

CENTER JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

MINUTES

The Governor issued Executive Order N-25-20, which directs Californians to follow public health directives including canceling large gatherings. The Executive Order also allows local legislative bodies to hold meetings via conference calls while still satisfying state transparency requirements. This meeting was held as Zoom meeting, and the public was able to submit comments from our Livestream page.

OPEN SESSION - CALL TO ORDER - Trustee Kelley called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL - Trustees Present: Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Bruno, Mrs. Kelley, Dr. Lee, Mrs. Pope
Administrators Present: Scott Loehr, Superintendent
Craig Deason, Assist. Supt., Operations & Facilities
Lisa Coronado, Director of Fiscal Services
David Grimes, Director of Personnel/Student Services
Mike Jordan, Director of Curriculum/Instruction/Special Ed.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

1. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Certificated) - Superintendent (G.C. §54957)
2. Student Expulsions/Readmissions (G.C. §54962)
3. Conference with Labor Negotiator, David Grimes, Re: CSEA and CUTA (G.C. §54957.6)

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

CLOSED SESSION - 5:00 p.m.

OPEN SESSION - CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

There was no action taken during closed session. The following action was taken during Open Session:

2. Student Expulsions/Readmissions (G.C. §54962) – approved recommendation by staff
Student Discipline Resolution #18/19-9 EXT

Motion: Pope
Second: Anderson

Vote: General Consent

FLAG SALUTE - led by Kelly Kelley

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - There was a motion to approve the adoption of the agenda as presented.

Motion: Anderson
Second: Bruno

Vote: General Consent

ORGANIZATION REPORTS

1. CUTA - Venessa Mason, President, noted that they are excited that they are finally in the tier 1b category, and eligible for the vaccine in Sacramento County. Now, if staff can get appointments, they will be as happy as clams. She noted that Mr. Deason has been updating CUTA on how the CARES money has been spent. Digital technology has been used by teachers and that Center district is prepared to resume for in-person teaching, hopefully in the near future, using all of the PPE that has been purchased and technology that is in the teachers' hands. She also noted that Mrs. Coronado has looked at our budget and what the state is giving us, and there is an ability to offer a Cost of Living Adjustment to the teachers, and CSEA's salaries, this year.

2. CSEA - Marie Huggins, President, thanked the district for keeping employees informed about potential vaccination opportunities in our area. With the continued shortage of available vaccine appointments, there is still a lot of apprehension regarding the thought of transitioning to a hybrid model of instructions. Some concerns she is hearing is:

- Does Sacramento County need to be back in the red tier for at least a couple of weeks before we can consider reopening?
- Do employees receive release time to procure vaccinations since the vaccination site is only open from 9am-3pm?
- Why would we open for in-person instruction when other districts have done so and have had to close down again due to COVID cases increasing?

She noted that she appreciates the board evaluating the pros and cons of the transition to the hybrid model and the attention given to parents/families as well as employees.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

1. **Facilities Update** - Craig Deason, Assistant Superintendent of Operations & Facilities, covered the following items:

Full Day Kindergarten Classroom Project – Oak Hill

- Making progress; building pad is complete
- Foundation tiers have been poured
- Working on retaining walls over the next 2 weeks
- Goal to set the 3 classrooms is April 1st

JMC School Site

- sent out request for proposals and qualifications for the lease-leaseback contractor, who will be overseeing the building of the school site
- had a contractor briefing today
- The RFP/RFQ closes on March 5th; will bring the contractor that wins the bid to the March 17th Board meeting
- have the design development phase of the drawings; those are set to be complete on March 5th. At that time there will be another cost estimate.
- we don't own the property yet. California Department of Education approved the ability to purchase the land as a school site. Currently working with the developer to get a few perks as we negotiate the price.

CTE (Career Technical Education) Programs: Residential & Commercial Construction / Information Technology

- in the process of the design development phase

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

1. **Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)** - Mike Jordan, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Special Education, presented to the Board of Trustees. He covered the following:

- What is MTSS
- The Three Components: Academics, Social/Emotional Learning, Behavioral Best Practices
- The Three Tiers of MTSS
- CJUSD's Blueprint, Key Components
- Understanding the CJUSD Blueprint

Trustee Kelley asked that anyone wishing to address the board, to complete the online form, and to do that early as there is a delay in receiving items and having them read to the board. Once items are closed and voted on the board will not be reopening for any further discussion.

Trustee Anderson noted that in a correspondence they had recently received, it was stated that the Board picks and chooses which comments are read. Trustee Kelley noted that they do not pick and choose; they don't even know what the comments are before they are read. The person that receives them reads them.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Carol Hunt read comments from the following:

- Misty Walker – asked what the district's over \$9 million Covid money has been spent on and that the public get a report on where it has been spent.
- Misty Walker – asked if moving forward, that they offer better (more detailed) and more communication with parents about returning to in-person learning.

