MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Fresno, California
March 22, 2023
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 March 22, 2023, there were present Board Members Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, and Board President Islas. Superintendent Dr. Nelson was also present. Board Member Davis was absent.

Board President Islas CONVENED the Regular Board Meeting at 4:37 p.m.

For the record, Board Member Thomas arrived at 4:48 p.m.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Closed Session Items

For the record, the Board received nineteen (19) requests to address the Board on Closed Session items. The individual’s name along with a summary of topic is as follows:

1. Patricia Renfro: Provided overview of topics that people might speak on, as follows: teacher transfers, displeasure with bargaining session, teachers seen as the problem not the solution, managements lack of action, dangerous bathrooms, violence on campus, Edgenuity undermining work of teachers, not enough pay, more work than can be done in a day, pointless meetings, no data to support 300+ initiatives, top down ILT program, frustration and disconnect between classroom and management.

2. Taylor Vizthum: Commented on disappointment with Monday's bargaining session. Commented the district bargaining team would not acknowledge the good work of teachers.

3. Robert Hayes: Shared personal thought of district treating teachers as data or statistics and not as humans. Requested to be treated with respect. Commented the designated ELD plan is poor and will not work on high school campuses.

4. Alisha Dunlop: Commented Edison neighborhood elementary schools do not have the same access to music instruction as other sites around the district.

5. Zayen Ferguson: Spoke as a student from Edison High School and commented on Edgenuity. Feels the course does not reflect the spirit of education and is not an effective way of learning.

6. Michele Mazzei: Shared personal feeling of being moved from teaching Art I to teaching Edgenuity. Shared concerns about the ease of cheating with Edgenuity.
OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Closed Session Items - continued

7. Phill Peele: Commented on struggles students face when using Edgenuity as the program does not teach students to study or discipline themselves in preparation for college.

8. Felicia Lacy: Shared concern of issues with sanitation at schools. Asked what the role of custodian is and how is the classroom to be cleaned. Commented, often, in the morning notices the classroom has not been vacuumed. Asked if the classroom checkoff sheet posted in classrooms is used and if all items are to be checked off on a weekly basis.

9. Dori Sexton: Commented often the district tells teachers to deal with situations as they are the professionals/adults in the room. Asked, if teachers are the adults in the room, why do they have no authentic voice in the curriculum they teach, why are they not heard when they address student behavior and safety risks posed to students and teachers, why do they have no voice when forced to leave a school to teach at another school.

10. Katreena Baker: Commented on poor conditions of the portables at McLane High School such as, mold, mice, and no air purifier. Commented teachers deserve a safe and healthy work environment to do their work.

11. Dylan Armitage: Commented on several topics such as being stuck in professional development meetings rather than lesson planning or helping students, the low number of veteran teachers, classrooms without a teacher since September. Commented teachers often work beyond eight hours and it falls on them to make sure students receive an education in which teachers will not be paid due to unrecognized work hours.

12. Jasmine Niemetchek: Commented students need social emotional support now more than ever. Commented some students shared the following: they do not feel comfortable going to teachers or administrators as they fear retribution, a lack of comradery among students, teachers blame without proof, and there is favoritism among race and ethnicity around the district. Commented students should be able to come to school and feel safe and not in fear of being picked on, especially by staff.

13. John Mortimer: Spoke as a student from Edison High School. Commented Edgenuity is a broken program. Online classes do not prepare a student for college or life. Student education is sacrificed so graduation rates look higher. Asked the district to bring back optional in-person classes.

14. Frederick Oliver: Spoke on student apathy in the classroom and student needs not being met. Commented students do not participate in class because they know they can take Edgenuity and pass.

15. Alicia Gonzalez: Shared that against her wishes she is being overaged to another site. Shared concerns related to the district cutting an English only class.

