



BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
2309 TULARE STREET  
BOARD ROOM, 2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR  
FRESNO, CA 93721  
[board.fresnounified.org](http://board.fresnounified.org)

## **MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

**Fresno, California**  
**April 10, 2024**

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 April 10, 2024, there were present Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Thomas, Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup. Superintendent Robert G. Nelson, Ed.D. was also present.

Board Member Cazares arrived at 4:43 p.m.

For the record, in accordance with Government Code section 54953, Trustee Thomas participated via teleconference and confirmed there were no individuals over the age of 18 at the remote location.

Board President Wittrup CONVENED the meeting at 4:33 p.m.

For the record, Board President Wittrup asked to clear up misconceptions about succession planning. Board President Wittrup commented there is no succession plan for the superintendent, the school board selects the superintendent, and the superintendent works for the school board.

### **OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Closed Session Items**

For the record, the Board received seven (7) requests to address the Board on Closed Session items. The individual's name and a summary of topic are as follows:

1. Kelley Auston commented on the definition of privilege, provided examples of positive and negative uses of privilege, advocated for district employees, and commented on media coverage.
2. Linda Ramirez commented that principals have been the calm in the chaos and asked others to stand along with them in the calm during this superintendent search. Commented that words can both build and destroy.
3. Anthony Haddad hopes the Board will hold a nationwide search for the superintendent and hire a superintendent that will change Fresno Unified. Commented on the need for people to listen and the need to promote and lift Fresno Unified.

4. Priscilla Presto commented on an article in Ed Source about the superintendent search, comments made at the last board meeting regarding racism, and shared a personal experience with racism. Requested Trustee Levine vote for a nationwide search and hire a superintendent that will develop a district wide college and career readiness plan for all students.
5. Ty Alan Jackson shared that it is imperative to include external candidates in the superintendent search, let the best apply and let the best win, whether internal or external, hire the best candidate to move Fresno forward, to uplift students and the community.
6. Darius Assemi thanked the board president for clarifying the district has no superintendent succession plan. Commented on media statements related to an employee's comments made at the last board meeting. Commented that education is not a race but a journey and the search for the next superintendent needs careful consideration in order to hire the best, brightest, and most transformative candidate to lead the district.
7. Manuel Bonilla expressed hope the pivot to a statewide search will rebuild the trust of the community. Asked the board to hold a public forum once applications are received to provide an opportunity for the public to hear directly from the candidates. Requested the Board to offer an apology to the community and other individuals.

Board President Wittrup ADJOURNED the meeting to Closed Session at 4:51 p.m.

For the record, Board President Wittrup extended Closed Session to 6:30 p.m.

For the record, Board President Wittrup extended Closed Session to 7:00 p.m.

For the record, Board President Wittrup extended Closed Session to 7:10 p.m.

For the record, Board President Wittrup extended Closed Session to 7:15 p.m.

Board President Wittrup RECONVENED the meeting to Open Session at 7:20 p.m.

For the record, Trustee Thomas virtually participated at the opening of the meeting but then left before the consent agenda was addressed.

For the record, Board President Wittrup provided a status update as follows:

“The Board is considering options for the Superintendent search process and for purposes of transparency, the Board will proceed with an external search for qualified candidates. The process will also include community participation. Further updates about the process and the timeline will be provided at subsequent Board meetings.”

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

- On a motion by Board Clerk Davis, seconded by Board Member Levine the Board acted in closed session to promote William Podsakoff to Principal III of DeWolf High School, by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup. ABSENT: Member Thomas.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Eveny Sanabria, a student from McLane High School led the Flag Salute.

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

Board Members heard comments and reports from Eveny Sanabria, Student Board Representative of McLane High School.