Delrae Pope noted that in the January Board meeting, Lisa Coronado gave a detailed report of what our funds were spent on. Mr. Loehr noted that with SR1 we have received under \$2 million, and with SR2 we are slated to receive over \$4 million, but have not received that. Mrs. Coronado corrected Mr. Loehr in that the SR1 was \$5 million. Once we receive SR2, it will total about \$9 million.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Mrs. Anderson

- had nothing to report

Meeting paused at 6:30pm due to technical difficulties.

The meeting resumed at 6:43pm.

Dr. Lee

- wished everyone happy Lunar New Year
- noted that she is delighted at how we are committed to improving in all sectors of our learning community
- noted that she hopes to model the professional development and growth that we want to see reflected in the practices of our certificated and classified staff
- thanked President Kelley and Superintendent Loehr for the opportunity to attend the California School Board Association's New Board Member Workshop, which was held February 2-3

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS (continued)

Dr. Lee

- noted that teaching and learning through a pandemic is no easy task. She noted that it is important that we keep an eye on the individual and collective humanity. She commended our learning community for the work they are doing to keep our students connected.
- thanked Mrs. Campos, Mrs. Dean, Mrs. Richwine, and Mrs. Biddle for sharing their Martin Luther King and/or Black History Month learning activities with her.
- thanked the staff for keeping the students connected through social-emotional supports that are available and that have expanded during this time
- noted her drop-in office hours on the first Mondays from 4-5pm on zoom
- looking forward to her listening & learning session on February 23, 4:30-6pm

Mrs. Pope

- had nothing to report

Mr. Bruno

- had nothing to report

Mr. Loehr

- thanked the staff and the community during these trying times on all of us.
- noted that this week educators are eligible to receive the vaccine. We are sending out emails as soon as the information is received. Our staff is fighting for those spots, along with other educators in our county. He gave kudos to a CHS staff member who shared a link for obtaining appointments.

Mrs. Kelley

- echoed Dr. Lee's comments, wishing everyone a Happy Lunar New Year, and added Happy Valentine's Day.
- welcomed the following new employees: Lucia Lonerio and Jessica Samulewski
- wished Kathy Magnani a happy retirement at the end of the year
- congratulated Norris Drummon and Rosanne Maffei-Field for their promotions

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approved Adoption of Minutes from January 20, 2021 Regular Meeting
2. Approved Classified Personnel Transactions
3. Approved Certificated Personnel Transactions
4. Approved Panorama Surveys and SEL Software License
5. Approved Professional Service Agreement: ESSDACK
6. Ratified 20/21 Master Contract for Non-Public Schools:
#014 Odyssey Learning Center
7. Ratified 20/21 Individual Service Agreements:
ISA #48 American River Speech
ISA #49 Easter Seals
8. Ratified Memorandum of Understanding with San Juan Unified School District, for 2019-2020 SY
9. Ratified Memorandum of Understanding with San Juan Unified School District, for 2020-2021 SY
10. Ratified Memorandum of Understanding with Twin Rivers Unified School District for Special Education Services, 20-21 SY
11. Approved Notice of Completion – Team One Networking – Purchase and Installation of Voice Over IP Phone System, District-wide

CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

12. Approved Agreement with Saenz Landscape Construction Company – Wilson C. Riles Tree Planting Project
13. Approved 2020-2021 Safe School and Emergency Preparedness Plan – McClellan
14. Approved 2020-2021 Safe School and Emergency Preparedness Plan – Riles
15. Approved 2020-2021 Safe School and Emergency Preparedness Plan – CHS
16. Approved Payroll Orders: July 2020 – January 2021
17. Approved Supplemental Agenda (Vendor Warrants): January 2021

Motion: Bruno

Second: Lee

Ayes: Anderson, Bruno, Kelley, Lee, Pope

Noes: None

BUSINESS ITEMS

A. APPROVED - 2021 CSBA Delegate Assembly Election, Subregion 6-B

Trustee Kelley noted that the board may vote for up to 5 candidates. There were 4 candidates listed on the ballot.

Trustee Anderson noted that there have been board members in the past that have done this to bring back knowledge to the district; they didn't enjoy it as much as they thought they would. There are costs involved with attending the meeting, in which the district has paid in the past. Trustee Anderson noted that Trustee Kelley would probably enjoy it. Trustee Kelley noted that she wants to get as much information as possible. She noted that she tries to keep expenses down.