16. Randi Parkinson: Commented working conditions for staff impact learning conditions for students.

17. Daniel Moreno: Commented on the difficulty of making a living when the cost of living does not match wages, and how this hinders the hiring and retention of qualified staff.
OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Closed Session Items - continued

18. Manuel Bonilla: Commented words matter but actions matter more. Commented it is incumbent of the Board to give direction to Superintendent Nelson to give direction to staff to change with the Fresno Teachers Association. The answer is not in more data but in the plan provided by FTA. Requested the Board review the plan.

Board President Islas ADJOURNED the Regular Board Meeting to Closed Session at 5:15 p.m.

For the record, Closed Session extended to 6:20 p.m.

For the record, Closed Session extended to 6:35 p.m.

For the record, Closed Session extended to 6:45 p.m.

Board President Islas RECONVENCED the meeting to Open Session at 6:46 p.m.

Reporting Out of Closed Session
- There were no report outs for Closed Session.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Paul Idsvoog led the Flag Salute.

HEAR Reports from Student Board Representatives

The Board heard comments/reports from Student Board Representatives from Roosevelt High School.

HEAR Report from Superintendent
- I would like to focus my remarks tonight on two of my highest priorities as Superintendent – literacy and safety.
- While there are so many amazing things happening across Fresno Unified, I want to be clear that our top priority and focus is on literacy of our students. Literacy is the foundation of all other academic success and is the most important work we do as a school district. Teaching and learning is always a topic in our Executive Cabinet, but over the last few weeks our instructional team has taken us on a deeper dive to support our district’s focus on ensuring our students are reading and writing on grade level by the end of first grade. We dug deep into learning differences and standards in Prekindergarten (PreK) to Transitional Kindergarten (TK) to Kindergarten to First grade. This week we visited Storey Elementary to see best practices in action, visiting several PreK, TK, Kindergarten, and First grade classrooms. The work of our teachers, our leaders, and our instructional team made evident that with the right support, the right leadership, and the right focus – our goal of developing strong readers by the end of first grade is achievable.
HEAR Report from Superintendent – continued

- But we cannot do it alone. We need our families to join us in these efforts by enrolling your students now in TK and Kindergarten and enrolling your students in PreK when enrollment opens in April. What our kids are learning in PreK is so different than what they learn in TK and then in kindergarten and onto first grade. PreK, TK, and kindergarten should NOT be treated as optional and are so much more important to building strong readers and writers than many understand. It was clear to all of us as we visited classrooms that students who engage in early learning through PreK and TK progress and succeed in kindergarten and first grade faster than their peers who have no early learning engagement. So please families, do not wait and please do NOT skip PreK and TK for your kids. If your child turns 3 or 4 before December 2, they are eligible to enroll in PreK for the 2023/24 school year when registration opens on April 1. If your child turns 5 between September 2 and April 2, they are eligible to enroll now for Transitional Kindergarten and if they turn 5 before September 2, they are eligible to enroll now for kindergarten in the 23/24 school year. By ensuring our kids build their pre-reading skills in PreK and TK, we KNOW they can become strong readers and writers in kindergarten and first grade – setting them up for continued academic success through their K-12 journey.

- Tonight, you’ll also get a chance to hear from our fantastic educators at Fresno High, regarding their concerns about safety on their school campus. Safety on all our campuses and across the district is a top priority for me and I think we can all agree that school safety has changed drastically over the last decade or so with the rise social media and school threats while a youth mental health crisis has been growing across our nation. We look forward to tonight’s presentation and our upcoming Board workshop on Safety next week.

- At next week’s Board workshop, you’ll get a holistic overview of safety including campus safety, safety through prevention and intervention, and safety through classroom management. Our teams have been working throughout this school year to gather feedback from our school sites, our campus safety assistants, and from our students to use in developing our budgets and structures to support a holistic approach to safety for our students and staff moving forward. I’m grateful to our teams for soliciting this feedback and engagement and for visiting and reaching out to other comparable and neighboring districts to learn. The good news in learning from other districts is we are at the forefront of reimagining safety in K-12 districts, and the bad news is that by being at the forefront that means we are the trailblazers and there’s not a lot to gather from other districts who are grappling with the same issues we are facing.

