

CENTER JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING District Board Room Center Joint Unified School District Annex 3243 Center Court Lane, Antelope, CA 95843

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

MINUTES

OPEN SESSION - CALL TO ORDER - Trustee Pope called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL - Trustees Present: Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Ballin, Mr. Bruno, Dr. Lee, Mrs. Pope

It was noted that Trustee Lee participating remotely under AB 2449.

Administrators Present: Scott Loehr, Superintendent
Lisa Coronado, Director of Fiscal Services
David Grimes, Director of Personnel & Student Services
Mike Jordan, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Special Education
Richard Putnam, Director of Facilities

FLAG SALUTE –

Trustee Pope read the following: *In recognition of free speech, we welcome all and would like to note that saying the pledge of allegiance is not a requirement to participate in the business of this public board. If you choose not to say the pledge you are most welcome here as an equal participant in the business of this board.*

The Flag Salute was led by Howard Ballin.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA – There was a motion to bring this to the floor.

Motion: Ballin
Second: Bruno

There was a motion to approve the adoption of the agenda as amended: pull Consent Agenda Items 1, 2, 11, and 18 for separate consideration.

Motion: Bruno
Second: Ballin

Ayes: Anderson, Ballin, Bruno, Lee, Pope
Noes: None
Advisory Vote: Aye – Mason

ORGANIZATION REPORTS

1. CUTA – Venessa Mason, President, thanked the school district, Mr. Jordan and the Special Ed Department for funding five special education teachers to attend the CARS conference. She noted that door murals were delivered to Spinelli, and one of the classes from Oak Hill attended the Roseville Theater. She also noted that they look forward to negotiating on updates on the contract.

ORGANIZATION REPORTS (continued)

2. CSEA – Amy Roenspie, Vice President, shared the following report from Niesha Harris: “Good evening. We will be celebrating our CSEA Classified members on February 14th. The planning committee will be distributing goodie bags this year to members at every school site. We have two new negotiation team members: one Vice President and one Treasurer, who were elected by our members for two-year terms. Also, CSEA Classified staff has been continuing to step up through staff shortages this school year.”

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

1. **Twin Rivers Police SRO Update** – Scott Loehr, Superintendent, introduced Lieutenant Coker and Officer Ahmed. Lieutenant Coker shared an overview of what they do, services that they provide. Officer Ahmed then shared information about himself. It was handed back over to Lieutenant Coker, who covered Safety & Security, Student Outreach, Traffic Enforcement, Sports and School Events, and Mentorship.

2. **Independent Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2021-2022** – Lisa Coronado, Director of Fiscal Services, introduced Marann Murphy from Crowe. She shared the 2021-22 Fiscal Year Audit. There were no findings to report.

3. **Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee Annual Report and Audit** – Lisa Coronado, Director of Fiscal Services, introduced Cece Linder, CBOC member. She reported on their members, as well as that the funding was spent appropriately.

4. **Williams Uniform Complaint Quarterly Reporting** - Mike Jordan, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education, reported that he had nothing to report.

5. **Bullying Prevention Update** – Mike Jordan, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education, introduced Chris Borasi and Ryan Miranda. They shared information on prevention & early intervention, reporting, Catapult reporting, the Suspected Bullying report form, the investigation process, and support.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

1. **Curriculum, Instruction & Special Education Update** – Mike Jordan, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Special Education reported on the following:
 - Gave appreciation to Eugene and Lauren for what they do behind the scenes for the technology portion of the meeting.
 - Had their 2nd assessment with the i-Ready program; held meetings with administrators last week and they will share with their sites for building school action plans.
 - We are partnering with a research firm called EAB:
 - We will hold a Summit, for all Superintendents in Northern California to attend at our district, on March 28th called “A Road Map for Effective Mental Healthcare in Schools”
 - Tomorrow is a professional development with Tracy Ramirez for all of our administration; they will review all of the tasks and duties of the administrative team in an IEP. They will also be looking at what should be our best practices for classrooms for students with autism.

2. **Facilities Update** – Richard Putnam, Director of Facilities, reported on the following:
 - The district was hit with some water damage over the weekend:
 - Center High Theater has water damage. We are hoping to have it ready for use by McClellan’s graduation.
 - The artificial turf in the stadium has some damage (cork under the turf came up). We are working on getting that addressed.

COMMITTEE UPDATES (continued)

- CTE projects and Rex Fortune Elementary faired well during the weather. They are both on track to open on time.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA –

Public Comments In-Person:

Angelina Hughes, parent and community member, shared her concerns with a dysfunctional board dynamic. She discussed comments made by a board member which offended her children. She shared concerns and disapproval of a board member’s comments and areas of lack of action.

