



BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
2309 TULARE STREET  
BOARD ROOM, SECOND FLOOR  
FRESNO, CA 93721-2287  
[www.fresnounified.org/board](http://www.fresnounified.org/board)

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

**Fresno, California  
March 17, 2021**

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 Paragraph 3, the March 17, 2021 Board of Education Regular Meeting was held via teleconferencing and was 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: 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 March 17, 2021, there were present Board Members Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. Superintendent Dr. Nelson was also present.

Board President Davis CONVENED the Regular Board Meeting at 4:34 p.m. and ADJOURNED to Closed Session to address items one through seven.

The Board RECONVENED in Open Session at 5:47 p.m.

### **Reporting Out of Closed Session**

- On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, the Board took action in Closed Session on a Workers' Compensation claim for Dianna Googooian, Case No, 2015-0253, 2015-0252, on a roll call vote of 6-0-0-1, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mill, Major Slatic, and Thomas. ABSENT: Board President Davis.
- On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Member Major Slatic, the Board took action in Closed Session on a Workers' Compensation claim for Maritza Lugo, Case No. 2017-0174, on a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mill, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis.

## **Reporting Out of Closed Session - continued**

- On a motion by Board Member Mills, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, the Board took action in Closed Session to appoint David Jansen as Executive Director, Technology Services, on a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis.

## **HEAR Reports from Student Board Representatives**

The Board heard a report from Jade Johannes, Student Advisory Board representative from Hoover High School, and students from Hamilton K-8 School.

## **HEAR Report from Superintendent**

- Shared plan to return to in-person instruction in the hybrid model in the red tier on April 6 for pre-k through second graders, as well as grades 7, 9 and 12. On April 13, we will welcome back the rest of our grades.
- Shared last night at midnight, our Parent Selection Form process closed. This was our way of gauging whether families wanted their students to return to in-class instruction or continue with distance learning from home. I am pleased to say we heard from 58,276 of our students – 82 percent – who responded and shared their plans for April instruction and 39 percent who wish to remain in distance learning at home. We did not hear from 17 percent of our students.
- Shared as part of our safe return, we are piloting random surveillance COVID-19 testing at the Hoover High School parking lot through a partnership with United Health Center. Thank you to the hundreds of district employees who have already participated, please watch this video to see the process.
- Shared this has been the strangest of years for all of us, so there is no better feeling than when I can share great news about our students excelling, despite all that they have had to overcome in the past 12 months. Once again Sunnyside High School has multiple seniors named as Dell Scholars. This prestigious program awards \$20,000 in scholarships, laptops and personal support to students who demonstrate a unique “GPA” of grit, potential, and ambition. Seven Sunnyside Wildcats have been named Dell Scholars. In addition, Sunnyside reports that 405 of 409 seniors who applied to Fresno State were accepted.
- Shared we received 244 applications for the Fresno Unified Scholarships, which are supported by our employees and the community. We will notify winners during the week following spring break.

## **BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION**

**Board Member Major Slatic:** Asked if Superintendent Dr. Nelson acknowledged the receipt of community feedback pertaining to opening of schools.

**Board Member Cazares:** Thanked Superintendent Dr. Nelson for the quick turn around pertaining to testing. Reminded board colleagues that in a public setting, closed session items are not to be discussed with others.

**Board President Davis:** Expressed how encouraging it was to see District busses out in the community.

## **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 Member Major Slatic, seconded by Board Clerk Thomas, the Consent Agenda with the exception of items A-2, A-3, A-8, A-14, which were pulled by the Board for further discussion, was approved by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis.

## **A. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **A-1, APPROVE Personnel List**

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

### **A-2, ADOPT Resolution Proclaiming April 2021 as “Remembrance of the Existence of the Armenian Genocide**

**ADOPTED as recommended**, a resolution proclaiming the month of April 2021 as Remembrance of the Existence of the Armenian Genocide.

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

### **A-3, ADOPT Resolution to Honor the Life of Activist Dolores Huerta**

**ADOPTED as recommended**, a resolution to Honor the Life of Activist Dolores Huerta.

On a motion by Board Clerk Thomas, seconded by Board Member Islas, Agenda Item A-3 was adopted, with the amendment to change title of the resolution, by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis.

