and we've had a new student enroll almost every day through last week. I understand the ratios and the number process, but it seems to me we keep acknowledging that this is an unprecedented year and the future is unknown. Maybe there should be some consideration that we don't know what the rest of year holds, and we should let teachers stay where they are. Enrollment numbers may shift when we go back in person and teachers have already poured their hearts, time, and tears into these first four weeks of school to prepare for distance learning. Relationships are so hard to build virtually, and these teachers have laid foundations in these first few weeks that the district widely suggested we take time to build connections with families. It seems wrong to rip teachers from school sites and their students at this time. Thank you for your time.

7. David Paredes – Voicemail Transcribed

Hi, my name is David Paredes. I am a resident in the City of Fresno, in FUSD I'm in area five. I'm leaving a public comment in regards to the meeting taking place tomorrow, in which the school board will be deciding whether to keep the contract with the Police Department. I am for breaking off this contract with Fresno PD. So, I fully encourage the school board to vote this way. I believe Police Officers do not belong at schools and we could be putting our resources and energy into things that will help the well-being and nurture education for our youth. Thank you so much, bye bye.

8. Ernesto Saavedra

Please "read the room". "Schools" are places for learning and growing. An opportunity to foster creative, critical thought and practice. Unfortunately, the opposite is the reality. Schools often times are microcosms of the greater carceral society, operating under the guise of "education" when the only thing youth are being taught is how to "fall in line". A perfect example of this is police presence on school campuses, in particular campuses with a high population of low income, Black, Indigenous and youth of color.

Police presence on campus is counterintuitive to the very nature of a space of caring and learning. Unless, of course, you're goal is to create a space of negativity, fear and trauma then having police on campus makes sense because that's all they bring to our communities already. Equating "police" with "safety" is double speak because they inherently and by design do the opposite. Often times they are the orchestrators of pushing our youth out of schools instead of investing in restorative justice practices and curriculum.

As someone who grew up in the Fresno Unified school system, police free schools is long overdue and now is the time to be bold and work with community to create something new and be an example for other school districts.

9. Alonso Santos-Gonzalez

Hello, I am a graduate of the Fresno Unified School system and I believe that SROs should not be on our campuses. The school-to-prison pipeline is a major issue in our education system and SROs play a major role in funneling our FUSD students of color into the juvenile court system. Instead, FUSD needs to divert that money to invest in Mental Health services for our youth. Many of the issues that result in arrests, such as behavioral problems and substance use, stem from mental health conditions, and these conditions need to be addressed with more school therapists as well as community services-especially in low-income FUSD schools/communities. Instead of SROs, we need more restorative justice measures that get to the root of disputes between students and shift away from

punishment and towards reconciliation. Please end the contract with SROs and prioritize the needs of our students, not the punishment. Thank you, Alonso Santos-Gonzalez,

10. Gino Hernandez

Having probation officers and PD on school campuses has absolutely no effect in producing any reform of diligence or quote on quote “disciplinary” factors. The fact is substantial in that police do not display anything that is worth acknowledging. Police use unnecessary forms of intimidation tactics on young children and the youth on campuses, and there needs to be more changes and efforts in decolonizing education, and creating safe and better outreach programs for kids and teens. They’re under enough pressure as it is, and police only add to the excessive agitation that face kids and teens today. Invest in better after school programs, on-campus mental health programs, better networking communicative programs between teachers and their students. Cops in this town DO NOT need any more funds from the city or the state. It is absolutely abhorrent and ridiculous with the amount of funding that is placed into the Fresno PD, and they certainly do not need it. Schools must cut off contracts with Fresno PD. Safer schools means no police on campuses.

11. Carrie Ayala

Please stop hurting students by policing them on campus. They need support, not punishment. Invest in youth, fund programs that help youth grow. Defund the police, end the contract now.

12. Haley Wolfe

I am writing to encourage Fresno Unified to divest from the Fresno PD and keep police officers out of schools. Police pose a threat to student safety, particularly to Black and Latino students. Instead of school resource officers, I encourage hiring more counselors and focus on student’s mental health and well being instead of punishment. Haley Wolfe, Fresno, 93727.

13. Rashawn Porter

I grew up an African American minority in a prominently white school ecosystem. While I was a good kid, and we'll liked by the faculty of my elementary school, I still recall occasions where I was alone with an officer and how scared and intimidated I was. I understand the need to have protection for the children and staff to promote a safe learning environment, and that many children do not feel safe in the presence of an officer is proof enough that a change is required.