- One foundation in transforming the safety of our students and staff is crystal clear to me – each and every one of our employees and our students play an integral role in safety. There is no one department, one position, one school, or one leadership team that “owns” safety – we all must play our part to build environments and culture inside and outside of the classroom to support safety at Fresno Unified. With that being said, let’s look at this great collaboration of students, site leaders, teachers, classified staff, and district leaders to put a stop to sexual harassment.
HEAR Report from Superintendent – continued

- Congratulated everyone involved in the making of this video. I join you all in shouting, “Don’t put up with it, put a stop to it!”
- Before I end my remarks, I would like to invite our leaders and our community to join us at Fresno Adult School next week on March 31 from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. The team will be hosting a celebration for Cesar Chavez Day and unveiling a new mural in his honor. I also want to congratulate Board President Islas as she was named the 2023 Woman of the Year for the 31 State Assembly District by Assemblymember Dr. Joaquin Arambula. Such a well-deserved recognition of your continued work to support our students and community at large.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS

Board Members had the opportunity for Board/Superintendent communications. A summary is as follows:

**Student Member Laus:** Thanked Fresno Unified Title IX Coordinator, Brian Wall for his work and specifically for speaking to Sunnyside students about gender rights and equality. Provided a shout out to students Emily Dye and Avery Thompson who are nominated to lead a team in the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s 2023 Student Visionaries of the Year campaign.

**Clerk Wittrup:** Congratulated Board President Islas for receiving Woman of the Year award. Thanked Superintendent Nelson for the focus on literacy. Commented it is important and a game changer for the community, to see PreK and TK students ready to read is very exciting and can’t wait to see this work in our district. Thanked Alex Belanger for the board communication on the Bullard fence. The project is moving forward, and I am excited to see the safety features such as single point of entry at main office and automatic exit gates that close and lock. Principal Torigian has been hard at work gathering feedback from staff, students, the community, and the school site council. If everything goes well completion will be August 2024.

**Student Member Aquino:** Thanked Wendy McCulley and Deputy Superintendent Her for speaking at Hoover High School. Their talks in honor of Black History and Women’s History impacted students in the most positive way. Encourage Board Members and staff to take time to visit sites and talk with students, as their voices are important.

**Member Levine:** Congratulated the Community Schools team, Carlos Arredondo and Linda Hoff. They reached a milestone in their work as they applied to the state for five community schools and are waiting to hear if approved. Expressed excitement about the potential of this work and talks of expansion and hope to have an element of a community school at all campuses.
BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS-continued

Board President Islas: Shared congratulations and words of thanks as follows: Ewing Elementary had twenty-nine (29) students meet reclassification criteria and as a former English learner she couldn’t be prouder. Turner Elementary had a beautiful mural completed and encourage folks to visit Turner to see mural. Huge shout out to Principal Teshami Reid at Addicott Elementary, where some of the district’s most vulnerable students attend, she and school team have done a phenomenal job of celebrating wonderful things such as Hmong celebration with Duncan students, a Valentine’s Day dance, a Black History Month celebration with King Elementary African American dancers, and it is very meaningful to the Addicott students and their families. Announced McLane will hold an Open House and Wellness Fair on March 27 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Shout out to Patino Entrepreneurial School, it is one of the jewels of our district, and students get to do some phenomenal projects. Bloomberg Beta has come, and entrepreneurs have provided feedback on student ideas and proposals.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items
For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board on the Consent Agenda.

On a motion by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Board Member Cazares, the Board approved the Consent Agenda by a roll call vote of 6-0-0-1, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Wittrup, and Board President Islas. ABSENT: Board Member Davis.

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 requests, in which event, the item(s) will be considered following approval of the Consent Agenda. Pulled Consent Agenda Items will be considered for approval after the Conference/Discussion Agenda.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

A-1, APPROVE Personnel List
APPROVED as recommended, the Personnel List, Appendix A, as submitted.