### **HEAR Report from Superintendent**

- Good evening to all joining us here in the Board Room and those watching online. Can you believe it is April? The year is flying by. In April we recognize and celebrate Autism Acceptance Month, School Library Month, and Occupational Therapy Awareness Month. I encourage our Fresno Unified family to continue deepening our inclusion efforts and thank our Librarians and Occupational Therapists for all you do for our students every day.
- I have a few important reminders for families and staff tonight. First, it is time to register for early learning! Families, please join us by enrolling your 3-year-olds in our preschool programs and most of our 4-year-olds now qualify for Transitional Kindergarten, commonly known as TK! While these grades are not mandatory, research shows that students who participate in early learning see greater success in their academic journeys. Preschool and TK students are learning the foundations for reading success by 1st grade, improving their socialization skills, learning the rhythms and routines of school, and so much more. All our programs are free, and we have several options for Dual Language Immersion and inclusion preschool classes! Head to our website at [www.fresnounified.org](http://www.fresnounified.org) for more information.
- Do not forget! Our Ideafest is coming up on Saturday, April 20! Join us at Fresno City College on the West Lawn from 8:00 am-1:00 pm to explore our student projects on the theme, “Fresno, My Home... Celebrate. Advocated. Elevate.” Attendees will also enjoy multicultural music and dance and get to experience our Honor Band performing and original song created just for Ideafest. Hope to see you there!
- Fresno Unified staff, I have two important resources I want to share and encourage you to take advantage of. First, our Communications team has created and shared an Everyday Counts Media Toolkit for you to get in on the Every Day Counts campaign to help us improve daily attendance across the district. You will find the toolkit on the Communications SharePoint on the staff portal with downloadable flyers, social media graphics, videos, posters, messaging templates and more. You will even find videos from our very own Student Trustees Maritza and Matthew –

thank you both for supporting these efforts! This toolkit will continue to be updated with additional resources regularly so keep checking back and help us spread the word that Every Day Counts!

- Also, our team is currently recruiting for the Third Ethnic Studies Cohort for elementary teachers! Ethnic Studies is looking for 20 elementary teachers who would like to incorporate Ethnic Studies into your classroom lessons. The cohort will receive five days of compensated training at your supplementary rate, a curated library for your classroom, teacher support texts and resources, and ongoing Professional Learning Community support. If you are interested in joining Cohort 3, please check your Employee Zone email for more information and links to information sessions and registration.
- Let us jump into some celebrations and recognitions, we have lots to share tonight!
  - A shoutout to our Roosevelt School of the Arts Latin Jazz Ensemble who received unanimous superior ratings at the recent City Jazz Festival at Fresno City College! The entire band also received Outstanding Musicianship Certificates for their individual performances! Amazing work to the entire ensemble and thank you to George Ramirez for leading these talented students!
  - Shoutout goes to Greenberg's Alden Vang who placed fourth out of 58 students at the recent Fresno County Spell Off! Way to go Alden!
  - Congratulations to our Fresno High Army Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps Raider Team who brought home the win from the 26th Annual Central Valley California Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps Association Athletic Field Meet! This was Fresno High's first ever win at this event and the Raider Team was led by seniors Alexander Garcia, Nike Sitthi, and Roman Cardenas. Way to go team!
  - Our McLane Army Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps ladies also deserve a big congratulations as they earned third place at the Raiders Championship, hosted at the Army Navy Academy in Carlsbad! Amazing work team!!
  - Shoutout to Fresno High Construction Teacher Joel Osuna who was named an Association of Mexican American Educators Teacher of the Year! Mr. Osuna is an amazing teacher and mentor, and if you want to hear it straight from his students head over to our Fresno Unified Instagram! We posted Mr. Osuna's achievement earlier this week and several students took the time to comment with personal stories of how Mr. Osuna changed their lives. Thank you, Mr. Osuna, for all you do for our students!
  - Congratulations to both Fabiola Perez, Vice Principal at Bullard, and Florida Cheung, Principal at Design Science, for being selected for the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Holmes Scholars Program! Florida and Fabiola are inaugural Holmes Scholar for Fresno State's doctoral program in educational leadership! What an honor, we are so proud of you both and grateful to have you leading in our Fresno Unified family!
  - Shoutout to Nannette Arreola who has been recognized with a Central Interscholastic Federation Model Coach Award! Nannette is a long-time coach at Sunnyside High School, chairing the Physical Education

Department and coaching golf, soccer, and softball. Nannette has been coaching our students for 30 years and her impact is immeasurable! After posting Nannette's achievement on our Fresno Unified Facebook just yesterday she has received hundreds of likes and dozens of comments filled with stories of her impact and dedication. Congratulations Nannette for this well-deserved honor, one of just 14 coaches to be recognized across the state. Our district is better because of you!

