



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

MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

**Fresno, California
December 08, 2021**

Fresno Unified School District, Education Center, 2309 Tulare Street, Fresno, CA 93721.

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held on December 08, 2021, there were present Board Members Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. Superintendent Dr. Nelson was also present. Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

Board President Davis CONVENED the Regular Board Meeting at 4:30 p.m.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Closed Session Items

For the record, the Board received one request to address the Board on a Closed Session item. The individual's name along with a summary of topic is listed as follows:

1. Andrew Fabela: Employee dismissal.

Board President Davis ADJORNED the meeting to Closed Session at 4:40 p.m. to address items one through five.

Board President Davis RECONVENED the meeting to Open Session at 5:39 p.m.

Reporting Out of Closed Session

- On a motion by Board Clerk Thomas, seconded by Board Member Major Slatic, the Board took action in Closed Session on a Workers' Compensation settlement for Keven Page, Case No. WC18-1106-1915, by a vote of 6-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.
- On a motion by Board Clerk Thomas, seconded by Board Member Major Slatic, the Board took action in Closed Session to promote Armen Torigian to Principal V at Bullard High School, by a vote of 6-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chief Human Resources/Labor Relations Officer Paul Idsvoog led the flag salute.

HEAR Report from Superintendent

- Addressed a somber topic –I must take time tonight to talk to our community about school threats of which most derive from social media. Since last week’s tragic school shooting in Michigan where four students were killed and seven others were injured, we have unfortunately seen a rise in threats to our school campuses, mostly through social media. First, let me assure everyone that as soon as we hear of a potential threat, we immediately involve the police who investigate the threat. We also let our parents know of the threat and any outcome of police investigation. We are grateful that threats to our campuses have been deemed not credible by the police, but it is also a reality check that many students who make these threats are doing so as a joke and are thinking very little about the real consequences of their threat. First, it’s not a joke or funny to see the emotional impact of an entire school community based on a threat – in fact it can be incredibly terrifying for our students, families and staff. It’s not cool. And second, these threats often end in suspension, expulsion, and/or arrests and criminal charges. Those disciplinary actions from school and from the criminal justice system can affect your ability to get a job in the future or to go to the college of your choice. That split-second decision to post, or even repost, social media threats can change a student’s entire life. Please, think before you post and if you see a threat to a school report that threat immediately to a trusted adult on campus – DO NOT REPOST the threat. Parents, please help us by talking with your children about the huge consequences of making threats against others including our school sites. It’s not worth it.
- Shared, that upon board approval, payroll will begin processing for all staff to receive a separate check by December 17 accounting for the 4% pay raise retroactive from July 01, 2021 through November, as well as the one-time half percent payment. Please give our amazing payroll team until the 17th to receive your check. In your regular December check, you will see your raise accounted for moving forward. Thank you to our entire staff for the hard work you continue to do each day, to our fiscal and payroll teams for making this happen, and to the Board for your support.
- Reminded all staff we are currently recruiting for volunteer Academic Decathlon judges! We need judges for the speech and interview portions of the competition and there is training available for all judges. The events will be held VIRTUALLY on Saturday, January 29 – so you can do your training and judging all from the comfort of your own home! It’s always a great time to see our students and students across the county in action – I especially encourage our classified staff who might not get to see our students in their academic journeys each day to jump in! You won’t regret it. If you’re interested, please email Mike Jones at mike.jones@fresnounified.org.
- Invited our Trustees to please join us this Friday for a press conference at 11am at Parent University where we will detail some of our many parent resources to support at-home learning with their students. This is a direct effort to continue moving forward with our district goal to increase inclusive opportunities for our families to engage in their students’ education. We’re excited to share some of our new and existing resources for parents and students to encourage learning

outside of the school day, especially as we head into our winter break. We look forward to seeing you there on Friday.

- Celebrated one of our amazing Fresno Unified Family members, who I'm thinking you all have seen this week along with the rest of the country! Campus Culture Director Austin Lemay of Tenaya Middle School had his dance moves go VIRAL starting Sunday reaching celebrities, national news like Good Morning America and E! News, and many millions of people across our nation on TikTok and Instagram! Let's watch this great feature from ABC30 to hear a little more about how Mr. Lemay captured the hearts of the nation, just doing what he's passionate about every day.
- Austin, Tenaya team, and all of the other amazing staff who are building relationships with our kids every single day, thinking that you are unseen, please know that we SEE you and we NEED you. You don't necessarily have to have as smooth of moves as Austin, instead you just need to be authentically YOU and show your authentic care for our students. From seeing Austin's love and fun with our students go as viral as it has, it shows me that our country is HUNGRY for real engagement and relationships. Don't forget that the work you do each day truly makes an impact. We love you Austin and the entire Fresno Unified Family!