A-2, ADOPT Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Board
ADOPTED as recommended, the Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Panels resulting from hearings on expulsion and readmittance cases conducted during the period since the March 08, 2023, Regular Board Meeting.
A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued

A-3, APPROVE Minutes from Prior Meeting
APPROVED as recommended, the draft minutes for the March 08, 2023, Regular Board Meeting.

A-4, ADOPT Resolution 23-40, Vehicle Procurement Delegation
ADOPTED as recommended, Resolution 23-40, Vehicle Procurement Delegation to approve the procurement of specialty vehicles required for various operational and student transportation uses.

A-5, APPROVE Position and Adopt Job Description Coordinator I – Human Resources and Classified Management Salary Schedule 261 Duty Days
APPROVED and ADOPTED as recommended, job description of Coordinator I – Human Resources and the Classified Management 261 Duty Days Salary Schedule with Coordinator I – Human Resources placement on E-20.

A-6, APPROVE Position and ADOPT Job Description Coordinator, Farm to School and Classified Management Salary Schedule 261 Duty Days
APPROVED and ADOPTED as recommended, the job description of Coordinator, Farm to School and the Classified Management 261 Duty Days Salary Schedule with Coordinator, Farm to School placement on E-15.

A-7, APPROVE Fiscal Agent Change for the After School Education and Safety and 21st Century Community Learning Center Program
APPROVED as recommended, the Fiscal Agent Change for thirty-nine site-based after school programs from Fresno County Superintendent of Schools to Fresno Unified beginning in the 2023/24 fiscal year with the After School Education and Safety and 21st Century Community Learning Center grants.

A-8, APPROVE Appointment to Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee
APPROVED as recommended, appointment recommendations to the Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee.

A-9, APPROVE Agreement with K-12 Insight
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with K-12 Insight to provide the Let’s Talk customer service communication platform.

A-10, APPROVE Agreement with Bright Morning Consulting
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement with Bright Morning Consulting. The agreement will allow the consultants to provide The Art of Coaching workshops to all co-administrators and Coaching for Equity workshops to a group of principals and district leaders.

A-11, APPROVE Agreement with Fresno Pacific University Center for Community Transformation
A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued

APPROVED as recommended, agreement with The Fresno Pacific University Center for Community Transformation to complete a comprehensive asset and needs assessment by convening a series of Listening Tours.

A-12, APPROVE Agreement with ProSolve for 2022/23 Summer Academy
APPROVED as recommended, an Agreement with ProSolve. ProSolve will provide QUEST curriculum for the 2022/23 Summer Academy.

A-13, APPROVE Agreement with RSS Consulting for New School Bond 2024 Equity-Based Facilities Planning
APPROVED as recommended, an agreement between RSS Consulting, LLC (RSSC) and Fresno Unified School District for New School Bond 2024 Equity-Based Facilities Planning.

A-14, APPROVE Addendum to Agreement with Adjua Ngeena Kembah McNeil
APPROVED as recommended, an addendum to the existing agreement with Adjua Ngeena Kembah McNeil. The addendum is in the amount of $25,000 and will support additional services necessary for the expansion of African American Academic Acceleration Afterschool programs to eighteen elementary school sites.

A-15, APPROVE Amendment to Agreement with Shaw HR Consulting
APPROVED as recommended, an amended agreement with Rachel Shaw HR Consulting to provide Americans with Disability Act (ADA) consulting and training through June 30, 2023.

A-16, APPROVE Renewal Agreement with Marsh & McLennan Agency
APPROVED as recommended, a renewal service agreement with Marsh & McLennan Agency for the provision of insurance consulting and brokerage services.

A-17, APPROVE Property, Liability, and Cyber Insurance for 2023/24
APPROVED as recommended, a summary of quotes received from the district’s insurance broker, Marsh & McLennan Agency, for the district’s various forms of insurance coverage.

