



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
November 04, 2020**

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 Paragraph 3, the November 04, 2020 Board of Education meeting was held via teleconferencing and was available for all members of the public seeking to observe via [31T31TUUhttp://go.fresnounified.org/ustream/UU31T31T](http://go.fresnounified.org/ustream/UU31T31T), or on the Ustream App on your 31T31TAndroid31T31T or 31T31TApple31T31T 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 November 04, 2020, there were present Board Members Davis, Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatik, 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 5:32 p.m.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

- On a motion by Board President Thomas, seconded by Board Clerk Davis, by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, the Board took action in closed session on a Workers' Compensation Case No. WC17-1020-1273, 2016-0843, 2015-0747.
- On a motion by Board Clerk Davis, seconded by Board President Thomas, by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, the Board took action in closed session to hire Stanley Munro to Principal II at Ayer Elementary School.

HEAR Reports from Student Board Representatives

The Board heard a report from Robert Martin, Student Advisory Board representative from Patiño Entrepreneurial High School, and students from Baird Middle School.

HEAR Report from Superintendent

- Recognized next week, November 9-13, is National School Psychology week. Since August, our school psychologists have been conducting in-person assessments with PPE to support our special education students with disabilities. They have continued to serve as crisis response leaders as they support the social-emotional and mental health needs of our students and our district staff. Many of our school psychologists have also volunteered to be a part of our after-hours on-call mental health team that provides 24-hour crisis response to students as flagged by our Gabble monitoring system. I'd like to publicly celebrate, recognize, and honor our Fresno Unified school psychologists and their contribution to students and to our entire Fresno Unified family.
- Announced that Fresno Unified is proud to celebrate November as National Native American Heritage Month. Our curriculum and instruction team will be sending out potential lessons and celebrations for teachers to utilize in their classroom this month and I encourage all of us to take some time to celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of our Native American community as the first inhabitants of this land.
- Shared as we continue our ongoing journey with cultural proficiency, our Fresno High Leadership, Equity and Access Department, and Communications Department have been working collaboratively to gather voice around two petitions that arose over the summer regarding the Fresno High School Warrior Mascot. The team has conducted two small listening sessions hearing directly from Fresno High students, alumni, parents and several Native American community leaders. Our next steps are to hold a student virtual town hall for Fresno High students, and next a virtual town hall on Thursday, November 12 at 5:30 pm open to our community. Attendees of the community town hall will get to hear directly from the petition authors, alumni, and a parent, while also having the opportunity to submit live feedback and comments through the Q&A feature on Microsoft Teams Live. All comments will be collected along with feedback from the student town hall, the two small listening sessions, the petitions, conversations and comments from social media regarding the Warrior mascot, and research on Native American mascot discussions around the country. All feedback will be provided back to the board to discuss in December. Links to join the virtual town hall on November 12 will be available on our website and social media.
- Reminded everyone nominations are officially open for the district's Excellence in Education awards. Please take the time to nominate colleagues who go above and beyond for students and the district and who exemplify the highest standards. Nominations are open in classified, certificated and administrator categories. We love this event every year and love the opportunity to highlight the amazing work of our Fresno Unified Family members, so get involved. The deadline to nominate is Friday, November 20.

- Reached out to parents and students, if you haven't jumped in to our Virtual Choose your Future Week, now is the time! This week our team has taken our School Choice Expo, CTE Ticket to the Future, and Student Showcase and turned them virtual for all of our students and parents to enjoy. Head to fresnounified.org to join this virtual event anytime between now and Friday. You can explore all options and special programs available to your student from PreK through 12th grade and you can receive assistance in completing your transfers application, which are due December 1.
- Shared we are so honored that Councilmember Luis Chavez will be officially changing the Lane Avenue signs to Tim Liles Way this Friday at 10:00 a.m. in front of Sunnyside High School. This honor and recognition of Principal Tim Liles is incredibly deserved and special to all of us that knew and loved Tim. Thank you to the City of Fresno and Councilmember Chavez for making this honor a reality.
- Reminded Fresno Unified Staff it is officially open enrollment time. Make sure to take a look at your benefits package and make any changes necessary before November 30. Our JHMB partners continue to provide more opportunities for the free flu shot clinics serving employees and their dependents covered by the district's health care plans. To learn more, check your email through Employee Zone, WellPATH, or head to the JHMB website at JHMBhealthconnect.com.
- Shared that Fresno Unified will be surveying students in grades 4-12 on a handful of school climate and culture indicators later this month. This survey is an opportunity for your student to tell us about their experiences with their school and how we can better support their learning during this time. Students will complete their surveys during class by Friday, November 20. We look forward to receiving important input from our students about climate and culture of their schools and gathering their perceptions about their sense of belonging.
- Shared his pride and appreciation for our Food Services Team, they have truly stepped up as huge leaders in our district and community during this pandemic. Let's take a couple of minutes to check out this video highlighting their great work.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION