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items

For the record, the Board received three requests to address the Board on the Consent Agenda. The individual's name along with a summary of topics are listed as follows:

1. Brenda Martinez: A-3, Dual Enrollment
2. Lorena Moreno: A-3, Dual Enrollment
3. Carmen Zamora: A-3, Dual Enrollment

On a motion by Board Member Major Slatic, seconded by Board Clerk Thomas, the Consent Agenda, with the exception of Agenda Items A-18 and A- 23, which were pulled for further discussion, was approved by a roll call vote of 6-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and President Davis. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

ALL CONSENT AGENDA items are considered routine by the Board of Education and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of items unless a Board member so requests, in which event, the item(s) will be considered following approval of the Consent Agenda.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

**A-1, APPROVE Personnel List
APPROVED as recommended.**

A-2, ADOPT Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Board

A. CONSENT AGENDA- continued

ADOPTED as recommended, the Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Panels.

A-3, ADOPT Resolution in Support of Dual Enrollment

ADOPTED as recommended, this resolution which identifies the goal of expanding current dual enrollment offerings within all high schools to provide up to 12 units of transferable dual enrollment credit for students.

For the record, Board Member had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item A-3. A summary is as follows: Shared an emphasis around the importance on having inclusive communication. Stated that some families from Go Public were unaware of the program offered until after their children advanced to other classes. Asked for recommendations or specific ideas on how to promote this program as well as staff using every resource necessary, so everyone has an equal opportunity to apply.

On a motion by Board President Davis, seconded by Member Major Slatic, Agenda item A-3 was adopted by a vote of 6-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

A-4, ADOPT Fresno Unified School District Resolution #21-14

ADOPTED as recommended, this Resolution which authorizes Santino Danisi, Chief Financial Officer authorization to sign and execute all documents by the California Department of Rehabilitation.

A-5, APPROVE Renewal Agreement with Elixir Insurance Company

APPROVED as recommended, a renewal agreement with Elixir Insurance Company.

A-6, APPROVE Renewal Agreement with Kaiser Permanente

APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Kaiser Permanente to provide medical services on behalf of benefit eligible employees and retirees.

A-7, APPROVE Agreement with Activities Integrating Math and Science Education Foundation for Fresno Unified Winter Session 2021

APPROVED as recommended, an agreement for Activities Integrating Math and Science (AIMS) Education Foundation.

A-8, APPROVE Agreement with Arte Americas

APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Arte Americas.

A-9, APPROVE Agreement with Deborah McCoy

APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Deborah McCoy.

A. CONSENT AGENDA- continued

- A-10, APPROVE the California Teaching Fellows Foundation to Support Winter Camps 2021- Mindsets Learning, Inc. Agreement**
APPROVED as recommended, and agreement with Mindsets Learning, Inc. for the California Teaching Fellows Foundation.
- A-11, APPROVE Agreement with Adventure Education Solutions**
APPROVED as recommended, and agreement with Adventure Education Solutions for Fresno Unified Winter Session 2021.
- A-12, APPROVE Request for Material Revision by Aspen Meadow Public School**
APPROVED as recommended, the revised Aspen Meadow Public School Petition and supporting documents delivered to the District on November 10, 2021 by Executive Director, Shelly Lether.
- A-13, APPROVE Request for Material Revision by Aspen Valley Prep Academy**
APPROVED as recommended, the revised Aspen Valley Prep Academy Petition and supporting documents delivered to the District on November 10, 2021 by Executive Director, Shelly Lether.
- A-14, APPROVE Grant Application to the California Department of Education for National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance**
APPROVED as recommended, submission of a grant application to the California Department of Education for a 2021 National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant.
- A-15, APPROVE Use of Individual Piggyback Contracts**
APPROVED as recommended, piggyback contracts for use during 2021/22 for efficient and cost-effective procurement. This is in addition to piggyback contracts approved by the Board previously, to allow for expedited purchases related to science and technology, HVAC equipment, student meal services, security hardware, performing arts supplies, and modular buildings.
- A-16, APPROVE Rejection of Bid 22-16, Tenaya Middle School Office and Site/Walk Improvements**
APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 22-16, for new steel picket and chain-link fencing and gates, concrete sidewalks, entry canopy, new main office exterior doors and landscape and lighting improvements at Tenaya Middle.
- A-17, RATIFY Addendum with New Life Physical Therapy Services, dba Goodfellow Therapy**
APPROVED as recommended, an addendum with New Life Physical Therapy Services, dba Goodfellow Therapy in the amount of \$96,000.