**A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued**

- A-4, ADOPT Resolution Proclaiming April 2021 as School Library Month**  
**ADOPTED as recommended**, a resolution proclaiming April 2021 as School Library Month.
- A-5, APPROVE Minutes from Prior Meetings**  
**APPROVED as recommended**, draft minutes for the February 10, 2021 Special Board Meeting and the February 17, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.
- A-6, APPROVE Property and Liability Insurance for 2021/22**  
**APPROVED as recommended**, a summary of quotations received from the district's insurance broker, Marsh & McLennan Agency, for the district's various forms of coverage.
- A-7, APPROVE Award of Bid 21-28, Sunnyside High School Boilers Replacement**  
**APPROVED as recommended**, information on Bid 21-28, for the replacement of two existing boilers at Sunnyside High School.
- A-8, APPROVE Award of Bid 21-30, Leased Lit or Dark Fiber Point to Point Connection**  
**APPROVED as recommended**, information on Bid 21-30, to establish a five-year contract to lease a lit or dark fiber connection between the CENIC node at 1111 Van Ness Ave, Fresno, CA 93721 and the Fresno Unified School District Education Center at 2309 Tulare Street, Fresno, CA 93721.
- On a motion by Board Member Major Slatic, seconded by Board Clerk Thomas, Agenda Item A-8 was approved by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Mills, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis.
- A-9, APPROVE Award of Bid 21-32, Hamilton and Wawona K-8 Schools Safety and Security Camera Improvements**  
**APPROVED as recommended**, information on Bid 21-32, for the installation of district provided high-definition security cameras, digital video recorders and associated equipment at Hamilton and Wawona K-8 Schools.
- A-10, APPROVE Award of Bid 21-33, Multipurpose Room Audio/Visual System Upgrades at Various School Sites: Burroughs, Centennial and Sunset Elementary Schools; and Ahwahnee and Scandinavian Middle Schools**  
**APPROVED as recommended**, information on Bid 21-33, for upgraded audio/visual (A/V) systems in the multipurpose rooms (cafeterias) at Burroughs, Centennial and Sunset Elementary Schools, and Ahwahnee and Scandinavian Middle Schools.

## **A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued**

### **A-11, APPROVE Award of Bid 21-34, Ventura and 10th South Campus Site and Tenant Improvements, Buildings C and D**

**APPROVED as recommended**, information on Bid 21-34, for general site improvements and remodeling of office spaces at the Ventura and 10th South Campus, Buildings C and D, to accommodate use by district central office staff.

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

**APPROVED as recommended**, proposed revisions for the following four Board Policies (BP): 1340 Access to District Records; 5131 Conduct; 6145 Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities; and 6146.1 High School Graduation Requirements/Standards of Proficiency.

### **A-13, RATIFY Grant Application to the California Department of Education**

**RATIFIED as recommended**, the submission of a grant application to the California Department of Education 2020 National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant.

### **A-14, RATIFY Grant Application to the 2021 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program**

**RATIFIED as recommended**, for the district's grant application to the 2021 Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Program (FFVP) through the California Department of Education.

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

## **UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

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

### **1. Kimi Smallen**

Dear FUSD,

I am writing today to respectfully request our children's return to fulltime in person learning. My kids as well as many other kids are suffering greatly. My 7th grade son, who has been an exceptional student throughout his entire school attendance, now has B's and C's. While this may seem average, it is certainly not normal for him. I have discussed with parents of at least 3 families whose children are not only doing worse academically, but also suffering with depression and loss of interest in school. All of which are abnormal for these children. School IS about learning, but as a community, we have discovered school is so much

## **UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - continued**

more. It is a place for making friends and interpersonal connections that will be with them throughout their lives. Please know how passionately our local families feel about the insufficiencies of distance learning on both an academic level and emotional level and we will continue to push for in person, fulltime learning until this goal is achieved.

Respectfully,  
The Smullen Family

### **2. Missy Tuck**

Dear FUSD Board Members,

While I attended Roosevelt High School I have gotten involved in this unfair retirement of the Fresno High Warrior image because we're afraid some individual will come forward and state the Rough riders name offends them and you'll immediately vote to retire it as well.

How did you come to the insane conclusion that after 130 years as the Warriors it is now racist or offensive?

In my opinion it appears you, the petitioner and others hiding behind these fake groups you used are the actual racists here attempting to remove Native Americans and the images from the public's view.

How can you possibly ask the tax payers in your district to spend over \$400k to remove a 130 year old image when you've failed terribly to check the petitioner, the supporters endorsements and even the actual members of Valley Native Americans for Change.