Board Member Cazares – Requested Superintendent and Board President to discuss when the Board will return to the Board Room. Thanked staff for providing the memo pertaining to Facilities spending.

Member Davis – Thanked Councilmember Chavez for his help with Tim Liles Way. Invited people to see the Sunnyside Stadium turf.

Member Jonasson Rosas – Expressed appreciation for Board Communications pertaining to student achievement, such as AP Enrollment and Dual Enrollment,

appreciated that the presentations were nicely presented. Requested materials be translated for parents. Thanked staff for Board Communication pertaining to unacceptable ingredients. Thanked staff for providing the facility expenditure information and requested the information to be broken down by number of students.

Member Major Slatic – Requested information pertaining to facility expenditure be broken down in more depth. Referenced Board Communication 2020 SL-1, Follow Up Communication Regarding the Board of Education Meeting- Mascots and Logos, dated October 23, 2020; stated he is not content with answer provided in the Board Communication.

Member Islas – Shout out to Mayfair for their drive-thru Halloween event. Thanked facilities on behalf of Ericson for the development of the Early Education Center. Shared sad news of loss of McLane student and stated she would share GoFundMe information with those who would like to help. Requested staff to consider the three core languages into which district information and material should be translated. Expressed appreciation for Town Hall meetings around the Fresno High School Mascot. Shared a reminder pertaining to the need for a conversation regarding Police on school campuses.

Member Mills – Thanked district staff for doing their best for our students during challenging times. Congratulated Board Members Cazares and Jonasson Rosas on their re-election. Recognized school sites Hamilton and Hoover for hosting voting sites. Requested the district to continue to offer schools as voting sites if the County requests.

Student Member Camarillo – Echoed request for the district to continue to offer schools as voting sites. Shared that he met with Jeremy Ward regarding CTE Pathways and Facilities; discussed possibility of an Agriculture Pathway in the Sunnyside Region.

Board President Thomas – Recognized the McLane Staff. Commented on Mascot issue and naming of facilities, shared she has asked staff to look into these topics. Asked staff and colleagues to share information pertaining to 24-hour on-line tutoring. Shared that she met with students and a topic that did come up was Policing on campus. Requested Superintendent to help move process in a timely manner. Recognized Courtney Curtis and hard work of staff at Gaston.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The Board received zero submissions for public comment for items on the Consent Agenda.

On a motion by Board Clerk Davis, seconded by Board Member Cazares, the Consent Agenda, apart from Agenda Item A-4, A-11, and A-13 which were pulled for further discussion, 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. CONSENT AGENDA

A-1, APPROVE Personnel List

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

A-2, APPROVE Minutes from Prior Meeting

APPROVED as recommended, the draft minutes from the October 21, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.

A-3, ADOPT Resolution Ordering the Date of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Governing Board

ADOPTED as recommended, a Resolution Ordering the Date of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Governing Board as December 16, 2020.

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.

For the record, Board Members had questions or comments pertaining to Agenda Item A4. A summary is as follows: Requested clarity as to if the district has staff to help employees going through the Provisional Internship Permit and the Short-term Staff Permit process. Paul Idsvoog was available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board President Thomas, seconded by Board Clerk Davis, Agenda Item A-4 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-5, ADOPT Variable Term Waiver for Bilingual, Cross-cultural, Language and Development Authorization

ADOPTED as recommended, Variable Term Waiver requests for Guadalupe Arellano and Leilani Silva to serve as Dual Immersion Multiple Subject teachers.