14. Elisabeth Robledo

Programs which do support community safety and policing While our community acknowledges the role of law enforcement, as concerned residents, active voters, parents, and grandparents alike, and working professionals within the community; it is unconscionable more than half of our city's collective budget is dedicated to commitment with law enforcement, as our parks, healthcare and educational resources are slashed, defunded, and residents are left to languish. 53% of our earned tax revenue is an incredible investment, as well as a testimony to our commitment to a safe and secure community. Unfortunately however, for many of our residents of color, friends, loved ones and neighbors, and students, it is proof of something far more unsettling.

Since 2017, law enforcement has been ordered to pay settlements to families of deceased, as well as their victims of unlawful behavior by officers, in the amount of over \$22 million dollars. With this current and sizable contribution of tax payer dollars, we live in one of the poorest, polluted, and marginalized cities in the country. Proof a large budget-in the instance of law enforcement, is a poor investment for leadership, folks and communities members who wish to have a positive impact on the personal well being of residents. One way to stand with the community to promote safer communities as a whole is to support legislation such as H.R.7120, to address malfeasance; penned by Representative Karen Bass of California, as a more effective use of our collective time and resources. Also, of great concern is **(250-word limit reached)**.

15. Evelyn Porter

Students deserve more support and less intense surveillance. The truth is that as a person of color, we have historically and presently never been welcomed by police. As a teacher and mother to a black child, I beg you to consider the amount of resources Fresno Unified could offer students over harmful policing practices. Fresno Unified has done a great job providing a wide diverse student body, culturally competent teachers. Now I ask that you back these teachers by giving them the environments that match this level of competence. I will be returning from South Louisiana this summer after serving students that have not been provided an equitable education compared to students in Fresno. I have been a witness to the school to prison pipeline, it comes to life when my 9 year old students see their cousins in the high school being handcuffed. They fear the presence of ICE agents, SRO's, Deputies, and Sheriffs because the reality is that this Fall they questioned their safety in a place where I am supposed to keep them comfortable. Underaged students in Louisiana, students walking home down Blackstone in Fresno, and everywhere around this country deserve better. They deserve Police Free Schools! Evelyn Porter, TFA SLA Corpmember, Fresno State Alumni.

16. Yenifer Gallegos-Mejia

Hello Fresno Unified School District,

I want to take this time to formally beg you to invest in counselors not cops and help improve the Well-being of our students who are in desperate need of support not punishments. Provide more socioemotional support and partner with local organizations to provide more opportunities. Resource officers are not resources that students need, they traumatize them and put them in a tense environment. Protect, serve, and invest in our students.

17. Faith Dillard

Invest in the schools, invest in the students, invest in their futures, not the police. Students need resources, they need more mental health services, not police officers.

18. Marisa Moraza

Dear Board President Thomas and Board Trustees,
During these unprecedented times it is imperative that we meet the moment and fund programs and services that will directly support our students and families. As a community member, I urge you to reallocate the nearly \$3million in contracts with the Fresno Police Department to fund mental health services (clinical and non-clinical), adequate translation services and communication services, healing centered programming, and comprehensive wellness centers. If you are a district that truly centers equity, you must center the voices and needs of the students and families that have been most affected by systems failures and systemic racism. I urge you to end the SRO and SNRO contracts with the Fresno Police Department and invest in Police Free Schools. It is time to fund Fresno's future by investing in youth and their wellbeing.

19. Nancy Ayala

I live in Fresno at Lincoln and Wishon Avenues. I think Fresno Unified should stop their contract with the Fresno PD.

20. Carolina Garza De Luna

We the people dedicated to a future of peace and reconciliation; one where a paradigm shift of how we interact with youth and conflict is as important as we interact with peers and adults. We have the power to reimagine how we navigate conflict and how we deescalate and prevent as professionals. Far too often discipline is forceful and life altering when interacting with police. I have experienced this first hand despite being an outstanding student citizen and graduated with the highest leadership honors. I also saw it as a professional on school campuses; where adults hold an shockingly ignorant culture when it comes to discussing and handling discipline. We have to make things right for our youth; it is not a question as to how faculty feel about officers on campus neither is it

about what possible good programs or outcomes this officer has; we must remove the presence of officers and reallocate resources for students and professionals trained for youth progress and access to resources. The nation calls for new models. We Fresno do too!

Carolina Garza De Luna, FRESNO unified parent.

21. John Ayala

Dear FUSD School Board, Administration, and commission,

Please consider removing police from our schools and re-allocating resources to programs which have proven to improve graduation rates and school climate while reducing crime. The one million dollar budget for police could fund mental health services, community engagement, arts, transportation to special events and much more.