- A big way to go to our entire Visual and Performing Arts Department as Fresno Unified was named a Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation. This is the second year in a row Fresno Unified has been recognized and the national award recognizes outstanding efforts by teachers, administrators, parents, students, and community leaders who have made music education part of a well-rounded education. Music and arts are a priority in Fresno Unified and we are proud to see those efforts recognized nationally!
- Kudos to our Information Technology team for an incredibly successful 17th Annual Tournament of Technology! There was so much fun around the Y2K theme, and learning for our students since they were not even born at the turn of the millennium, everyone had a blast! This is one of my favorite events every year and my kids have such a wonderful time watching all of the fun and innovation. Congratulations go to the Division 1 grand champion, Sequoia Middle School, and the Division 2 grand champions, Scandinavian, and Tehipite Middle Schools! Way to go!
- Congratulations and thank you to all who made the Foundation's second annual Suit Drive an enormous success! The goal was to double last year's donations to a total of 4,000 items and the team crushed that goal bringing in more than 5,000 clothing items! Just last night our students were able to shop the clothing at the Foundation's Suited for Success Event which was full of joy and hope for our amazing students. Thank you to the Foundation for Fresno Unified Schools and all donors for making this a reality for our students!
- I am so thrilled, and shocked, to share that Monday's Fresno High Regional Family Engagement Event brought together almost 3,000 families!! This is Parent University's second year putting on these regional events with each Trustee, starting with a few hundred attendees to now thousands of attendees! Shoutout to Trustee Andy Levine, the Parent University team, and all of the Fresno High regional principals and families for making this a record-breaking event! Students were awarded for meeting and exceeding their stretch growth goals on iReady and families received tons of resources including books to take home to build their home libraries. It cannot be understated how important opportunities like this are to bring our families onto our campuses and engage them in their students' education – thank you to all who are making these opportunities a reality. Our next regional event is producing the McLane region later this month and we hope to see as many or more families join!

- To wrap up this evening, and in the spirit of Autism Acceptance Month, let us take a look at Roosevelt's 3rd Annual 3-2-1 Day!
- Thank you, Roosevelt, for your intentional efforts around inclusion – it does not go unnoticed!

## **BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS**

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

**Member Islas** shared shout outs for the following: The Foundation for Fresno Unified Schools for hosting a wonderful suit drive; Mayfair for a decrease in chronic absenteeism and improvements in behavior; McLane for 46 total valedictorians; Dual Language Immersion students for field trip to San Diego; Rowell for hosting an Early Literacy Kindergarten Parent Workshop on April 23; Duncan for 50 students competing in State Skills USA. Additionally, Member Islas provided an invitation to the McLane Regional Family Night from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. on May 30.

**Member Levine** provided a shout out for Mr. Igal Francis, a retired teacher of Fresno Unified School District who had a positive impact on Trustee Levine's life. Mr. Francis will be honored by the Fresno City Council on Thursday, April 18 for Igal Ernesto Francis Day.

**Member Cazares** shared a few notable items as follows: a reminder to seniors that Free Applications for Student Aid (FAFSA) is now open; Hoover has over 40 valedictorians this year with a future goal of 100 valedictorians; and a group of students at Hoover have initiated a campus beautification project which they will present at the Monterey Bay Aquarium later this year. Additionally, Member Cazares provided an invitation to the Hoover Regional Family Night.

**Student Member Lua** thanked staff for hosting the Prom Boutique and Suit Drive. Member Lua shared personal uplifting experiences from attending both events. Additionally, Member Lua encouraged the Board and district to continue events like these for students.