A-6, ADOPT Variable Term Waiver for Career Technical Education Credential Holders

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

- A-7, APPROVE Provisional Internship Permits**
APPROVED as recommended, Provisional Internship Permit (PIP) recommendations to rehire or hire upon Board approval.
- A-8, APPROVE FRESH After School Partnership Program Services Agreement through the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools**
APPROVED as recommended, a service agreement to implement afterschool programs in partnership with the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) grant awarded through the California Department of Education.
- A-9, APPROVE Contract Renewal with Delta Fund Administrators**
APPROVED as recommended, a contract renewal with Delta Fund Administrators for services related to the district's health plan and operational requirements of the Joint Health Management Board (JHMB).
- A-10, APPROVE Amendment 01 to Contract CSPP-0078 for California State Preschool Program and APPROVE Amendment 01 to Contract CCTR-0036 for General Child Care and Development Programs from the California Department of Education**
APPROVED as recommended, amendment 01 to contract CSPP-0078 for California State Preschool amendment 01 to contract CCTR-0036 for General Child Care and Development Programs from the California Department of Education.
- A-11, APPROVE Amendment to Independent Services Contract Agreement with Corwin Press**
APPROVED as recommended, an addendum to the independent services contract for author Doug Fisher to provide an additional five virtual professional learning sessions for teachers and leaders in support of the previous four sessions delivered in August.
- For the record, Board Members had questions or comments pertaining to Agenda Item A-11. A summary is as follows: Requested clarity as to if the trainings can be opened to substitute teachers. Julie Severns was available to provide clarity.
- On a motion by Board Member Cazares, 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, APPROVE Amendment to Halcyon Behavioral, LLC Agreement**
APPROVED as recommended, an amendment to the agreement with Halcyon Behavioral, LLC, the district's mental health and substance abuse provider for Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) health plan members.

A-13, APPROVE Purchase of Additional Coverage of Gaggle

APPROVED as recommended, the invoice with Gaggle to provide additional coverage of students in grades second and third.

For the record, Board Members had questions or comments pertaining to Agenda Item A-13. A summary is as follows: Thanked and commended Kurt Madden and team for their work on this item.

On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Member Mills, Agenda Item A-13 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-14, APPROVE Award of Bid 21-09 Sections A, B and C, Gymnasium Bleacher Installation at Various Middle Schools

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 21-09 Sections A, B and C, to install new four-row motorized bleachers in the gymnasiums at Ahwahnee, Computech, Cooper, Sequoia, Terronez and Tioga Middle Schools.

A-15, APPROVE Award of Bid 21-06, USDA Commodity Prepared Food Products

APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 21-06, to establish fixed pricing for USDA commodity prepared beef, chicken, pork and fish products.

A-16, RATIFY Grant Application to Albertsons Companies Foundation for the Nourishing Neighbors Program

RATIFIED as recommended, a grant application submitted by the Food Services Department to the Albertsons Companies Foundation, which funds projects to address hunger.

A-17, RATIFY Purchase Orders from August 1, 2020 through August 31, 2020

RATIFIED as recommended, information on purchase orders issued from August 1, 2020 through August 31, 2020.

UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

For the record, four submissions of public comment were received for Unscheduled Oral Communications. They are as follows:

1. Carolyn Brown

Yes open the schools safely.

2. Trena Dixon – (Voicemail Transcribed)

Hi, my name is Trena Dixon and I'm calling in regards to renaming of the Early Learning Center after LaVera Ethridge-Williams. I'm calling because at your

previous Board meeting, uhm, asking Board Members if they are or are not in favor of renaming the center after Mrs. Williams, uh, one of your Board Members, uhm, very unprofessionally, reluctantly did vote in favor, but her posture, tone of voice, and her body language stated she was not in favor of doing so, and I feel this is very unprofessional of one of your Board Members. Uhm, the Board Member is Mrs. uh, Elizabeth Jonasson Rosas, if I'm pronouncing that correctly. Anyway, I would love for Mrs. Williams to, or for the Early Learning Center to be named after Mrs. Williams because she is a great or has been a great asset to the West Fresno Community, she is a source in that community. So, I just wanted to make sure I let someone know that it was very unpleasant knowing that your Board Member could behave in such manner. Thank you.