Public Comments Online:

An anonymous person noted that she is very concerned about things that her child has experienced in our school district and she really thinks that there is an issue of prejudice. She noted that she wanted to talk about the letter that she sent to all of the board about the attitude at Dudley. She also asked why there is no posting of PTO meetings at Dudley Elementary School.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. *This item was pulled for separate consideration.*
2. *This item was pulled for separate consideration.*
3. Approved Donation of \$15,000 from the Winn Foundation for CHS Geometry and Construction Program
4. Approved Classified Personnel Transactions
5. Approved Certificated and Management Personnel Transactions
6. Approved Designation of Certain Positions as “Hard to Fill” for remainder of 2022-23 School Year
7. Approved 2022-2023 Master Contracts:
 #17 Capitol Academy
8. Approved 2022-2023 Individual Service Agreements:
 ISA 258 Easter Seals
9. Approved 2022-2023 Individual Service Agreements:
 ISA 261 Sierra Foothills Academy
 ISA 259 & 260 Capitol Academy
10. Approved Professional Services Agreement: Stephanie Hewitt, Learning Pathways
11. *This item was pulled for separate consideration.*
12. Approved eRate RFP 23-105 Category 2 Equipment YR 2023 (YR26)
13. Approved ERate – Data Transport Service E-Rate YR 2023 (YR26)
14. Approved Professional Services Agreement: Jade Edwards
15. Approved FY2022-23 ELO-P Services Agreement between Center Joint Unified School District and Sunrise Recreation & Park District
16. Approved CORE – Elementary Teacher K-6 Grade Online Academy & Professional Development Learning Opportunities
17. Approved Amendment #2 To Site Lease Agreement By and Between Clark/Sullivan Construction and Center Joint Unified School District for the Rex Fortune Elementary School Project
18. *This item was pulled for separate consideration.*
19. Approved Educator Effectiveness Block Grant (EEF)
20. Approved Learning Recovery Block Grant 2022 Expenditure Plan
21. Approved Art and Music Discretionary Block Grant Plan
22. Approved Resolution #9: Self-Certifying Increased Federal Micro-Purchase Threshold
23. Approved Resolution #10/2022-23: Authorization to Increase District’s Revolving Cash Account
24. Approved CJUSD Citizen’s Bond Oversight Committee Members

CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

- 25. Approved Payroll Orders: July – December 2022
- 26. Approved Supplemental Agenda (Vendor Warrants): December 2022

There was a motion to bring this to the floor.

Motion: Bruno
Second: Anderson

Motion: Anderson
Second: Ballin
Ayes: Anderson, Ballin, Bruno, Lee, Pope
Noes: None
Advisory Vote: Aye – Mason

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

- 1. Approved Adoption of Minutes from December 14, 2022 Regular Meeting

Motion: Bruno
Second: Anderson
Ayes: Anderson, Ballin, Bruno, Lee, Pope
Noes: None
Advisory Vote: Aye – Mason

- 2. Approved Resolution #12/2022-23: Resolution on Board Compensation For Missed Meeting

Motion: Bruno
Second: Ballin
Ayes: Anderson, Ballin, Bruno, Pope
Noes: None
Abstain: Lee
Advisory Vote: Aye – Mason

- 11. Approved List of Surplus Books to Recycle/Discard – Oak Hill

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

Motion: Anderson
Second: Ballin

Mr. Loehr explained the process to recycle/discard books. There were no public comments, and no discussion by the board. There was a motion to approve this item.

Motion: Ballin
Second: Bruno
Ayes: Anderson, Ballin, Bruno, Lee, Pope
Noes: None
Advisory Vote: Aye – Mason

- 18. Approved 2022 School Accountability Report Cards (SARCs)

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

Motion: Anderson
Second: Ballin

Mr. Loehr explained that these must be placed on our website by February 1st, therefore we have them board approved in January. The state has not released some data that must be included in the SARCs so the district is asking that the board approve these as they are so they can be posted by the required deadline. Once the district receives the data from the state, the SARCs will be brought back for approval again. There were no public comments, and no discussion by the board. There was a motion to approve this item.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION (continued)

Motion: Ballin
Second: Anderson

Ayes: Anderson, Ballin, Bruno, Lee, Pope
Noes: None
Advisory Vote: Aye – Mason

BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Flag Salute Disclaimer Discussion

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

Motion: Anderson
Second: Lee

Trustee Ballin noted that this topic came up from community members while he was campaigning this past Fall. Those people had expressed disapproval of the disclaimer. There was Board discussion.