**Clerk Davis** thanked the Fresno Elks Lodge 439 for donating books to Herrera, Aynesworth, Storey, King, and Bakman. Clerk Davis read to students at those schools from a book titled, *Don't Worry Little Donkey*, authored by a student.

**Board President Wittrup** commented on having a focus of creating a transformation district where students are at the top. Member Wittrup commented on knowing what district students are capable of and looking forward to an opportunity of the community coming together to pick the best qualified superintendent.

## **OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Consent Agenda items**

For the record, the Board received two (2) request to address the Board on the Consent Agenda. The Individual's name and a summary of topic are as follows:

1. Terri Brown thanked Board members for reinstating teacher librarians, librarian technicians and the library budgets. Proud of Board for creating positions for alternative education sites.
2. Chuck Riojas: Both Farber and Herrera Project Labor Agreements came in on time and at budget.
3. Rex Hime: Expressed opposition to the Project Labor Agreement.

On a motion by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, seconded by Board Member Islas, the Board approved the Consent Agenda except for agenda items A-14, A-24, which were pulled for further discussion, by a roll call vote of 6-0-0-1, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup. ABSENT: Board Member Thomas.

**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 regular Board meeting on March 20, 2024.

#### **A-3, APPROVE Meeting Minutes**

**APPROVED as recommended**, the draft minutes for the March 06, 2024, Board of Education regular meeting.

#### **A-4, ADOPT Resolution 24-39, Proclaiming April 2024 Autism Acceptance Month**

**ADOPTED as recommended**, Resolution 24-39, proclaiming April 2024 as Autism Acceptance Month.

#### **A-5, ADOPT Resolution 24-48, Proclaiming April 2024 as School Library Month**

**ADOPTED as recommended**, Resolution 24-48, proclaiming April 2024 as School Library Month.

**A-6, ADOPT Revised Job Description for Chief, Human Resources/Labor Relations**

**ADOPTED as recommended**, the revised job description for Chief Human Resources/Labor Relations. This revised job description reflects inclusion of language which more specifically delineates the function as the District's Title IX Coordinator within this position; facilitate, coordinate, and monitor the district's compliance with Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

**A-7, APPROVE Agreement with Appleby Imaging Inc.**

**APPROVED as recommended**, an agreement with Appleby Imaging Inc. Appleby Imaging Inc. specializes in providing customized workflow processes that improve cohesion for established workflow processes and streamline them to reduce human error.

**A-8, APPROVE Agreement with Kaiser Permanente Workforce Health Program - Class Pass**

**APPROVED as recommended**, an agreement with Kaiser Permanent Workforce Health Program to provide an employee wellness program called Class Pass. Class Pass is a fitness membership program offering fitness and exercise credits to eligible employees, retirees, and dependents. This is a zero-dollar agreement for the first year.

**A-9, APPROVE Agreement with Men of Color in Educational Leadership**

**APPROVED as recommended**, an agreement with Men of Color in Leadership for \$96,250. This agreement aims to provide mentorship to Central Office leaders, Latinx and Asian site leaders, and one Black/African American female principal within Fresno Unified and facilitate individual and group discussion opportunities.

**A-10, APPROVE Amendment to the Agreement with ASM Global**

**APPROVED as recommended**, an amendment to the agreement with ASM Global. The Board approved the original agreement on August 09, 2023. School Leadership uses the Fresno Convention and Entertainment Center as a venue for its spacious facilities and accessibility to host monthly principal's meetings. The updated agreement would increase the original amount by \$65,000 for a total agreement amount of \$120,192.

**A-11, APPROVE Amendment to the Agreement with Kaleidoscope**

**APPROVED as recommended**, an amendment to the agreement with Kaleidoscope. Due to receiving more Fresno Unified Scholarship applications than originally expected, the College Career Readiness department requests an additional \$3,850 to have Kaleidoscope provide additional services. The applications received from graduating high school senior students from various Fresno Unified school sites exceeded the anticipated 600 applications originally expected and a total of 853 applications have been received. The additional \$3,850 ensures all applications are equitably reviewed as part of the scholarship process. This addition will bring the total agreement cost to \$31,000.