3. Linda Reaves – (Voicemail Transcribed)

I'm leaving an unscheduled oral communication for the renaming of the LaVera Early Learning Center on Fresno and A Street. To the Board President, Superintendent, and Board of Education, first and foremost I would like to say thank you to the Board Members for electing Mrs. LaVera Williams and renaming the early learning center at Fresno and A Street after her. However, I did sense a feeling that one of the Board Members did not really seem to want her name on the building. It was mentioned earlier, Mrs. Williams dedicated her live to giving quality care to children throughout the community. Don't let us forget, she received the Portrait of Success from KSEE 24; The Woman of the Year from the 16th Senate District of California by Senator Jim Costa; The Martin Luther King award for community service recognition by the Fresno Unified School District for being a leader in education for the children of the community. Mrs. Williams was recognized by the Gamma Eta Chapter of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority as an Outstanding Black Woman of the Year. Last but not least the City of Fresno honored her with the Minority Business Enterprise award for outstanding contributions to the Fresno economy. Mrs. Williams did not give a large sum of money to the Fresno Unified School District, but she did use her personal hard-earned money to build the

4. Shirley Jean Harris

November 2, 2020

To The Superintendent and President of the Board of Education (Fresno Unified School District): This letter is to express my disappointment with Board Member Elizabeth Jonasson Rosas' remarks regarding the renaming of the present FUSD Early Learning Center. I felt that Mrs. Rosas had reservations regarding the recipient as a worthy nominee of the renaming of the site. Public input was sought from August 26, 2020 to September 26, 2020. The Board received and reviewed the list of the nominees, which included Mrs. Williams. It is my hope that Mrs. Rosas, remembered this nomination was the result of an online survey (AR 7310). Mrs. LaVera Williams was nominated because of the fact that she is well known and a pillar of the community. She has been a resident of West Fresno for over 75 years.

I am also hopeful that Mrs. Rosas' remembers that Mrs. LaVera Williams was recognized by the Fresno Unified School District as a recipient of the Martin Luther King Jr. Award for Community Service for being a LEADER in education for the children of the community and that Mrs. LaVera Williams received the 2018 Legacy Trailblazer Award presented by the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools at the African American Student Leadership Conference where over 1,100 students, parents, facility and community leaders were in attendance. In closing, I would like to thank the Superintendent Robert Nelson, the President of the Board of Education (Fresno Unified School District), and Mrs. Elizabeth Jonasson Rosas for your **(250-word limit reached)**.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-18, HOLD a Public Hearing in the Matter of the Aspen Ridge Public School Charter Petition

For the record, the Public Hearing in the Matter of the Aspen Ridge Public School Charter Petition was opened at 6:43 p.m.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

For the record thirty-six submissions of public comment were received for Agenda Item B-18. They are as follows:

1. Emily Sterling

My name is Emily Sterling. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I have been a parent of student(s) at a current Aspen school, and I want my student to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has helped my student to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare my student for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

2. Pamela Allen

My name is Pamela Allen. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I have been a parent of student(s) at a current Aspen school, and I want my student to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has helped my student to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare my student for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

3. Linda Vasquez

My name is Linda Vasquez. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I have been a parent of student(s) at a current Aspen school, and I want to my student to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has helped my student to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare my student for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

4. JD Foster

Fresno Unified School District Board,

My name is JD Foster. I am writing to address item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I am a parent of a student at a current Aspen school, and I want my student to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has helped my student to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare my student for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

5. Jodi Clark

My name is Jodi Clark. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I have been a parent of student(s) at a current Aspen school, and I want to my student to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has helped my student to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare my student for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

The school staff is phenomenal with our kids and our parents. They provide support, kindness and a great education to our students and families. I would love to send my 7th grader next year to the new Aspen High School. I also feel great comfort knowing that my kids are kept safe while away from home. Thank you for your time.

6. Dulce Calderon

My name is ___Dulce Calderon___. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I have been a parent of student(s) at a current Aspen school, and I want to my student to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has helped my student to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare my student for college and a

career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

7. Carol Villagrana

My name is Carol Villagrana. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I have been a parent of 7th grader Cyrus Leggi at current Aspen school, and I want my son to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has helped my student to grow both socially and academically. Summit has been our saving grace and made us aware of gaps in Cyrus education. Once we knew the gaps we were able to find him the support he needed to excell. Summit has helped my son more than academically. Before Summit I did not think my son despite his best efforts would ever be prepared for college.. I believe that Aspen will prepare my son for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

8. Mary Nixon

Hello,

This year will be my eighth year teaching Visual Art at Aspen Public School. My name is Mary Nixon and I would like to express my support for the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School in reference to item B-18 on the FUSD School Board agenda. Many of our students and parents have expressed a strong desire to open a 7-12 school to continue the quality education the students are receiving at Aspen Public School. Please consider the needs of the students and the parents so they have the choice of sending their child to Aspen through high school. We would like you to strongly consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School.