A. CONSENT AGENDA- continued

A-18, RATIFY Agreement with Good Company Players for Fifth Graders to See Founding Fathers and Mothers RATIFIED with amendment.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item A-18. A summary is as follows: Requested clarity as to how many students will have the opportunity to view this play. Requested clarity as to if staff reviewed this play. Expressed concerns regarding the content of the play after reviewing a video of the play. Requested information on when the play will show. Commented on hesitation to approve Agenda Item A-18 until concerns regarding play content have been addressed.

For the record, Board Clerk Thomas motioned to DENY Agenda Item A-18, RATIFY, Agreement with Good Company Players for Fifth Graders to See Founding Fathers and Mothers, without a second and therefore the motion was not considered.

For the record, Board Members continued with comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item A-18. A summary is as follows: Commented if the item is not approved it would be a missed opportunity for fifth graders to see a live theater play. Discussion followed pertaining to quality of play content versus student experience in seeing a play for maybe the first time.

For the Record, Board Member Cazares motioned to APPROVE Agenda Item A-18, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas.

Before the vote took place, Board Members continued with comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item A-18. A summary is as follows: Suggested fifth graders be provided a pre/post educational component when seeing the play as an opportunity to develop critical thinking skills. Commented on the opportunity to look throughout the system so we don't run in to the same issues in the future. Commented parents can use this as an opportunity to go with their children and discuss the play. Commented on the need to be more thoughtful in how diversity is reflected within the district. Commented on the valuable lesson being shown in this discussion, on how to approach and evaluate, and the need to be conscious of what is being taught. Assistant Superintendent Bryan Wells was available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, Agenda item A-18 was approved with an amendment to add a pre/post element when viewing the play, by a vote of 5-1-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, and Board President Davis. NOES: Board Clerk Thomas. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

A. CONSENT AGENDA- continued

A-19, RATIFY Grant Application to the California Department of Rehabilitation for the We Can Work Grant

RATIFIED as recommended, the grant application and funding from the California Department of Rehabilitation for the We Can Work grant.

A-20, RATIFY Change Orders for the Projects Listed Below

RATIFIED as recommended, information on Change Orders for the following projects:

- Bid 20-19, Fresno High School Career Technical Education (CTE) Building Construction
Change Order 8 presented for ratification \$ 88,091
- Bid 21-11, Edison High School Gymnasium Addition
Change Order 5 presented for ratification \$ 62,585
- Bid 21-25, Hoover High School Career Technical Education (CTE) Building and Construction Trades, Classroom Shop Improvements
Change Order 3 presented for ratification \$ 40,889
- Bid 21-37, Hoover High School Multipurpose Room HVAC Replacement
Change Order 1 presented for ratification \$ 12,304

A-21, RATIFY the Filing of a Notice of Completion

RATIFIED as recommended, a Notice of Completion for the following project, which has been completed according to plans and specifications.

- Bid 21-37, Hoover High School Multipurpose Room HVAC Replacement

A-22, RATIFY Purchase Orders from September 01, 2021 through September 30, 2021 – Primary Report

RATIFIED as recommended, information on purchase orders issued from September 01, 2021 through September 30, 2021. Two agenda items are presented to ratify purchase orders. The first item includes the Primary Report with all purchase orders issued during the reported dates with the exception of those that may present a potential conflict of interest for an individual Board member. All remaining purchase orders are in the Supplemental Report and presented as a second agenda item.

A-23, RATIFY Purchase Orders from September 01, 2021 through September 30, 2021 – Supplemental Report,

RATIFIED as recommended, information on purchase orders issued from September 01, 2021 through September 30, 2021. Two agenda items are presented to ratify purchase orders. The first item includes the Primary Report with all purchase orders issued during the reported dates with the exception of those

A. CONSENT AGENDA- continued

that may present a potential conflict of interest for an individual Board member. All remaining purchase orders are in the Supplemental Report and presented as a second agenda item.