**A-12, APPROVE Vendor Designation Per Request for Qualifications 24-05S, Special Education Services**

**APPROVED as recommended**, information on Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 24-05S, Special Education Services. The Board approved the RFQ on February 21, 2024, to qualify vendors for services in the categories of Professional Development and Indirect/Direct Student Services. The term is for five years and will begin upon Board approval through February 21, 2029.

**A-13, APPROVE Project Labor Agreement with Fresno, Madera, Kings and Tulare Counties Building and Construction Trades Council – Aviation Academy Project**

**APPROVED as recommended**, a project labor agreement with Fresno, Madera, Kings and Tulare Counties Building and Construction Trades Council to cover the Aviation Academy project. The agreement will be included in the bid documents for the project and the successful bidder, and all of its subcontractors will be required to comply with all terms and conditions of the agreement.

**A-14, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-39, Dailey Elementary Charter School Multipurpose Building Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning Improvements**

**APPROVED as recommended**, information on Bid 24-39, Dailey Elementary Charter School Multipurpose Building Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning Improvements.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item A-14. A summary is as follows:

**Member Islas** requested clarity as to how this item was prioritized versus the needs of other schools. Member Islas commented this project is over \$1 million, uses Measure X dollars, and there are other public schools in disarray and need improvement. Member Islas requested clarity as to whether this project moved ahead of other projects faster. Member Islas reiterated there are district schools which need improvement.

**Member Jonasson Rosas** commented that in 2018 the Board prioritized the facilities project list based on items presented by staff. As new projects arise staff bring those projects to the Board for discussion. Commented that with each bond measure the district shares with the community projects it would like to complete with the potential resources and with each reorganization of the project list the Board is in a position to ask about projects in their regions.

Member Jonasson Rosas asked who participates in the decision-making process on which facility projects staff will bring to the Board.

For the record, Paul Idsvoog was available to provide clarity.

On a motion by Board Member Islas, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, agenda item As-14 was approved by a vote of 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Board Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup. ABSENT: Board Member Thomas.

**A-15, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-45, Kratt Elementary School Portables Installation and Single Point of Entry**

**APPROVED as recommended**, information on Bid 24-45, Kratt Elementary School Portables Installation and Single Point of Entry.

**A-16, APPROVE Award of Bid 24-49, Multipurpose Room Audio/Visual Upgrades at Various Sites**

**APPROVED as recommended**, information on Bid 24-49, Multipurpose Room Audio/Visual Upgrades at Various Sites. The project consists of replacement of existing audio/visual equipment in the multipurpose room at 20 sites as follows: Anthony, Aynesworth, Baird, Calwa, Columbia, Computech, Easterby, Eaton, Hidalgo, King, Kirk, Lowell, Malloch, Mayfair, Pyle, Vang Pao, Viking, Webster, Wishon, and Yosemite.

**A-17, APPROVE Award of Request for Proposals 24-38, Athletic Turf Maintenance Services**

**APPROVED as recommended**, information on Request for Proposals 24-38, Athletic Turf Maintenance Services. The services are to maintain and upkeep Varsity athletic fields at Bullard, Edison, Fresno, Hoover, McLane, Roosevelt, and Sunnyside High Schools. This scope includes but is not limited to mowing and edging, fertilization, district approved herbicide application, aeration, overseeding, sodding, and disease management.

**A-18, DENY Claim GL23-1215-11100**

**DENIED as recommended**, a Claim for Damages by a minor, case GL23-1215-11100.

**A-19, DENY Claim GL24-0213-11037**

**DENIED as recommended**, a Claim for Damages by Jacqueline Esquivel, case GL24-0213-11037.

**A-20, RATIFY Grant Application to the Diverse Education Leaders Pipeline Initiative Grant Program**

**RATIFIED as recommended**, the grant application for the Diverse Education Leaders Pipeline Initiative (DELPI) Grant Program. The purpose of the DELPI grant program is to train, place, and retain diverse and culturally responsive administrators in transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to improve pupil outcomes and meet the needs of California's education workforce.