9. Dalia Lazaro

Hello, my name is Dalia Lazaro, and I'm a current parent of two students at Aspen School. I'm writing regarding the item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I'm in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. My daughter started in first grade at Aspen, now she is a fourth grader. My son started kindergarten last year, and now he is in first grade. I'm a fortunate because my kids are getting the best education. Submit Learning has help my kids be more confident and helped them grow academically. They are getting prepared for college and for a career at Aspen School. I believe parents should have the right and option to continue their kids all the way through high school in an Aspen school. We know what is best for our students education and Aspen School is providing the best academic education and preparing our students for the future. For these reasons you should consider a YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School.

10. Alicia – (Submitted in Spanish and Translated)

Sent from my iPhone.

My name is Alicia. I am referencing item B-18 on the Fresno Unified Board meeting agenda. I support the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I am the parent of two students who currently attend an Aspen School and I would like my children to continue to have the option of attending an Aspen School through high school. As a parent, I can choose which school is best for my students. Summit learning has greatly helped my students grow both socially and academically. Aspen will prepare my students for college and a career. I vote Yes to approve the New Aspen Ridge Public School!

11. Amandeep Kaur

my name is amandeep kaur. I am addressing item b-18on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12, Aspen Ridge public school. I enrolled my son in this school this year. This school is doing an amazing job compared to the other two districts that my son had attended the last couple years. My son has autism and he is in special education class. I finally have peace of mind that the teachers and staff of Aspen really care for their son to succeed in his education and try to help him any way they can. I did not feel that with the other two schools. I was actually already stressing about where I was going to send my son after 6th grade. Now I have a piece of mind that this school is planning on extending up to 12 grade. please consider voting yes to approve the new aspen ridge public school

12. Raul Trejo, Jr.

My name is RAUL TREJO, JR.. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I want our students to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has helped our students to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare our students for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

13. Shelly Coleman

Hi. My name is Shelly Coleman. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I come from a family of teachers and married into a family of teachers, so education is in my blood. I would like to express my support of the new Aspen Ridge Public School, which will serve grades 7 to 12. This is my fifth year as a parent at Aspen Valley Prep. My son is currently a 7th grader, and he very much wants to continue attending an Aspen school through high school. His father and I agree, having seen the quality of education he's received at Aspen Valley Prep. He has absolutely flourished using Summit Learning. It not only is a great educational tool, but it helps him take ownership of his education, a skill that will stay with him through his whole life. Aspen Schools don't just provide "book learning." Their students are gaining life skills and relational skills that will help make them future leaders in the community and beyond. As someone who values

quality education and school choice, I ask you to consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School.

14. Yessenia Silva

My name is Yessenia Silva. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I am a parent of 3 students at a current Aspen school, and I want my student to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has helped my student to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare my student for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School. Thank you very much.

15. Briana Cox

My name is Briana Cox. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I am the mother of a current student at Aspen Meadow Public Charter School and I have other children that will be attending in the future. I want my children to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. This new school would help with continuing all of the bonds my child has created and other children will create while attending Aspen Schools. Summit Learning has helped my son to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare my son as well as other students for college, a career, and being a productive member of society. I do not see my children continuing in FUSD for 7-12th grade if an Aspen School is not an option. From a devoted mother Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School! Thank you!

16. Kristin Green

Hello,

My name is Kristin Green. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I am a teacher at a current Aspen school, and I see the positive impact that Aspen is having on the students in our community. Our students should have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school and I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has been tremendous in helping our students grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare students for college and a career, resulting in a positive environment for our greater Fresno community. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

17. Margaret Rodriguez

Hello, my name is Margaret Rodriguez. I would like to address item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am totally in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I have been a parent of student(s) at a current Aspen school, and

I want and actually really feel its a Need that my children continue to have them attend an Aspen school through high school. Parents should have the choice with what school they feel is best for their students, in which I Deeply feel that this is the school for mine! Summit Learning has helped my kids grow both socially and academically as well as myself as parent they have given me the tools to use to assist them along which i find so wonderful. I Know that this school will prepare my children for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

18. Rosa Vidales

To whom it may concern: My name is Rosa Vidales parents of Edgar Guerrero, 7th grader, My husband and I are very happy on how our son has grown so much academically, hes self-esteem, and how Aspen has been a big impact in our lives, we saw how much Edgar has changed for the best, he believes in himself, likes to challenge himself to succeed, I really believe a high school with same curriculum, anti bullying will benefit my son, Im so worried on what high-school hell attend if we don't get our Aspen High, my son was in a school were he suffered bullying for 4 years and nothing was done, he never wanted to attend school, was always angry, and had suicidal taught at one time, so as parents we did everything we could to change that, we feel we did when he was accepted in Aspen Valley Prep, he became a new person with many goals, thankyou so much Aspen Valley Prep!

