

CENTER JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING

District Board Room, Room 503
Wilson C. Riles Middle School
4747 PFE Road, Roseville, CA 95747

Wednesday, July 15, 2020

MINUTES

**Due to the Shelter-in-Place order, Trustee Hunt participated by phone.

CALL TO ORDER - Trustee Hunt called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL - Trustees Present: Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Pope, Mr. Wilson

Trustees Participating by Phone: Mr. Hunt

Administrators Present: Scott Loehr, Superintendent
Craig Deason, Assist. Supt., Operations & Facilities
Mike Jordan, Director of Curriculum/Instruction/Special Ed.

Administrators Participating by Phone: Lisa Coronado, Director of Fiscal Services
David Grimes, Director of Personnel & Student Services

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

1. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Certificated) – Superintendent (G.C.§54957)

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

CLOSED SESSION - 5:30 p.m.

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

FLAG SALUTE - led by Mrs. Huggins

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

There was no action taken.

Trustee Wilson noted that Trustee J'Beily passed away due to cancer. He shared his thoughts about what a great man Mr. J'Beily was.

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

Motion: Hunt
Second: Anderson

Ayes: Anderson, Hunt, Pope, Wilson
Noes: None

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

It was recommended that comments be given at the time of the agenda item they wish to address.

BUSINESS ITEMS

A. APPROVED - Resolution #1/2020-21: Resolution to Initiate Provisional Appointment Process to Fill Trustee Position Due to Vacancy

Motion: Pope
Second: Hunt

Ayes: Anderson, Hunt, Pope, Wilson
Noes: None

B. Board Members to Serve on Board Vacancy Subcommittee

This was a discussion item only. Mr. Loehr noted that we are seeking 2 Board members to serve on this Subcommittee. The Subcommittee would work with Mr. Loehr on the logistics and clerical part of the process. The application window would be open from July 24th through August 7th. The Subcommittee would then meet to determine which candidates are eligible. We would bring all eligible applicants to the August 19th Board Meeting, where they would be interviewed by the Board. A determination would be made, and would be posted within 10 days to the public. The selected candidate would fulfill until the end of Trustee J'Beily's term in 2022. Mr. Loehr asked for direction to see who would like to serve. Trustee Hunt suggested that it be Mr. Wilson and Mrs. Pope to serve on this Subcommittee. Mrs. Anderson was asked if she was ok with that and she indicated that she was.

C. APPROVED - Plan for 2020-2021 School Year

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

Motion: Hunt
Second: Pope

Ayes: Anderson, Hunt, Pope, Wilson
Noes: None

Mr. Loehr noted that there was some misinformation from the media today. The 13 county Superintendents came together with public health met and determined that as Superintendents they wanted to make a recommendations to their boards that we would start the school in distance learning. Mr. Loehr covered information that was from county health and the length of time to get test results back. Mr. Loehr noted that the recommendation in the packet was to start with plan 2, but they are modifying that recommendation to start the year in the distance learning model. Mr. Loehr thanked Mr. Jordan and the team of staff that have been working on this around the clock.

Mr. Jordan presented the information in the Board packet, "2020-21 School Year Playbook – A Guide to Address COVID-19". Mr. Jordan then focused on Plan 3, the current recommendation. He covered what the instructional day would consist of (how many minutes per day) at the different grade levels or schools.

Trustee Wilson shared his concerns with whether students would be able to reach a teacher with questions. Mr. Jordan noted that lots of students did not complete work because they knew it wouldn't count against them. He also noted that we will be able to better track what is going on. Trustee Wilson asked if everything was going to be posted on the same platform. Mr. Jordan noted that it would be. Mr. Loehr also noted that there is time built into the schedule for teachers to have office hours to answer student and parent emails.

Trustee Pope thanked the staff for their work on this. She noted that Plan 1 is what we wish would happen, Plan 2 we thought would be ideal right now but that is not going to happen right now, and Plan 3 is where we are right now. She asked that the Plan be shared with the parents. It would be helpful

BUSINESS ITEMS (continued)

for parents and students to see that this will be different than it was last spring. It was noted that it would also be helpful so parent's can refer to it and be able to question if they feel goals are not being achieved. Mr. Loehr noted that this whole document would be live for everyone to see.

Joan Lofton, guardian, noted that the last semester was hard. She has 4 students in the district. She asked if there will be accountability for the students, as well as the district. She noted that there needs to be some sort of way to help parents with technology. She asked if there could be any workshops or training for parents to know what they could be doing to help their kids do the best they can.