For the record, Board Member Jonasson Rosas read a statement as follows:

“Agenda Item A-23 on tonight’s Consent Agenda contains purchase orders for the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (Fresno EOC). I was previously employed with the Fresno EOC which is a nonprofit corporation. I did not participate in the making of the contracts related to these purchase orders, but because of my previous employment with Fresno EOC I have a remote financial interest in these contracts. Therefore, consistent with my prior recusals relating to Fresno EOC and in the interest of full transparency, I am abstaining from this vote pursuant to Board Bylaw 9270.”

On a motion by Board Member Major Slatic, seconded by Board Member Cazares, Agenda Item A-23 was approved by a vote of 5-0-1-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and Board President Davis. ABSTAINED: Board Member Jonasson Rosas. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

A-24, RATIFY NAVEX Service Agreement

RATIFIED as recommended, the NAVEX service agreement.

OPPORTUNITY FOR UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

For the record, the Board received nine requests to address the Board during Unscheduled Oral Communications. The individual’s name along with a summary of topic are listed as follows:

1. Norma Isabella Ledesma: Not Present- Fresno High Aquatics Program.
2. Mariana Salgado: Not Present- Fresno High Aquatics Program.
3. Itchel Salgado: Not Present- Fresno High Aquatics Program.
4. Daniel Ruiz: Not Present- Fresno High Aquatics Program.
5. Maria Salazar Urbina: Not Present- Fresno High Aquatics Program.
6. Erin Schuurman: Vaccines.
7. Andrew Fabela: Facilities Master Plan.
8. Angelana Alejandre Avila: Vaccines.
9. Marcy Perez: Vaccines.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-25, PRESENT and DISCUSS Special Education Update

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Agenda Item B-25

For the record, the Board received one request to address the Board on Agenda Item B-25. The individual's name along with a summary of topic is listed as follows:

1. Andrew Fabela: Request for district to purchase vehicles for district physical therapists.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-25. A summary is as follows: Requested clarity on the presentation and if an adoption was happening. Requested future presentations to show data that is showing improvements from year-to-year, and to incorporate feedback parents and students provide and action steps the district is taking in direct response to parent/student feedback. Commented on IEP process in general and the length of time it takes to receive one. Expressed to the public the Board is aware of these challenges, the Board hears you and are working to make improvements. Requested to receive progress update before the next school year which will outline where we are with improvements in this process. Commented it is hard to understand what parents with a special need's child goes through day to day; that is one of the reasons the Board asked the CGCS to conduct in-depth research, reaching out to the public, parents, teachers, and the community. Commented that district psychologists are focused on students with an IEP; would like the district to look at extending, especially coming out of the pandemic, all psychology resources to other students that may not have an IEP as well. Thanked staff for the research and presentation and asked for clarity on budget and community reach out. Instructional Superintendent Dr. Tangee Pinheiro was available to provided clarity.

B-26, PRESENT and DISCUSS Redistricting of Trustee Areas within Fresno Unified School District

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Agenda Item B-26

For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board on the Agenda Item B-26.

For the record Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-26. A summary is as follows: Commented paper maps are helpful for parents who may have a language barrier and struggle at times with digital literacy. Expressed appreciation that Board feedback was implemented in presentation of Roosevelt area. Expressed concern trustee areas are being divided where it could possibly cause conflicts for families. Commented was first apprehensive about dramatic change to Roosevelt High trustee area, but after hearing Board member

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA-continued

feedback no concerns remain. Expressed concern for the Addams Elementary trustee area being split between two trustee areas. Mr. Skinnell was available to provide clarity.

For the record, Chief of Staff Chavez shared zero input has been received via email. **Correction to the statement: After the meeting, it was discovered that an individual submitted information to be considered through the online mapping tool and forwarded the information to the email redistricting@fresnounified.org.

For the record, Board Member Major Slatic requested clarity as to the attendance area versus the trustee area. Chief of Staff Chavez was available to provide clarity.

For the record, Board Member Jonasson Rosas requested she be provided a higher resolution file which shows all streets. Mr. Skinnell was available to provide clarity.

For the record Board Clerk Thomas requested, at this time, students who missed speaking during Unscheduled Oral Communication be allowed to speak.

1. Norma Isabella Ledesma: Fresno High Aquatics Program.
2. Mariana Salgado: Fresno High Aquatics Program.
3. Itchel Salgado: Fresno High Aquatics Program.
4. Daniel Ruiz: Fresno High Aquatics Program.
5. Maria Salazar Urbina: Fresno High Aquatics Program.