19. Chasity Day

In reference to agenda item B-18, I Chastity Day would like to give my support for the opening of Aspen Ridge High School. I believe that now more than ever Fresno and the surrounding communities are looking for an acceptable alternative to traditional public school choices. The school would provide many current charter school students with the option of attending a charter high school and thus increase the likelihood of these students (who need alternative options) of attending college. This will help transform our community by preparing our students to succeed no matter how difficult their situations may be.

20. M. Dildine

I would like to speak in support of the charter application submitted by Aspen Ridge. I am the CEO for the Fresno Mission and the developer of the City Center campus where Aspen will be located. Aspen has been a valued partner working with the Fresno Mission in the past to serve students experiencing life insecurities. I will be available to answer any questions that Board has regarding the facility and the overall plans for City Center.

21. David & Moriah Turnbull

Hello;

Our name is David & Moriah Turnbull. We are addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. We are in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. We are parents of 2 students at a current Aspen school, and we want our

children to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. We believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their children. Summit Learning has helped our children to grow both socially and academically. We believe that Aspen will prepare our children for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

22. Cecilia Garcia

Good evening,

I'd like to take a brief moment to talk about what an amazing opportunity Aspen Ridge Highschool will be to our community students. Many of our students and parents have asked for a highschool for years. The student's are educated to be leaders in our community. What better way than to finish their highschool years with the same goal in mind. We have amazing staff to help them develop skills that will be so beneficial for their adulthood. The plans that have been brought up sound amazing and I'm sure students will graduate to be amazing adults with some college credits. This is amazing to be ahead of the game as a highschool graduate. I support and would love to see Aspen Ridge Highschool blossom in our community.

23. Laura Drury

Hello,

My name is Laura Drury. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board Agenda. I am very much in support of the new 7-12, Aspen Ridge Public High School. I have been a parent and employee with Aspen Public Schools for 15 years. My children were privileged to attend this school during their K-8th grade years and made life long memories and friends. Unfortunately they did not have the opportunity to continue as Aspen Public Schools did not offer a high school at the time. We had to make alternate arrangements.

As a school registrar I can tell you that I hear firsthand, over the years, from many families how much they wish we had a high school. I've talked with countless families about what options are available to them, to continue with a similar charter school feel. This is what many parents want. Our school has much to offer and our students would love the opportunity to continue their education in the same school, alongside their friends, and be able to graduate together, from K-12th. This is very important to kids. I believe families want and should be offered the opportunity to choose their child's educational path. Aspen Public Schools is a strong program with a great track record. Aspen Ridge High School promises to be a unique program and will help our kids have great success! Please approve the petition for Aspen Ridge Public School! It's been a long time coming.

24. Caleb Carr

Greetings, my name is Caleb Carr and I support the opening of Aspen Ridge Public School, agenda item B-18.

I have been the music teacher with Aspen Public Schools for the past two and a half years. For the duration of my time, the Aspen team has been an excellent place to work. The administration, teachers, and staff are supportive and care immensely about the families we serve. Aspen moved quickly to adopt distance learning last Spring when the Covid-19 shutdowns began, which is just one way that Aspen has proved to be relentlessly creative and student-focused. The opening of Aspen Ridge will give our community a great choice for quality education and leadership development.

25. Ceveda Crayton-Hooks

My name is Ceveda Crayton-Hooks. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I am a parent of Jaedyn Hooks at a current Aspen school, and I want her to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. She has been attending since she started TK. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning is helping my daughter to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare my daughter for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

26. Hilary Witts

Dear trustees,

At Aspen Public Schools, our vision is to “transform the community by developing exceptional leaders.” We know that our 21st century learners do not learn the same way as we did and in the traditional education system are not being prepared for 21st century careers. With this, in 2016 our middle school-Aspen Valley Prep, was chosen and embarked on a journey of personalized learning with 21st century skills using the Summit learning model and curriculum with a cohort of 120 schools from across the USA.