There was a motion to cast a vote for Kelly Kelley.

Motion: Anderson

Second: Bruno

Ayes: Anderson, Bruno, Lee, Pope

Noes: None

Abstain: Kelley

B. COVID-19 Status in our Region & Transitioning to Plan 2

There was a motion to bring the item to the floor.

Motion: Bruno

Second: Lee

Trustee Kelley thanked the parents who have written them about re-opening. There is a lot of information out there. Kudos to the Superintendent and his staff for dissecting the information. We have followed the guidance, and have followed so much for preparing for re-opening. We are currently at a new level where we would have the ability to file for a waiver. She noted that there is a new guidance that notes that to open under a waiver, all staff would need to be tested weekly. Students would have the option to be tested, but not required. We are hoping that there is new funding associated with the required testing. She noted that if we reach the red tier, unless guidance changes, we could re-open within 2 weeks. Either way, the district is prepared, ready to open.

Trustee Anderson asked Mr. Loehr to explain how distance learning and in-person learning would work. Mr. Loehr noted that Plan 2 in our Playbook gives families an option to remain in distance learning should they not want to return to in-person. Included in the board packet is the CSP and checklist, which will be shared with the union groups and parent groups, which is a condition of completing those documents for submission.

BUSINESS ITEMS (continued)

Trustee Bruno noted that he has received a lot of feedback from the community on this issue. He briefly covered the topics that have been covered in the various correspondences he received. He asked what logistical issues there would be if we wanted to open K-6 while still in the purple tier.

Mr. Loehr noted that the collective bargaining agreements would need to be reopened; the current agreement is for 2 weeks in the red tier. The other would be the testing cadence requirement; we don't know how we could logistically test all of our staff. Mr. Jordan noted that they are looking at testing companies. Trustee Bruno asked if other districts that have already opened are following this guidance. Mr. Loehr noted that the schools that opened while in the red tier are following the guidance that was at that time. Those that filed for waivers are following the guidance that was in place at the time of their waiver.

Trustee Kelley noted that when the vote came up in November as to whether or not reopen, they were looking at facing the Thanksgiving Break, Christmas Break and New Year's. That is why they had selected the January date to reopen. We immediately fell into the purple tier, which prevented us from opening.

Carol Hunt read public comments regarding this agenda item from the following people:

- Center-Cougar Parent – noted that they are in support of opening schools. Asked about the barriers to re-opening, possible strategies to overcome them, are we willing to open if things change and there is new guidance, option for those students not thriving to come on campus while distance learning, do we know which students are thriving/maintaining/suffering, can sports and clubs be promoted more to increase awareness and attendance.
- Nichole – stated that schools need to open
- Misty Walker – asked about the status of returning to in-person instruction. Asked if students will be going to school through the summer, or will there be any extra schooling offered for those who are behind
- Kenya – said to open the schools
- Joan Loftin – made a request that the schools open
- Monica – asked that the schools open and they have the choice to have their children return to in-person learning
- Chandra – asked if there are exceptions for getting kids with special needs back on campus
- Amber Seals – asked how the additional \$5,000,000 that the district has not received will be used
- Katharine Wilson-Davis – expressed her concerns with the schools still being closed, making it difficult to earn a living when having to stay home
- Michael Parlati – told the board to open the schools
- Esteban Rodriguez – stated that what's best for our kids is to open the schools. He asked why we are waiting
- Amber Seals – asked if testing was the only obstacle to applying for the waiver and reopening in the purple tier
- Alicia Rodriguez – stated that kids need to go back to school
- Misty Walker – asked where funding would need to come from to support the weekly testing
- Allysha – noted that the state said that the majority of the state should be in the red tier by next week
- Daniel Turk – asked that it be pointed out where in the CDPH report it states that teachers must be tested
- Donae Polk Jenkins – stated that it is not fair that they are not in school
- Armani Moses – noted that they need to go to school

BUSINESS ITEMS (continued)

- Esteban Rodriguez – how is our community not safe; half of Antelope is already going to school

Trustee Anderson inquired on the program for grades 7-12 returning to campus. Mr. Loehr noted that the guidance does not allow for grades 7-12 to return in the purple tier. There are cohorts, certain groups that are allowed to come: special education, homeless, foster youth, and EL. The state has provided provisions for small cohorts of those to return. Some of those are in the works of happening and there are some that the district will be ramping up. If in the red tier, TK-12 can return to in-person learning.

Mr. Loehr noted that our collective bargaining agreement says 2 weeks, but the revised guidance from the state allows opening up after 5 days in the red tier. There was discussion about the case rates dropping. Mr. Loehr asked for direction for families as to when the district can open.