A-18, APPROVE Award of Bid 23-15, Del Mar, Holland, Roeding, and Wishon Elementary Schools HVAC/EMS Replacement Project

A-19, APPROVE Award of Bid 23-28, Bullard High School Pool Heater Replacement
APPROVED as recommended, information on Bid 23-28, to replace the existing gas-fired pool heaters, pool system controller and auto-fill system with new heaters, pool system controller and auto-fill system.
A. CONSENT AGENDA – continued

A-20, APPROVE Award of Request for Proposal 23-20, Nutrition Center Production Line Equipment
APPROVED as recommended, Request for Proposals (RFP) 23-20, Nutrition Center Production Line Equipment, to replace and/or upgrade production line equipment at the Nutrition Center.

A-21, APPROVE Vendor Designation Per Request for Qualifications 22-09, Extended Learning Enrichment Services
APPROVED as recommended, Vendor Designation per Request for Qualifications 22-09, Extended Learning Enrichment Services.

A-22, APPROVE Award of Request for Qualifications 23-30
APPROVED as recommended, information on Request for Qualifications 23-30, to qualify vendors in the categories of Curriculum, Professional Learning, Indirect/Direct Student Services, and Personalized Learning Initiative Services.

A-23, DENY Claim GL22-1028-8613
DENIED as recommended, Claim for Damages by a minor, case GL22-1028-8613.

A-24, RATIFY Agreement with Doubletree Hotel for Classified Development Training
RATIFIED as recommended, an agreement with Doubletree Hotel for the Classified Professional Development Conference, Spring 2023.

A-25, RATIFY Change Orders
RATIFIED as recommended, information on Change Orders for the projects as follows:

- Bid 22-01, Addams Elementary School Building Additions and Modernization
  Change Order 4 presented for ratification $13,020
  Change Order 5 presented for ratification $6,317

- Bid 22-13, Hoover High School Gym, Locker Room, and Music Building
  HVAC Equipment Replacement
  Change Order 1 presented for ratification $76,409

- Bid 22-21, Francine and Murray Farber Educational Campus
  Change Order 3 presented for ratification $130,009
B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-26, PRESENT and DISCUSS Safety Concerns at Fresno High School

Anoush Ekparian and Jose Sandoval with students from Fresno High School talked to the Board about the need for more social emotional support for students at Fresno High School.

Students shared how they felt during an incident that took place at Fresno High School involving an explosive device in the C21 stairwell, as well as information regarding student conduct often happening in the stairwell such as smoking, vaping, fighting, and sexual behavior.

Additionally, Fresno High speakers provided written statements to Board members during the presentation.

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

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to Agenda Item B-26. A summary is as follows:

President Islas: Thanked the Fresno High students and staff for their presentation. Commented Board members do listen and have asked for action. Requested Dr. Marie Williams to share an update on items already moving forward in response to concerns expressed by Fresno High staff and students. Commented the Board has requested more campus security assistants be provided and more cameras be installed and wants everyone to be aware of social emotional investments that are available on site.

Dr. Marie Williams was able to provide clarity as follows:

- Additional cameras are anticipated to be installed by June 2023.
- Additional campus safety assistants will be placed on site as of January 2023.
- Retired substitute administrator placed at site to support students in the reengagement center and other areas.
- Allocated two (2) additional days of social work at site for remainder of school year.
- Working to maximize and leverage social emotional support already at the site.
- Site established an ad hoc committee safety team in January 2023. The team has met twice and will meet again on March 30 for a full-day work session.
• Marcel Woodruff with Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission will begin mentoring students.

**Board President Islas:** Commented there are efforts to meet the initial demands and recognizes and values expansion into codesign opportunities, as that is an area students, staff, and FTA, have consistently asked. Requested Dr. Williams to share how the district is moving forward in codesign opportunities. Dr. Williams was able to provide additional information pertaining to the ad hoc safety committee.