B-27, DISCUSS and APPROVE the 2020/21 Audited Financial Statements Prepared by Crowe LLP,

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Agenda Item B-27

For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board on the Agenda Item B-27.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-27. A summary is as follows: Many expressions of appreciation, thanks and gratitude for staff and their work for a sound budget. Requested clarity as to formula used on page seven of the presentation. Mr. Jeff Jenson was available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Clerk Thomas, Agenda Item B-27 was approved by a vote of 6-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and President Davis. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA - continued

B-28, DISCUSS and APPROVE the 2021/22 First Interim Financial Report

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Agenda Item B-28

For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board on the Agenda Item B-28.

On a motion by Board Clerk Thomas, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, Agenda Item B-28 was approved by a vote of 6-0-0-0, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Major Slatic, Thomas, and President Davis. The Trustee Area 5 seat is vacant.

B-29, HOLD Public Hearing to PRESENT and DISCUSS the Educator Effectiveness Block Grant

Board President Davis OPENED the Public Hearing.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Agenda Item B-29

For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board on Agenda Item B-29.

For the record Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-29. A summary is as follows: Expressed the need to keep a record/data of how people are doing and requested to receive feedback. Requested clarity as to if there is a need to coach new teachers past the second year. Commented on need to help new teachers by a gradual weaning of help after second year. Requested clarity as to prioritization of dual immersion teachers, special education teachers, early learning teachers, areas that are harder to fill. Requested clarity as to if there is a way to accelerate the process to meet district needs. Commented on need of recruitment and creation of pipelines of opportunity for students, establishing a CTE program that helps the district build up bilingual teachers. Commented on the unique position of the district to augment resources. Requested clarity as to if the grant offers an opportunity on providing staffing assistance to schools to mitigate pulling principals and vice-principals from their duties. Requested clarity on the Wallace grant and if it overlaps the Educator Effectiveness Block Grant. Instructional Superintendent Carlos Castillo was available to provide clarity.

Board President Davis CLOSED the Public Hearing.

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

For the record, the Board was in receipt of three items as follows:

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS - continued

C-30, RECEIVE Results of Issuance and Sale of 2021 Refunding General Obligation Bonds

C-31, RECEIVE Constituent Services Quarterly Reporting

C-25, RECEIVE the 2022 List of Board Member Committees and Organizations

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION

Member Major Slatic: Commented on parent feedback saying their children do not have credentialed math or science teachers in the classroom. Requested data be provided showing the percentage of substitute teachers in classrooms without the proper credentials. Commented on the need to understand the gravity of the issue.

Board Clerk Thomas: Commented on need to create a Board Policy to keep Uber Eats, Door Dash, etc. from delivering to schools during school hours as it is affecting students in a negative way. Requested the Board to consider scheduling one of their Board dinners to be the same meals provided to students . Requested information be provided pertaining to the number of hours staff spend each week with Labor partners. Requested staff to create a process to track employees within the system who are continuously overlooked; referenced an email received from a teacher no longer with the district. Commented on the need to retain staff. Commented on concerns pertaining to lack of cultural sensitivity with the Founding Fathers and Mothers play.

Student Member De La Cruz: Expressed gratitude for the Board's support allowing student board members to attend the California School Board Association conference. Shared her learning from attending the conference.

Student Member Singh: Thanked the Board and district staff for the opportunity to attend the California School Board Association conference.

Member Islas: Thanked London Properties for their sponsorship and support on behalf of Mayfair Elementary students who wrote essays on why they would like to receive a bike 10 winners were chosen from the essays. Gave a shout out to Marcus Spencer a teacher at McLane High School who has been nominated for a Life Changer award. Thanked Clerk Thomas for her remarks regarding the need to evaluate school meals; not only does the district need to meet government requirements but also needs to evaluate how lunch is presented, what lunch is presented in, and how its warmed, there are a lot of elements that contribute to food waste. Congratulated Student Member Ishan Singh for his full scholarship to Vanderbilt University.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION - continued

Board President Davis: Expressed condolences to the Cordova family on the passing of Carlos Cordova a dedicated Fresno High School Parent. Announced the Fresno Kiwanis are celebrating 100 years and will give 100 bikes to Fresno students.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Davis ADJOURNED the meeting at 8:47 p.m.