Venessa Mason, Teacher & CUTA President, shared a survey of the Center teachers. She noted that in Plan 1 - 73% of staff were not comfortable in returning to work, in Plan 2 - 49% were not comfortable in returning, and in Plan 3 - 6% were not comfortable in returning to work. Mrs. Mason was not sure if that 6% meant that they were not comfortable with the online programs or what. She noted that CUTA was supporting Plan 3. She also read comments and questions from several teachers. It was noted the teachers emphasized that when going from Plan 3 to Plan 2 that the focus be safety first.

Marie Huggins, CSEA President, noted that that we are in 2 counties and those counties are operating very differently in how they are complying with the government orders. We have employees and students that live in the different counties so some folks may not be complying with what the other folks are doing. Mrs. Huggins also shared her frustrations with the calls that the district office is currently receiving and asked that the classified employees be informed, especially at the school sites so they can answer these questions. She read the results of their survey: with Plan 1 - 68% felt uncomfortable, Plan 2 - 33% felt uncomfortable, and with Plan 3 - 14% were uncomfortable. She then read the following: *"I believe it is the desire of every CUSD staff member to see all of our students and families have a positive and successful educational experience. I think we would agree that the preferred way to teach students is in a classroom setting where they can be engaged and assisted. If we lived in a perfect world, we would not be having this conversation. We took a survey of our classified staff. A large percentage are willing and ready to come back to school/work, but have strong reservations and many questions about how that would look. We feel the regular school, full open model, is not a safe option due to the health and safety of students and staff. No masks and no social distancing are not okay. The hybrid model is a good option to stay engaged with students. There are many concerns about social distancing, adequate PPE, wearing a mask, cleanliness of classrooms, etc. There should be a lot of discussion as to how all the protocols would be standardized from site to site. There are economic concerns as well that may be alleviated by the hybrid model, preserving jobs, health benefits and keeping people from losing their homes. There is concern that the district could lay off employees due to lack of work if distance learning was the only option. What irony to lose health benefits because of a potentially deadly virus. There is concern that the needs of special ed students and those with IEP's cannot be effectively met via online. We trust that the district is going to monitor and modify the learning model for CUSD as the data from Public Health Organizations is available to ensure the safety of students and employees. Thank you."*

Trustee Anderson asked how much room the district has to play with the positions as far as putting them to work or keeping them working. Mrs. Huggins asked if she was referring to repurposing and noted that this would be discussed in negotiations. The union will be working with the district on how to reopen and what they need to do to make sure that people keep their jobs. There will be some language put together that will allow them to have more flexibility.

Trustee Wilson shared his concerns with cashflow, federal funds, and funding from California.

Carol Hunt, Superintendent's Secretary, read the following emails that came in during the meeting:

BUSINESS ITEMS (continued)

- Jan Carver Silva, parent, asked what is being done to ensure that classes will be held regularly and students will be covering all that they would normally cover?
- Latoya Jenkins asked if the district is going to help parents with any extra supplies. Also since we are doing distance learning a social worker should do a well check on kids. She also asked how this is going to work for kids with special needs.
- Michelle Uchida noted that she would like to know the exact learning platforms that the district plans on using for each subject She noted that Khan Academy and Google Classroom were total failures last year.
- Lauri asked if the kids are not being taught at the school and parents have to provide the environment for the learning, internet, supplies, computers, etc are the school funds being directed to us from the government as we are doing the work and providing all necessary supplies.
- Sylvia Anderson noted that she loves the idea of having the high school distance learn in the afternoon hours. Studies show most teens need extra rest in the morning, and do better with a later start time, so I am all for pushing back their start time as mentioned by Mr. Jordan.
- Karen asked why the board member isn't wearing a mask. Does he not abide by state mandates or care about public health? Should he be making decisions about our children's safety?
- T. Plummer asked if 504 accommodations for the students would change because of distance learning. Students with 504s and IEPs struggle as it is, how are we going to be able to meet their needs?
- Michelle Uchida noted that if there is not a structured program for her child they will be leaving and going to a structured home school program. It sounded to her like there has been no time spent planning this. What about accountability for the teachers? Again, teachers are teaching ONLY 1 hour a day, they should be live streaming for 4 to 6 hours a day.
- Melissa Connally noted that her daughter was on the honor roll in junior high, she struggled with online learning, and she cares about her grades and the last week she gave up. she noted that she has never seen her so defeated with school before ever. And as far as parents go how do we work and support our kids online? Are you going to provide me a paycheck and medical to support my children? I don't just have a high school student, I have a second grader and I'm about to have another baby. Are we really going to experiment with our kids' education; this didn't work. And I agree, my kid tried so many times to communicate with her teachers and I will say science we were lost. Some classes need instructional, in class instruction. The Zoom classes were a joke if you ever sat in on them, especially the 1st grade school kids. And as far as grade school, parents don't know common core math; we were lost.
- Melissa Tirado asked if when mentioning Preschool, do they mean TK. Will TK have the option of getting a Chromebook as well since they do not have much work like the older grades?
- Becky Eastwood noted that the new plan is amazing, thank you. I would like to know that there is a process in place for parents (at any age level but specifically at the older grades) to reach out if we find classes are falling short of meeting the needs of our students. Even for the honors class students.