**Member Levine:** Commented this item was scheduled before the incident on Monday but it would be remiss of him if he did not share, he has heard from several of you that were in the building and close to it and the staff that were around. Expressed heartfelt apologies for what you had to go through and the trauma you experienced and the physical pain, I am sorry for that, I can’t imagine how scary that must have been for you.

Respectfully offered his perspective in terms of what has prompted the steps the district is taking, and expressed hope we are all in agreement that steps have been taken but we are nowhere near fully addressing all the needs, as this situation has revealed Fresno High has some unique needs, so as we go through the budget process, we cannot just look at overall student enrollment numbers as if they are the same everywhere, there are unique needs at all of the campuses but very much clearly at Fresno High.

Thanked all present for being so clear. Commented on a reference made “we have fixed it for you” or “we have come up with ideas”; I feel a ton of gratitude for you teachers and students specifically for the time you have taken with me and several of our district leaders over the last few months in being clear on what needs to be done but also very clear on solutions and steps that need to be taken whether that be additional campus safety assistants with more consistent training and oversight, cameras, additional social emotional supports, and many other things. So, all the things Ms. Williams shared in my view are reflective of the input, the wisdom, and the time you took to share. There is a lot we need still need to do and still a lot of concern, but I would hope you all are also feeling some pride in the focus and the passion and persistence you have shown for your school and your fellow classmates and teachers in making sure we have taken some steps in the right direction. I want to thank you for that and acknowledge too that I am not saying we have it all figured out, but I think we are closer to having it figured out because of your leadership and your clarity.

Commented on the program Mr. Marcel Williams will start in terms of identifying students known to be at risk of violence or disruption, I have heard you describe them as the frequent flyers. Marcel is an incredible community leader and I think hopefully it will be a model for many of our schools. We are starting at Fresno High.
because of what you all have specified as a need, I think that alone will have a big impact in terms of being sure the students that need the most receive support. He will work with them, and we will work collectively to make sure whatever is going on in terms of their core needs will be addressed for their sake but also for the sake of the rest of you in terms of you being able to focus on learning in the classroom.

Asked Dr. Williams if one of the cameras scheduled for placement at Fresno High will go in the referenced stairwell, as it is an area of clear, long-standing need. He has heard clearly that we cannot only be reactive in terms of a temporary fix but the steps that we are taking must stay in place. Commented he and fellow colleagues are committed, this is not just a fleeting response, we are on top of this in terms of prioritizing it for the foreseeable future for not only your sake but the future Fresno High students that come after you.

**Board Clerk Wittrup:** Commented to Superintendent Nelson, our primary obligation is to keep our students and staff safe, and I know this Board has made numerous investments in safety, but I don’t think that in and of itself will do the job. I expect a culture of accountability around safety, a sense of urgency, and I have one question I think just speaks to this incident and that is, if everyone at Fresno High knows that stairwell is problematic, why on earth wasn’t there a campus safety assistant stationed there, and I would ask that somebody from our staff answer that question.

Clerk Wittrup asked, if the campus safety assistant is already there, and the stairwell is problematic, and everyone knows it, just like the gate that was always left open in the previous incident, it just makes sense to have somebody there and the fact that they are not there just reinforces this lack of feeling responsible for our safety, for our students safety, and that is what concerns me. I don’t know that buying more cameras and having more campus safety assistants, I mean that all helps but if we don’t use what is logical, if our community knows that this is a problem area, it is not that hard too just be there.

Additionally, Clerk Wittrup commented, if you know there is a dangerous place in your house, you do something about it, you have somebody there, you cover it more. I have worked at schools for thirty-seven (37) years, we know what is going on at our school sites and we know how this all works, why aren’t we giving this our attention and our time to make sure that we are taking care of our kids and our staff. I am talking about this incident not just the general plan and how the campus safety assistants work and all that, I am talking about the sense of urgency and accountability that goes with taking care of our kids and staff every day.

Clerk Wittrup asked if somebody from Fresno High could answer a question posed, what is the district doing well and where are there gaps.