I assure you this complete lack of investigation will back fire on each one of you who rushed to judgment and failed to inspect any of the evidence you accepted in making your decision. It is falling apart on simple inspection so I assume it will be horrific for you when the attorney puts it under the microscope.

This movement is gaining momentum and may ultimately be your undoing. Many of my friends from Roosevelt are joining the fight and I'm aware other schools alumni are jumping onboard as well.

I would recommend you rescind your votes and hold a stakeholders referendum  
**(250-word limit reached)**

### **3. Ryan Griffith**

Board Members & Dr. Nelson:

As you must be aware over 20 public comments from identifiable individuals were submitted to this board since Saturday March 6, 2021 to be read at the board meeting today. These public comments relate to keeping Fresno High School's

## **UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - continued**

mascot. I anticipate far more letters and public comment to be received in the coming weeks.

I want to ensure these public comments are read and acknowledged at the Board Meeting tonight in compliance with the Brown Act. Therefore, I have attached a letter to ensure compliance with the Brown Act.

Thanks for your time and let me know if you have any questions. Ryan Griffith, Esq.

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#### **4. Josette Losurdo**

Fresno Unified Board Members,

I believe the Native American image that has been Fresno High's logo for over 130 years is an image of pride and that your vote was unfair, as you did not hear from both sides of the issue.

I attended Fresno High from fall of 1975 and graduated in 1978, I have siblings who attended from fall of 1962 through 1971, and we never thought the image was disrespectful.

Your decision needs to be reversed and the \$400K to \$1 million dollars of tax payer money should be spent on improving the test scores of the students in the Fresno Unified school district and to set up curriculum to teach the kids the history of the Native Americans.

The so-called "social justice" group and the teachers who teach it, need to teach acceptance and not hate. This group needs new leadership or disband from the school.

Josette Losurdo  
Class of 1978

#### **5. Tiffany Hurst**

Dear Trustees,

I am writing to you in regards to your decision to remove our 131 year old tradition. The manner in which it was voted on was completely misleading and just plain wrong. I am a Warrior, a proud Fresno High School Warrior Alumni. Ever since I was a child I wanted to be a Warrior. I used to attend football games and see that Warrior image and think to myself, "I will honor that Warrior and wear it with pride

## **UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - continued**

someday." And I did and still do today. I graduated from FHS in 1998 and while at FHS I was very involved with student government, played sports and was a cheerleader. I was completely consumed with Warrior Pride. Still to this day I am full of Warrior Pride. That image is more than just an image. That image is a symbol of courage, honor and strength. It is in no way racist or degrading.

As a former student, I feel that our voices have not been heard. Our comments and protest against the change was overlooked completely. And to find out later it wasn't even the Native Americans protesting and advocating for this change is disheartening. You are dishonoring our 131 year old tradition. FHS is known for our traditions. Traditions are what makes us who we are and you are trying to take that away from us.

In my opinion there are plenty of other things the district can focus on than this. Spending more than **(250-word limit reached)**

### **6. Raymond Hernandez**

To FUSD,

I am a FHS Alumni class of 1978; for over 100 years the Warrior Mascot has been one of the Valley's most identifiable Icon figures.

To take it away will be like erasing history; please reconsider your stand.

Thank you

### **7. Natasha Uhlik-Slebiss**

Dear Board Members and Dr Nelson;

As a 1978 graduate of Fresno High School, I am very concerned with the topic of having the Fresno High School Mascot replaced/removed.

The timing of this decision seems rather poor. As our country is struggling with a pandemic, an entity steps forward to take away a precious part of our history in hopes that it will go unnoticed. I noticed, as did many others.

Shame on you the Board members who failed to hear the voices of all those who do not support the removal of the Fresno High Warrior mascot.

I vote, I pay taxes, I live in Fresno County and I pay

attention. Sincerely;

Natasha Uhlik Slebiss, RDN

### **8. John Crawford**

Dear FUSD Trustee Board,

My name is John Crawford. I am a Fresno High School Alumnus from the Class of 1989. My class was the 100th graduating class of FHS Warriors! We were/are VERY proud of that- so much so that the large FHS stone plaque at the entry to Fresno High School was our gift to the school and our posterity.



## **UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - continued**

I, like tens/hundreds of thousands of other people in the past 132 years, have wandered the halls and grounds of Fresno High with great pride in the fact that I am a Fresno High School WARRIOR!