While some believe police presence provides necessary security and helps students feel safe, in many cases it has been shown to have the opposite effect.

Thank you for considering my comments. John Ayala.

22. Michael Gonzalez

Dear Board of Trustees,

I am submitting this public comment urging Fresno Unified to end contracts with the Fresno Police Department and to instead invest in services and programs that support the growth and wellbeing of students. Michael Gonzalez, Fresno resident.

23. Nishea Balajadia

To Fresno Unified School District -

As a parent to a student of Fresno High School, I am in constant fear of the police on campus. As a Black student, who is on her side when the police are targeting her? Who polices the police on campus?

With the racial discrimination that is prevalent in Fresno PD, along with the shoot first never ask questions mentality of the force, how do you determine that our kids are safe while police are on campus? They aren't.

CSOs have got to go. The school to prison pipeline HAS to end. You need to end all police presence in all of Fresno Unified Schools.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-14, DISCUSS and APPROVE the 2019/20 Unaudited Actual Financial Report, 2019/20 Year-End Budget Revision and 2020/21 Gann Limit

Staff presented, and the Board of Education discussed and approved the following three items: 2019/20 Unaudited Actual Financial Report, 2019/20 Year-End Budget Revision and the 2020/21 Gann Limit Resolution.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

For the record, zero submissions were received for public comment on Agenda Item B-14.

For the record, Board Members had questions/comments pertaining to Agenda Item B-14. A summary is as follows: Requested the district be overly cautious as to the \$1.9 million. Would rather save now in order to prepare for following years.

On a motion by Board President Thomas, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, Agenda Item B-14 was approved by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Cazares, Davis, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, and Board President Thomas.

B-15, HOLD Public Hearing, PRESENT and DISCUSS Fresno Unified School District's Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan

Staff presented, and the Board of Education discussed the Fresno Unified School District Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan.

For the record, Board President Thomas opened the Public Hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

For the record, zero submissions were received for public comment on Agenda Item B-15.

For the record, Board Members had questions/comments pertaining to Agenda Item B-15. A summary is as follows: Commended staff for the thorough report. Requested clarity as to the summary of action and action amounts. Are these budget resources received solely from the LCAP or a specific budget; or, are these overall investments within the district? Requested clarity as to item No. 32, asked if these are historical investments or current investments. Requested clarity as to when the Board will next review the report and decide where to invest resources. Shared the district could do better in regard to nutritional quality. Requested a feedback loop be created for students and parents to better inform the district on food quality. Executive Director Santino Danisi and Chief of Operations Karin Temple were available to provide clarity.

For the record, Board President Thomas closed the Public Hearing.

B-16, PRESENT and DISCUSS Fresno Unified School District's Strategic Plan Development

Staff presented on Hanover Research's "Capstone: Stakeholders' Strategic Priorities." The report is intended to provide guidance in the development of Fresno Unified School District's Strategic Plan.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

For the record, zero submissions were received for public comment on Agenda Item B-16.

For the record, Board Members had questions/comments pertaining to Agenda Item B-16. A summary is as follows: Commented this is an extremely important project, but there were two items which should have been captured and included, culture of retribution and proactive and comprehensive communication. Commented goals were so broad with no specificity, how do you benchmark or measure, focus may have been lost. Requested the district to hone down two or three specific goals to strive to achieve; make them attainable, reachable, measurable. Commented this is the perfect opportunity to focus on key points, well documented and studied that will make changes. Stated equally important is the creation of goals and sub goals, tied to the master goals, which are linked to each department to help instill ownership and accountability. Commented goals should be driven by the data. Requested to be included in the crafting of the goals. Requested clarity as to who is carrying out the objectives. Shared the district has departments with specific functions in which we are dependent on being successful. We need to come up with substantive goals that act as north stars for the district with sub goals aligned so everyone/department moves forward, uniformly. Shared we don't need to start from scratch as good information is provided in The Council of the Great City Schools report. Referenced when the Board used the data dashboard and found what gets measured gets addressed. Commented that two or three goals for such a large district may not work. We need to focus on academics as well as other areas such as social emotional to be successful. Requested clarity as to what is driving the system, focus on the student, focus on the work? What is Plan B when focus doesn't work? Shared that the Board's work is to define the laser focus and what the supports will be, can go slow but not stop, must have measurable goals. Requested staff to return and provide the Board an opportunity to provide input.

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

The Board was in receipt of Agenda Item C-17.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Thomas adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.