Clerk Wittrup asked to have someone place at the referenced stairwell tomorrow.
**Member Cazares:** Expressed gratitude to the students and to all the teachers in attendance. I know we have heard from your teachers before; and I hope you do not feel any hesitation to ever come to the Board or any of the teachers at Fresno High or any teachers in schools in this district. Thank you for coming, thank you for voicing your concerns, thank you for emailing us, thank you for the letters. I hope you know that I am not here for the money, I am not salaried, nor am I an hourly employee, we get a stipend. I am here for you and my own kid that is in school. We are listening, maybe not doing all the actions that need to be taken 100% but we are trying. We are getting there we sent our Deputy Superintendent a month and a half ago to assess and there are several actions that have been taken, it is not that nothing has been done, it is not that we do not care, it is not that nobody is listening, there is just more that needs to be done. I understand that there is a lot more to be done, that is why you are here today, that is why we are listening, that is why we ask Superintendent Dr. Nelson to continue making these changes that need to be made.

Member Cazares asked who is overseeing the installation of the cameras, is it a site activity and is there any way to start the installation sooner, if the project began in the fall, it should not take this long. If you need our permission to shorten any processes let us know, because our children cannot wait until June, they will not be in school in June. Let us know and we will help you, June is too long to wait. Let us know how we can help you do your job, do your job faster, is there a piggy-back contract we can use, what needs to get done so that these installations start sooner. Do we need to pay an engineer or some electrician overtime to prioritize this project? I do not understand, I have been in construction for twenty-three (23) years now, so I know there are things that can be done to move things faster. Whatever you need from us to get this done faster you have my permission.

Member Cazares commented on the ad hoc committee and the work being done in partnerships. Expressed hope the group will continue to work collaboratively and make teachers and students feel they are part of the solution; and that the district is listening to them. Pointed out there was no mention of parents involved in the ad hoc committee and requested parents be included as a lot of our issues with some of our young ones start at home. A lot of our parents want to get involved in school, a lot of our parents are concerned about our kid’s safety at school, so if there is something that is being done to involve the parents as well, please let me know. Dr. Marie Williams was available to provide clarity.

**Member Thomas:** Thanked Dr. Williams for her hard work. Commented she is in complete unison with colleagues on the Board. Thanked Trustee Cazares for her comments. Requested Dr. Nelson to put this work in hyper speed, Understands the bidding process and requested the deadline be sooner rather than later. Does not want to wait until June and then something else happens and something else. I do not care if we place more campus safety assistants there until we can get everything else done, do not care what we have to do at this point as I think we have a consensus on this Board that something has to be done quickly before we have something happen that we cannot take back and then we are really sad.
Board President Islas requested to interject. Understands that procurement less than fifteen thousand did not need to come before the Board. Asked if this is something that is more than fifteen thousand. Understands the general allocation of $25,000 for the sites, but what the Board is talking about is the urgency of addressing needs immediately for Fresno High, so the additional cameras, one camera in a stairwell, I don’t imagine is more than fifteen thousand dollars and that seems to be an immediate opportunity to address that would not have to come before the Board; similar to when Trustee Cazares asked what can we do to scale the work.

Member Jonasson Rosas: Concurred with Board colleagues. This whole camera discussion has my head spinning for a couple of different reasons. One, the district has been installing cameras periodically for years now, isn’t there already a bid in place? It seems in the immediate term there is one camera to be installed and it seems there is a disconnect between equity as some schools have different needs. Will all sites receive the same cameras? It seems there is a disconnect between the district and the sites regarding the best placement of cameras.

Additionally, Member Jonasson Rosas requested clarity pertaining to a comment made that the district pulled a social worker from another area. Asked where support was pulled, I do not want to see support pulled that creates chaos somewhere else. Thanked those in attendance for their bravery and advocacy for their campus. Asked the group to hold the Board accountable and if for some reason the cameras were not in place to come back.