Being of part Native American descent, this was an even greater source of pride to me- I am also Scottish, and I feel a great source of joy in seeing the McLane Highlanders and their mascot!! You see, it's not derogatory or demeaning to celebrate our history by honoring the images, logos, and cultures of the people who helped weave the fabric of what has become the United States of America! You won't hear about people getting offended over a Scot in a kilt because it's celebrated in the Scottish people, much the same as the image of a great Native warrior is celebrated by those of us who are of Native blood.

Now we are being told that it doesn't matter what 131 years of tradition and values has reaped because YOU are hell-bent on destroying our history and legacy due to a TINY, EXTREMELY VOCAL individual(s) who is offended that we **(250-word limit reached)**

### **9. John Flores**

My name is John Flores and I would like to begin first by thanking the Fresno Unified School District Board of Trustees for their attention to this matter. If I can give a little history about myself, I was born and raised in Fresno, attending Fresno schools, and graduating from Fresno High School in 1977. While at Fresno High, I was involved in the music department and served as drum major for the Fresno High Marching Warrior Band my senior year and also served as a member of the Fresno High Senate. I am a graduate of California State University, Fresno, and currently work as a Vice-President of Operations for an agricultural lending corporation in Fresno.

As you can see, Fresno is my life and has always been. With the exception of a couple of years in another state, it is where my wife and I have spent over 40 years together and where we raised our two daughters. In fact, my daughter served as the girls' water polo coach at Fresno High a few seasons ago while in college at Fresno State. Fresno High takes on a special meaning to many of us who have attended there throughout the years. We take special pride to be part of an alumni group that has existed for over 130 years, having shared title of "alumnus" with many famous Fresno High graduates. Many of us continue to get together regularly and, in fact, a group meets every Saturday for coffee across the **(250-word limit reached)**

### **10. Dan Shay**

Hi,

As a graduate of Fresno High School, I am shocked and appalled at the thought of removing the Native American Warrior image. What are you people thinking?

## **UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - continued**

Why are you wasting our tax dollars? I haven't met a Native American yet who has a problem with the image.

Our mascot is a part of history, not only personally but as part of Fresno's history as well. It is bad enough that they have been changing the written history, adding falsehoods and removing facts. My family has a history in California pre-dating California becoming a State. One of my grandmothers also attended Fresno High School and was a proud Warrior.

Please do not remove the Native American image. It pays respect to our own Native American's in this area.

Thank you for your time and  
dedication, Daniel A. Shay  
FHS Class of 1973

### **11. Gary Nakagawa**

Dear FUSD Trustees.

Please rescind your ridiculously, politically, and motivated racist decision to remove the FHS Warrior Image! Why after 131 years are you taking this position? Are you part of the “woke” and “cancel culture”? Because you are acting like it! There are now 623 members in our FB group called: “SUPPORTERS FOR RETAINING THE FRESNO HIGH WARRIOR IMAGE”. While there are some in our group that have not written to you, they would not have joined this group, if they did not believe in this cause. Do you have over 623 individuals wanting the removal of our dear Fresno High Warrior Image? We also have the backing and support of retaining this image by “NAGA” AKA Native American Guardian Association. You made this decision without listening to our side and it shows your bias and did this knowingly. Where is the fairness in this process of removal? Answer, there was no fairness period. For a bunch of educated Trustee’s, you are acting like political hacks. Rescind this decision immediately!

Gary Nakagawa

Class of 1971

Proud to be a “Warrior with our NA Image”

### **12. Chris Alderson**

Hello All,

I am writing to urge you to vote against removing the Warrior mascot from Fresno High School. As a second generation graduate of Fresno High, the Warrior mascot carries significant importance to my family and I. While I can understand the derogatory meaning of a "redskin" mascot or other demeaning mascots, the image of the Warrior symbolizes to me and others: pride, honor and respect. It has significant meaning to many in our community and serves as a historical

## **UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - continued**

image that has served the Fresno community proud. I would hope you consider the true definition of a warrior when you consider this. Many of us in the Fresno High district were engaged in struggle and conflict as we went through high school. The warrior image gave us hope and the ability to be a warrior through our daily lives.