BUSINESS ITEMS (continued)

- Nicole La Point noted that she has a new student enrolling into your district this year - 6th grade. Her concern is how he will be assessed with the curriculum. He is coming from a private school and the proposed plan is less time academically than what he was spending last year with distance learning. If there is only virtual interaction with instruction, what other interactions will be done to assess whether he's being challenged enough? There was reference to social emotional activity - I'm assuming its peer interaction of some sort, but as a new kid - what will be done to ensure he feels connected to his teacher and peers? What about physical activity? Is there PE at the elementary level? How will that be measured?

- Becky Eastwood noted that she has never been included to be a part of the Google classroom . Please make this a requirement for all teachers to include us. We can always opt out if needed.

- Rebecca P. noted that one of the challenges last year was the teachers not understanding how to use Google Classroom and not communicating effectively when there was a problem. For example, my then 3rd grader would upload a completed document and the document would somehow save blank. The teacher assumed he was not doing the work and turning in blank assignments. She would respond in a private message on the assignment, however my son didn't know to check his email frequently to see these messages. This went on for 2 weeks before the teacher contacted me to tell me he was going to "lose points in Class Dojo" for not completing the work. This was unfair to my son and the teacher was unwilling to work with me on the issue. My son had to redo two weeks of assignments in the course of a few days. Situations like these, especially in the current public health emergency, should be met with compassion and understanding. So my question is: will the teachers be trained on USING the virtual platforms and also be trained on working with families/students when issues arise? And will there be some type of guidance on WHEN to reach out to the parents of a teacher is seeing a problem? (The preference being sooner rather than later). She also asked if parents will be given the choice to NOT toggle back if they chose? I want my kids to do virtual learning and am not necessarily comfortable sending my children back just because the state says it is safe to do so. So will parents be

given the choice to continue school for their students completely virtually, even if the district moves to a hybrid model?

Bonnie Shiro, staff member from CHS, commented that we are checking them all out textbooks & Chromebooks, if needed, for a class. The high school principal has been sending out updates continuously!!! We had someone in our office until June 30th accepting enrollment packets and answering questions. Emails have been answered.

- Jennifer Franco asked what is to be done for parents who work? I can not adjust my schedule and I cannot supervise my son while he takes these classes? And so much work was put on the parents as teachers were not available for help.

- Brian asked can/will the start of the school year be delayed in order to give teachers to adequate time to build and design their programs?

- Esteban Rodriguez thanked the board and district for being transparent.

Trustee Hunt noted that the Playbook should be something that the Board approves. He noted that whether we open with Plan 1, 2 or 3 should be decided by staff. Trustee Wilson noted that he felt the staff was asking for a recommendation to start with Plan 3. Mr. Loehr asked for guidance from the Board as to whether they wanted this to come back to the Board to vote on moving into each of these phases or leave it to staff to make those decisions. Trustee Hunt noted that he is not a public health

BUSINESS ITEMS (continued)

official, but noted that these plans are what's good for students and staff. He would rather leave it up to the experts and the staff that are consulting with public health officials.

Carol Hunt read 2 more comments that had come in:

- Ryan asked what will the teachers do with their children during the day if the district chooses to do distance learning? Will they be given the option to work from home?

- Nick Bryant asked if we are allowing volunteers.

There was a motion to approve this Playbook, and start school in Plan 3.

Motion: Hunt
Second: Pope

Ayes: Anderson, Hunt, Pope, Wilson
Noes: None

ADVANCE PLANNING

a. *Future Meeting Dates:*

i. *Regular Meeting: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m. - District Board Room - Room 503, located at Riles Middle School, 4747 PFE Road, Roseville, CA 95747*

b. *Suggested Agenda Items: Trustee Hunt asked for a budgetary plan for this year and future years. Trustee Anderson asked if there could be an agenda item next month to see how the distance learning is working.*

ADJOURNMENT – 8:16 p.m.

Motion: Pope
Second: Anderson

Ayes: Anderson, Hunt, Pope, Wilson
Noes: None

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Scott A. Loehr, Superintendent
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

/s/

Nancy Anderson, Board Representative
Board of Trustees

8/19/2020

Adoption Date