**A-21, RATIFY Change Orders**

**RATIFIED as recommended**, information on Change Orders for projects as follows:

Bid 22-01, Addams Elementary School Building Additions and Modernization  
Change Order 12 presented for ratification: \$14,487

Bid 23-16, Manchester, Pyle, and Vinland Elementary Schools Heating,  
Ventilation, Air Conditioning Energy Management System Replacement  
Change Order 1 (Manchester and Pyle) presented for ratification: \$35,916  
Change Order 1 (Vinland) presented for ratification: \$40,068

Bid 23-23, Ericson Elementary School New Multipurpose Building and Interim  
Housing  
Change Order 4 (Interim Housing) presented for ratification: \$11,019

Bid 23-48 Section B, Turf Rehabilitation at Various Sites  
Change Order 1 presented for ratification: \$33,648

**A-22, RATIFY the Filing of Notices of Completion**

**RATIFIED as recommended**, Notices of Completion for projects which have been completed according to plans and specifications as follows: Bid 23-48 Section B, Turf Rehabilitation at Various Sites; and Bid 23-61, Classroom Audio/Visual Equipment Removal.

**A-23, RATIFY Purchase Orders from January 01, 2024, through January 31, 2024 – Primary Report**

**RATIFIED as recommended**, information on purchase orders issued from January 01, 2024, through January 31, 2024 – Primary Report. 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-24, RATIFY Purchase Orders from January 01, 2024, through January 31, 2024 – Supplemental Report**

**RATIFIED as recommended**, information on purchase orders issued from January 01, 2024, through January 31, 2024 – Supplemental Report.

For the record, Member Levine read a statement as follows:

“Agenda item A-24 on tonight’s Consent Agenda, contains purchase orders for California Teaching Fellows Foundation, the CSUF/Downing Planetarium, and Fresno State University. I am currently employed by California State University, Fresno.

Additionally, item A-24 also contains purchase orders with the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission, and I have been employed by Fresno County EOC, which is a nonprofit corporation.

I did not participate in the making of the purchase orders related to this agenda item; however, because of my employment with both Fresno State and Fresno EOC I have a remote financial interest in those purchase orders.

Therefore, in the interest of full transparency, I am abstaining from this vote pursuant to Board Bylaw 9270.”

On a motion by Board Clerk Davis, seconded by Board Member Jonasson Rosas, the Board approved agenda item A-24 by a vote of 6-0-1-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Thomas, Board Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup. ABSTENTIONS: Member Levine.

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

### **B-25, DISCUSS and APPROVE Vendor Designation Per Request for Qualifications 23-30S4, Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Learning Services**

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests to address the Board on agenda item B-25.

For the record, Board Members had comments/questions pertaining to agenda item B-25. A summary is as follows:

**Board President Wittrup** commented on being excited to see this work in action and recognized the staff for their commitment.

**Member Islas** commented on interest in reinvesting locally and supporting our community. Shared concern that not all the consultants listed are within the Fresno region and if the vendors are able to meet the cultural and linguistic needs of Fresno Unified students. Asked how the district will support the cultivation of local resources.

On a motion by Board Clerk Davis, seconded by Board Member Cazares, the Board approved agenda item B-25, by a vote of 6-0-0-1, as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Islas, Jonasson Rosas, Levine, Clerk Davis, and Board President Wittrup. ABSENT: Board Member Thomas.

## **B-26, PRESENT and DISCUSS English Learner Services Data and Program Updates**

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests to address the Board on agenda item B-26.

For the record, Board members had comments and/or questions pertaining to agenda item B-26. A summary is as follows:

**Member Jonasson Rosas** thanked staff for sharing the data and commented that the dual immersion program seems to be better than the designated schools program. Requested staff to explain the process when a parent would like their school to become a dual immersion school.