Definition of warrior: a person engaged or experienced in warfare broadly : a person engaged in some struggle or conflict

Thank you,

Chris Alderson

Class of 1991

### **13. Cecilia Patino Funk**

FUSD Trustees-

According to a Washington Post poll of Native Americans, more than 90% responded they were in favor of Native American imagery and names being used. They did not consider them derogatory and in fact see them as reminders of their proud ancestry. FUSD's nondiscrimination policy prohibits derogatory images and also references a very long list of citations that support your policy. FUSD has determined that the Fresno High School Warrior image is derogatory. By what definition? Please share with our community which of the referenced citations in the policy calls for removing a globally recognized, historic image of a distinct and well respected North American.

Native Americans embrace all races as it is known they have historically bestowed the honor and title of Warrior to those who have demonstrated courage and bravery, traits they embody. It is an ethos that transcends race and culture. To remove the Warrior Native American image is a disgrace to Warriors that have walked before us and a form of racism to all now.

You must rescind your decision to remove the image so that true equality is shown to all those who identify as a Warrior. If not, you must hold a stakeholder referendum that permits a fair and transparent debate.

Cecilia Patino Funk

Class of 1979

### **14. Lori Pastre'**

Dear Trustees:

I respectfully request that you rescind the decision to remove the FHS Warrior imagery.

- The Warrior is a historical and iconic image that is currently, and always will be, a proud representation of Fresno High for the entire community, the alumni, as well as the current faculty and students.

## **UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - continued**

- As reported by NAGA (Native American Guardian Association), approximately 85-90% of Native Americans polled were in full support of utilizing Native American imagery as recognition of their heritage for sports and other public platforms. Educate not eradicate.
- An overwhelming majority of FHS alumni are proud of the Warrior image and wish to have it retained.
- The financial impact to eradicate the Warrior image is estimated at a cost of at least \$400,000, and more than likely expected to reach nearly \$1 million.

It is critical in a highly sensitive matter such as this that the entirety of the situation be evaluated in a thorough manner. It is apparent that the appropriate research was not done prior to the Board's decision to remove the Warrior imagery. A democratic society is one in which the majority voice prevails; we cannot afford to allow a small group of radical individuals attempt to dictate what is in the best interest of all those affected. Please allow for a stakeholder's referendum to afford everyone an equal opportunity to express themselves and allow their voices to be heard.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori A. Pastre'

Native American FHS Alumni, 1981

### **15. Elizabeth Potter**

Hello, I'm writing you today in hopes that you and your colleagues will do the right thing and open schools back up, full time, RIGHT NOW, to everyone who wants to go back. I have 5 Elementary school age kids that have been forced into a distance learning program that was only supposed to last two weeks. It's been a year and the talk of opening back up isn't good enough, it's actually insulting at this point. It seems that the only parents and students with a voice that's being heard, are those that want to stay home wrapped up in their fear. Meanwhile, the rest of us (the majority) are forced to face the reality that our children are suffering in order to keep those that you've already given the choice to stay home if they want to stay home, at home where they already are! It makes no sense. Either open the schools to those who need and want to be there, or stop talking out of your a\*\* about it.

Sincerely, A fed up parent.

### **16. Debra Rodriguez**

To the Board Members of FUSD,

Please vote against and not for the changing of the Fresno High School's Warrior image. I along with my three siblings and all of my classmates are Warrior Strong.

## **UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – continued**

I usually do not get involved and I usually stay silent, but this is too important for me to keep silent about. A lot of my warrior classmates still gather around the front of Fresno High every Saturday morning, rain or shine. We all embrace being a Warrior.

The image is an image of a strong proud Warrior. There is no prejudice or discrimination attached to it. Only those that are trying to get you to change it are the ones that are causing trouble.

Please do not waste any more tax dollars on this.

I am and will always be a proud Fresno High Warrior. Class of '79!

Thanks for your time,  
Debbie Rodriguez

### **17. Cheri Perry**

I am the parent of 2 students that attend FUSD schools - 2nd grade & 7th grade. We have been told as parents by Superintendent Nelson that the FUSD School Board is our avenue to voice our concerns, questions, and to partner with the school district. Mr. Nelson has advised that he is “partnering” with parents by using feedback from the FUSD School Board to be our voice.

The FUSD School Board has had closed meetings for months. Parents have not been able to openly participate in school board meetings. Many parents, including myself, have reached out to the School Board and sent letters to ask questions, asked for you to advocate for parents and students to open schools, to and to ask to be provided the opportunity to share our concerns. Emails and voicemails are not an effective method for parents and students to communicate with the board. Please answer why you are not holding open board meetings and allowing parents to speak openly, as was previously available prior to the Governor shutting down our state last year. Parents and students are frustrated and tired of feeling unheard, marginalized, and having no one advocate on their behalf.