In 2016, Aspen Valley Prep, started Summit learning with two first year teachers and two provisional intern teachers to 77 students. When the students were taught with real-world projects, learning 21st century cognitive skills, individualized pathways, 1:1 mentorship and opportunities to learn from failures, they soared. Our first year, we saw an 11% increase in Math and 10% increase in ELA on the SBAC.

In my thirteen years of teaching, I had never seen a curriculum or program make that big of a gain in a single year. Since then, Aspen Valley Prep’s, SBAC scores from 2019 beat the state scores in ELA in 6th-8th grade, and Math in 6th and 7th grades. Data you can see within our petition. Qualitatively, we have noticed that our students are curious, self-aware, and have a sense of purpose in middle school with very little discipline coming from our middle school grades..

I've also seen this program support the teachers with incredible professional developments, resources, lesson **(250-word limit reached)**.

27. Nancy Alvarez

Hi!

My name is Nancy Alvarez, School Outreach and Homeless Liaison and former FUSD Community Liaison and can't wait to be part of the Aspen Ridge High School team, who loves the vision of empowering students to become community leaders. We need this in Fresno, we need to support and offer hope to students 7-12th grade whose minds are connected to what the community and world is negatively offering and redirect them to a positive, safe, "yes you can!" environment and become the best leaders in the nation. I believe all this can be accomplished, but we need your help and support. We are committed to advance and make Aspen Ridge the best High School with all the guidelines and procedures we need to follow.

28. Kristine Nagamine

My name is Kristine Nagamine. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I have been a teacher at a current Aspen school, Aspen Valley Prep, for the past five years, and I definitely want my students to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that all parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. I have personally witnessed Summit Learning helping the students who I have taught to grow both socially and academically. The growth they have achieved has been measurable and has surpassed all expectations. I strongly believe that Aspen will prepare students for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School! Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

29. Buffy Hooks

My name is Buffy Hooks. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I am a staff member at a current Aspen school, and I work with some pretty amazing people that truly care and value the students education. I also have a child that attends the school as well. I couldn't have asked for a better educational opportunity for my child to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. Summit Learning has helped my child to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare my student for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

30. Robert Phillips

My name is Robert Phillips, I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I

have been a parent of student(s) at a current Aspen school, and I want my student to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has helped my student to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare my student for college and a career., And I also truly believe that a child should feel comfortable with his surroundings and general school environment. My son has prospered greatly in his education, character, and motivation through Aspen valley prep. I know good teachers are always thinking about what might be best for students with their individuality and individual needs, and there are some awesome teachers and pepes in fresno unified school district, and I know that putting kids first, is of utmost paramount to teachers. That is in all humble honesty that I ask that Aspen valley prep, be able to further advance education through highschool. I believe variety, choice, and creative solutions are what makes our country and people unique, and wonderful in every way possible. It's the freedom of option to find ways that nurture each individual child to reach new heights of brilliance, creativity, and the passion to pursue their potential and dream's **(250-word limit reached)**.

31. Maria Arellano

My name is Maria Arellano, I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I have been a parent of student(s) at a current Aspen school, and I want my student to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has helped my student to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare my student for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

32. Lisa Taylor

To: FUSD Board of Trustees

I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I am the school site director of Aspen Meadow Public School, and I want to see students continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has helped our students grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare students for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School! Thank you for your consideration.

33. Alana Amezcua

Good evening!

I hope this emails find you all well. The reason for this email is to express my support for the 7-12 Aspen Ridge Public School. My child has been attending Aspen Valley Prep for two years and she's learned a lot through the faculty and

staff. My daughter has exceeded in her reading levels amongst other subjects. We love that our child can grow with the same staff and friends and hope she can continue in the future at a Aspen High School. My desire is for all my children to grow with Aspen Schools so Please vote YES! Sincerely, Alana Amezcua.