Member Thomas: Commented if there is a need to expand camera placement, we need to meet the need. Requested feedback on how this will look and how campus safety assistants will be used. What will it look like on campus? Commented regarding camera quality, I do not want a lower grade camera we lower grade enough. I want to know who I am looking at; what happened, and not speculate.

Member Jonasson Rosas requested to interject on the quality of the camera—audio, requested clarity as to if audio is being considered.

Clerk Wittrup: Commented, we can do cameras and campus safety assistants and get all the pieces in place but if we don’t have a culture of accountability and responsiveness in real live time it doesn’t matter. We must be responsive and that is on us as a district, as a staff, as a school site, as students, as teachers, and as parents. It is on us to be responsive in real time no matter where those cameras are because everything changes. Kids go all over the place and our responsiveness and our systemic commitment to safety in real time is what will be the most powerful tool. That is what I am expecting.

Superintendent Dr. Nelson, Dr. Maria Williams, Chief Operations Officer Paul
Idsvoog, and Executive Director Amy Idsvoog were available to provide clarity.

Board President Islas announced a more robust conversation will take place on March 28 at 5:00 p.m.

**B-27, DISCUSS and ADOPT Transportation Services Plan**

**OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment**
For the record, the Board received zero in-person or teleconference requests to address the Board on Agenda Item B-27.

On a motion by Board Member Cazares, seconded by Board Member Thomas, the Board approved Agenda Item B-27 by a vote of 5-0-0-2, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Jonasson Rosas, Thomas, Wittrup, and Board President Islas. ABSENT: Board Members Davis and Levine.

**B-28, PRESENT and DISCUSS the Overview of Recovery Fund Expenditures**

**OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment**
For the record, the Board received zero requests to address the Board on Agenda Item B-28.

For the record, Superintendent Dr. Nelson commented considering what was previously discussed about leaving things unsaid, people create story when things are left unsaid. There has been dismissive language of late regarding Promethean Boards which the Board graciously agreed to provide. Our Chief Technology Officer Mrs. Lundberg confirmed each of the Promethean Boards has its own computer and IP address and is trackable; to date 93%, 28,3000 are being utilized every day. It is a one-off thing in the totality of this budget but there has been a lot of dismissive talk about that, like we don’t want to provide you resources you are not going to use but to that specific resource 28,3000 are being used daily. That might be different in secondary, it is possible, we will explore, but I don’t want to leave that unsaid.

For the record, Board members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item B-28. A summary is as follows:

**Member Thomas:** Commented his is the most money in one-time funds the district has seen in the history of education. Requested to see where the district started and where the district is now. Pertaining to ESSR I did we spend it all, is there any left, I want to know where these funds were spent and if there is still money I want to know how much.

**Member Jonasson Rosas:** Asked if the Arts and Music Blocks grant is in addition to the additional arts and music money? Requested to be part of the planning.
Board President Islas: Requested to correlate requests we have learned about from the last LCAP. For example, school meals were one of the highest rated priorities, I want to be able to see how we are responding to needs as we learn of them. Asked if this is an opportunity for the district to look at remaining available resources and identify where there is an opportunity to address needs already identified by our students and parents, where investments could be made. For example, one request from parents is an interest to move back to scratch cooking on sites; could some of those dollars be used to support more reinvestments in kitchen facilities, to have some food preparation happening at the site. Commented, I think it goes a long way in helping to stimulate children’s appetites. I want to know how we can help to address what has been requested whether it be school meals or social emotional support, or first aid.

Patrick Jensen was available to provide clarity.

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

For the record, the Board received four (4) requests to address the Board during Unscheduled Oral Communications. The individual’s name along with a summary of topic is as follows:

1. Curtis Carlton: Commented negotiations are the worst he has seen, the need for one degree of separation, and opposition to Edgenuity.
2. Marycela Pacheco: Requested staff to investigate school restrooms locked during the day.
4. Tamara Neely: Provided update to the Board regarding the Classified Employee Conference.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Islas ADJOURNED the meeting at 8:59 p.m.