Member Jonasson Rosas commented there are challenges and misconceptions to the program and showing this data is important to note for parents that students will not fall behind but on the contrary students will have higher academic gains overall on average.

Member Jonasson Rosas requested clarity as to the expansion of afterschool programs in Punjabi, Mixteco, and Arabic and if there are lessons learned and plans for these programs.

**Member Levine** thanked staff for a thorough presentation and commented that the statistics and data speak for themselves with promising work happening. Requested clarity on information presented on the slide titled Newcomer Support and asked if the grant is short-term. Requested staff to keep the Board aware of budget needs.

Member Levine asked if staff are aware of sites with clusters of newcomers? Commented that supports are not dissimilar to the supports at community schools and if the district has considered clustering newcomer students as a first point of entry to connect them with needed services, and as a way to expand the community schools' program.

**Member Cazares** referenced iReady data in the presentation which showed 64% of kindergarten students in the Hmong Dual Language program are on or above grade-level and asked if there is something in that program which the district can replicate in others.

**Clerk Davis** requested clarity about the bi-literacy seal and asked if students who receive the seal are from the Dual Language Immersion program, when is the test given, and if students receive a certificate with graduation.

For the record, Erica Piedra was available to provide clarity.

## **B-27, PRESENT and DISCUSS Farber Educational Campus Update**

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests to address the Board on agenda item B-27.

For the record, Board members had comments and/or questions pertaining to agenda item B-27. A summary is as follows:

**Member Cazarez** commented that this project has been a long-term investment of the Board and with the Farber Campuses opening is excited to see the former juvenile hall site turned into a beacon of light for the community. Commented on being proud of the staff for their hard work and thanked Superintendent Nelson.

**Clerk Davis** commented on being excited about the opening of the Farber Campus and that there is no place in the nation with a facility with opportunities from the cradle to career like the Farber Campus here in Fresno Unified. Requested enrollment numbers for the different programs offered on the campus.

**Member Jonasson Rosas** shared excitement for this project. Commented on one aspect for excitement is the community partnerships built by staff. Commented that a key component to the Farber Campus is the promise to the community the site would also serve as a community center as well.

Member Jonasson Rosas commented on looking forward to a conversation at the facilities workshop about the early learning component at the campus. Commented on the branding process and would like to ensure that students and community are involved.

**Member Levine** is happy to celebrate the opening in August. Asked if student parents will be given priority to the Child Development Center. Asked staff to share more information about the site loading dock specifically pertaining to food distribution. Asked staff to consider, not just for the site but for the district as a whole, a full choice food pantry.

**Member Islas** applauded the progress made. Requested clarity as to the number of hours childcare will be available. Asked for more information about the cybersecurity program. Provided suggestions for the food bank component.

For the record, Rachael Maciel and Michael Niehoff were available to provide clarity.

## **B-28, PRESENT and DISCUSS the 2024/25 Strategic Budget Development Phase III**

For the record, the Board received zero (0) requests to address the Board on agenda item B-28.

**Member Jonasson Rosa** requested staff to think about parent engagement opportunities consolidated with other district events. Requested clarity as to the budget process specifically related to budget revisions. Expressed the work and thoughtfulness of that has gone into the presentation.

**Board President Wittrup** thanked staff for their work and for meeting with individual Board members to go over the budget and answer questions.

**Member Cazares** cautioned staff from cutting partnerships with community-based organizations related to the Parent University slide.

### **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 two (2) requests to address the Board during Unscheduled Oral Communications. The individual's name with a summary of topic are as follows:

1. Kay Bertken commented there is general agreement about missteps made with the Board's previous approach to the superintendent search. Shared a suggestion to help repair damage such as move forward quickly with a renewed and transparent process to hire a new search firm.
2. Darius Assemi thanked the Board for opening the search to external candidates.

### **D. ADJOURNMENT**

Board President Wittrup ADJOURNED the meeting at 9:30 p.m.