34. Jane Doe

The following is my opinion for reasons Aspen should not be able to open another school. Mrs.Lether and Mrs.Sands installed two teachers as principals (Taylor and Rivera) without proper degrees or credentials. Mr. Hodges would be one more. Average GreatSchools rating of 3/10. Equity ratings of 2/10. Four new sets of curriculum in math, ELA, social studies and science dropped on teachers in one year with only a single training other than math. The third grade class last year had three teachers in 9 months (Warren, Haagensen, Morris). The year prior, the same class had two second grade teachers (Castillo, Emanuelson). The year before: four first grade teachers (Metz, Ms. Rivera, Marshall, Carpenter). The year before that: two K teachers (Demaio, Grijalva). Several highly suspected retaliatory firing cases. Poor staff morale at both sites, marked by a joke of a morale “rumble” survey that was met with casual disregard by admin, also secret teacher meetings, as well as a denied plan to enlist an onsite mediator for staff conflict resolution. Additional disregard for employees evident in informing teachers in June they would not receive their annual salary—way too late to reasonably find other positions. Admin reprimands teachers for voicing concerns in group meetings, despite admin’s “we want to hear your voice” messaging. Finally, a likely case of admin disregarding a case of fraud in which an induction coach signed off on meetings that never happened. Please deny this petition.

35. Maria Dominguez

My name is Maria Dominguez. I am addressing item B-18 on the FUSD Board agenda. I am in support of the new 7-12 school, Aspen Ridge Public School. I have been a parent of student(s) at a current Aspen school, and I want to my student to continue to have the option to attend an Aspen school through high school. I believe that parents should have a choice about what school is best for their students. Summit Learning has helped my student to grow both socially and academically. I believe that Aspen will prepare my student for college and a career. Please consider voting YES to approve the new Aspen Ridge Public School!

36. Chris Avila

Hello fresno unified board

My name is Chris Avila I agree on the agenda item b-18 on fresno unified board agenda. I completly support the new 7-12 school aspen ridge public school . I am a current parent of children at aspen school. I would like for my children to have the option to continue to attend an aspen school through high school.

For the record, Mr. Hodges of Aspen Ridge provided a brief presentation.

For the record, Board Members had questions or comments pertaining to Agenda Item B-18. A summary is as follows: Requested clarity as to if Mr. Hodges had his administrative credential. Requested clarity as to if there would be someone on campus with an administrative credential. Requested clarity as to how much experience staff have with high school curriculum and high school students. Requested district staff to provide a matrix which shows changes that have taken place since last request. Requested information pertaining to student body population and if it is reflective of the community. Requested clarity as to the level of coordination with Fresno City College pertaining to dual enrollment. Requested clarity as to any tenant improvements needed. Requested clarity as to strategy for English Learner students. Requested clarity as to standards Aspen Ridge is being held. Requested clarity as to location of the campus. Requested information pertaining to the meal program at the site. Requested information pertaining to physical education opportunities at the site. Requested clarity as to if site has green space. Requested information as to social emotional supports offered at site. Requested clarity as to climate/culture at Aspen. Requested clarity as to the hiring process of Aspen. Commended Mr. Hodges for his preparation and the work put into the petition. Requested a site visit to Aspen. Mr. Hodges and Aspen Staff, Susan Hatmaker, and Carlos Castillo were available to provide clarity.

For the record, the Public Hearing in the Matter of the Aspen Ridge Public School Charter Petition was closed at 7:25 p.m.

B-19, PRESENT and DISCUSS District Efforts to Address Chronic Absenteeism

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

For the record, zero submissions were received for public comment on Agenda Item B-19.

For the record, Board Members had questions or comments pertaining to Agenda Item B-19. A summary is as follows: Requested information pertaining to the increase in absences. Requested clarity as to how the district can help get vaccines to students for immunizations. Requested clarity pertaining to why families have opted to have children attend a charter school. Requested information pertaining to if there is an opportunity for the district to help daycare centers help students with distance learning. Requested clarity as to compulsory attendance and how it impacts absenteeism. Asked if district is still looking into students with a high frequency of movement. Asked if there is something as a point of advocacy the Board can use to support students? Shared information pertaining to resources available to families for support. Asked if trends the district is seeing are being seen statewide. Requested clarity pertaining to no-shows. What number of visits or contacts is resulting in more students attending school? Expressed thanks to staff for their work in student attendance. Requested information as to where donations can be made. Requested the possibility of

paper packet be discussed by staff in Cabinet. Requested clarity as to how reporting periods for DSS resources and sanctions work. Ambra Dorsey and team were available to provide clarity.

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

There were no items received for this section of the Agenda.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Thomas ADJOURNED the meeting at 8:34 p.m.