Trustee Bruno asked for clarification that we have no legal path for opening grades 7-12 until we are in the red tier. Mr. Loehr confirmed that. He also clarified that the Governor and the legislators are working on new guidance as well. All that our district is currently laying out could still change. Trustee Bruno asked how Natomas is managing their reopening with the testing requirement. Mr. Loehr noted that he didn't know how they were handling it. Trustee Bruno asked if the weekly testing for staff would actually be a requirement. Mr. Loehr noted that in the meeting he was in, it was stated by our county public health director that in order to sign off on a K-6 waiver they would want that testing cadence that's outlined in the CDPH guideline currently. Trustee Bruno asked if we would still be required to do the testing once in the red tier. Mr. Loehr noted that the cadence requirement would switch. Trustee Bruno asked if there is a way to allow clubs and sports conditioning to happen. Mr. Loehr noted that there are some sports that have been allowed to begin conditioning already.

Trustee Bruno also addressed the public comment asking if we are concerned that students are falling behind, and speaking for himself, said it's a clear yes. A protest was mentioned; Trustee Bruno noted that they have that right, but it would not speed the process along. They are being heard by the board; they have been receiving emails and reading every one.

Trustee Anderson asked about the summer program. Mr. Loehr noted that a program has already started at Center High School for intersession. This summer they are looking at offering a more robust type program, distance and in-person (if allowable). We could look at adding days and intersession type programs. We are hoping the summer programs will hopefully be in person, and not just academic. More info will be coming on that.

Trustee Bruno noted that the new guidance allows for us to reopen 5 days into the red tier. He asked what it would take to switch from 2 weeks in to 5 days in. Mr. Loehr noted that they would need to reopen the labor agreements to see if they could change it to the 5 days. Trustee Bruno asked how long typically does that process take. Mr. Loehr noted that he couldn't take a guess; it could take an hour or even take a month.

Trustee Bruno noted that the Board typically meets once a month. If things change, there could be a long delay before the Board can react to it. He asked what the Board can do to meet earlier. Mr. Loehr noted that a special meeting can be scheduled; it would need to be posted 24 hours prior to the meeting. Trustee Kelley noted that they could give guidance tonight and not need to meet again.

Trustee Kelley also noted that the Board is hearing what the community is saying. They are working as hard as they can to make this happen as quickly as possible.

BUSINESS ITEMS (continued)

Carol Hunt read a few more public comments regarding this agenda item from the following people:

- Marissa Casado – her opinion was that the state, county and school districts are failing the children by not opening.
- Lyndsey Turner – said the health and safety of the children in our community should be number one priority; would like our schools to reopen. Asked questions about the health and welfare of students at home; concerned that the schools remaining closed is causing more harm than good.
- Latoya Jenkins asked to bring TK-6 back and provide more support and sports conditioning programs for grades 7-12; also offer more mental health counseling resources for the kids.
- Chandra – would like increased communication
- Elisa Hale – thanked the board for putting the students’ and their family’s safety first
- Latoya Jenkins – asked if we can bring conditioning programs to the elementary schools
- Monica – stated that if teachers are vaccinated they won’t need to test every week
- Chandra – noted that students who are struggling now are not going to want to spend their summer on a computer.

Trustee Pope motioned that once Sacramento County is in the red tier for 2 weeks that the staff open the schools in Hybrid model, Plan 2.

Motion: Pope
Second: Lee

Ayes: Anderson, Bruno, Kelley, Lee, Pope
Noes: None

Mr. Jordan noted that there were many comments about mental health. He reminded folks that if that is an issue with your student, please contact your site administrator and/or counselor. He mentioned that this morning Cabinet had approved to hire another full-time mental health counselor for the next year. We have resources available at the sites and through the Family Resource Center.

C. APPROVED - District Calendar for School Year 2023-24

There was a motion to bring this to the floor.

Motion: Pope
Second: Anderson

Trustee Pope asked if it is possible that when we reach the October break, can we follow the learning loss and offer some kind of intervention program for the students that wish to attend. Mr. Loehr noted that this calendar that has been presented tonight is for the school year 2023-24. All of our calendars do have the October break. For the upcoming year, we would not only work towards maximizing summer, but also maximizing before school and after school programs. October break could be something they could look at. Trustee Kelley asked if the funding for that would come the Covid funds.

Motion: Anderson
Second: Pope

Ayes: Anderson, Bruno, Kelley, Lee, Pope
Noes: None

ADVANCE PLANNING

a. *Future Meeting Dates:*

i. *Regular Meeting: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m. – Virtual or Riles Middle School, 4747 PFE Road, Roseville, CA 95747*

b. *Suggested Agenda Items: None*