We are asking that you open school board meetings back up to public speaking so that parents and students may address the school board directly.

Thank you,  
Cheri Perry

### **18. Patty Lawrence**

To the Board of FUSD

I am requesting that you do not get rid of our Warrior Image of FHS. I am an Alumni, and Proud to be a Warrior and the image to me is to HONOR and show RESPECT to the Native Americans. Their Heritage is extremely a major part of our California History, and we honor them with the Warrior Image. It was chosen for those reasons and is not offensive or derogatory in any way. There are more

## **UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – continued**

issues to be resolved by getting the students back into school, so that they can socialize and get better learning instructions from their teachers. If private schools can have in person learning then public schools should get the same consideration. Leave our honored Warrior Image alone, for future generations.

Patty Lawrence  
(Smith) PROUD FHS  
WARRIOR CLASS of  
1976

### **19. Jennifer Paschal**

Is Fresno unified ready to adopt the 3 ft social distant guideline recently released by the CDC? I cannot understand how 2 days a week is sufficient in person education, especially when it's basically "zoom in a room" instruction. I have a kinder who has been in a cohort on Monday's which is now being canceled due to the fact that the teacher is not "volunteering" to teach the Monday cohort. Why is the inconsistent rules being allowed? How can teachers explaining traveling for leisure and not be forced to work from the classroom? This rollout of returning to the classroom is not only embarrassing it's unforgivable. I am a parent who is in favor of 100 percent return to the classroom, also a parent who is in favor for the right to choose, please do right by our kids, this hypocrisy has gone on long enough.

-Jennifer Paschal  
Bullard Region

### **20. Shaun R. Ardemagni**

Dear Board,

I write to you to request that the subject of the removal of the Warrior mascot be brought back to the table for further discussion. I find it very disheartening that the Board voted to remove our beloved mascot based, seemingly, on one man's outspoken protest, a man who did not even attend Fresno High School and cannot possibly know what it means to the alumni who did attend, and consider ourselves Warriors by our individual and collective experiences as Fresno High School students.

Please take the time necessary to reconsider your decision. Sincerely,  
Shaun R. Ardemagni

## **UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – continued**

### **21. Mike Markarian**

Dear FUSD,

I am extremely concerned with the amount of money you are now stating it will take to change the Fresno High Warrior at Fresno High.

I was concerned when I saw you were being petitioned but since you stated there would be no

fiscal change I didn't get overly concerned.

Now I've seen articles saying \$400,00.00! This needs to be rescinded. I would have come forward to fight this had I been advised up front of the costs.

Rescind this ridiculous tax payer spending now! This is total fraud to lie to me and others to get your way!

Regards,

Mike Markarian

### **22. James Tuck**

Board Members,

We have come to realize that every single person that ever attended FHS has been unjustly treated by your rash and unreasonable decision to retire a proud Warrior image without any opportunity given to the Alumni.

You failed to give our side proper notification while allowing our opposition to interact with you freely and irresponsibly.

We are learning that nearly every endorsement used is fraudulent and the organizations that supported the petition are also made up of social justice warriors who right campaign letters for multiple cancel culture groups daily.

Why did you not verify any of this? Mr Nelson is nothing more than a political activists as we will prove if we need to.

Please rescind your vote now,

Thank you,

James Tuck

1981

## **B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA**

### **B-15, PRESENT and DISCUSS the 2021/22 Strategic Budget Development**

The Board of Education has discussed the Governor's proposed Budget and the potential impacts on Fresno Unified, as well as the strategic budget development process, at the following Board of Education meetings: January 20, 2021, February 17, 2021, February 03, 2021, March 10, 2021. On March 17, 2021, staff and the Board continued budget development discussions.

## **B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA - continued**

### **OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment**

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

For the record Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-15. A summary is as follows: Requested clarity as to the IMAGGO contract within the College & Career Readiness budget. Requested clarity as to opportunity for students to attend Story Land and Veterans' Memorial Hall within the Summer School budget. Would like to incorporate community service component into the student portfolio different from civic engagement. Expressed the need for more resources devoted to Indigenous education.

## **C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS**

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

## **D. ADJOURNMENT**

Board President Davis ADJOURNED the meeting at 7:32 p.m.