In-person Public Comments:

Angelina Hughes, parent and community member, share that she had written in, as well as many others regarding this topic back at the meeting that discussed this.

Online Public Comments:

M.M. Cave, parent, noted that she agrees with Dr. Lee. We have freedoms, we have choices, and the disclaimer is just advising individuals of their choice to either stand of not. She noted that she thinks that the disclaimer should stay.

There was further Board discussion. It was recommended that the public reach out to the board and let them know their response.

B. Discussion Regarding Signage Displayed on the Board's Table

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

Motion: Anderson
Second: Ballin

Trustee Ballin noted that it was brought to his attention that signage has been placed on the board table. It is his understanding that any signage placed in front of, behind, or next to a board's table, during a meeting represents the entire board as a whole and such personal messages should not be permitted.

In-person Public Comments:

None

Online Public Comments:

M.M. Cave, parent, asked if the proposal is geared towards Dr. Lee because of the sign that she had at the beginning of the meeting where it said #seatedinsolidarity.

There was Board discussion.

BUSINESS ITEMS (continued)

C. APPROVED - Resolution #11/2022-23: Resolution of Censure of Trustee Tabia Lee, EdD

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

Motion: Anderson

Second: Ballin

Trustee Pope read the resolution. Trustee Lee was given the opportunity to explain her actions. She stated the following: "I would like to direct the public to my November 2022 statement. It's in the Board packet, it's published, on this very topic of the development of a board residency verification policy, which then President Bruno admitted he thought of this from his mind. And we had one public commenter who at that time stated that she didn't believe that the people advancing all that Equity stuff really lived here and so she wanted to see a policy developed to have our board members annually verify residence. It really reminds me of like Jim Crow times, when folks will be accused of not living somewhere or not belonging somewhere or they shouldn't be somewhere; they should verify and show their papers. And you know really, I encapsulated my resistance, my continued resistance, to this board policy that only our district, we're the only district in the state of California that I have found, and I asked my colleagues to produce a state of California examples and they have not yet. But like they mentioned, we like to be Trailblazers. It's not about student achievement, not about elevating our marginalized students and communities and combating racism and homophobia at every step and every turn. We're passionate about policing each other and getting Lee to shut up. Unfortunately, Lee was a duly and is a duly elected official; I was elected by my constituents to advance diversity, equity and inclusion in this district. It's in the monoculturalism that's here and I will continue to speak about that. If that causes people to question if I live here or not, and then to make policies to make sure I comply with them, I'll continue to resist that. I love this resolution, I love that it says that this board will take legal action, which is what I've asked them to do from the beginning. Present it to the Attorney General and to the Board of Elections officials; let's get the ball rolling on that because it's out of line and it's out of order. And as I told the students at the November meeting, when something's out of line and out of order, you have a duty to resist it and to not comply with it. When someone tries to make new rules to subject duly elected officials who already meet eligibility criteria to new local rules, it's ridiculous. Don't comply with it, always resist when you think that something's immoral or wrong. I continue to say that this is an immoral and wrong act. It's just elevation of the bullying and the harassment that's taken place from day one here and this is the grand culmination of it. Get that letter out to the Attorney General; get that letter out to whoever needs to get it so that we can move ahead and focus on student achievement. That's all I have to say about this resolution. Thank you for the opportunity."

Public Comments In-Person:

Angelina Hughes, parent and community member, noted that again this is another way that Dr. Lee is wasting money. Mrs. Hughes also inquired as to whether someone is still paid while they are censured.

Jacob Conroy, student at Center High, noted that the board member comparing the fact that she won't verify that she lives within the district with Jim Crow laws is irrelevant. He shared his thoughts on the board deciding what's best for the district and making sure that she lives here, He noted that the board member deflecting that it is somehow racist or homophobic, is also irrelevant.

BUSINESS ITEMS (continued)

TJ, student at CHS, noted that it is abundantly clear that the growing trend on this school campus, especially with board meetings, (and he noted that this is his first board meeting) that most of his teachers do agree with that statement. It is a pretty well-off opinion that the board member is not really good here. He noted that the board member mentioned that there needs to be more equality and more diversity, but how would she know that if she hasn't been on a school campus or attended any events. He noted that he feels that she does not live here and that's why she denies it.

A student noted that we should focus on students. Nothing is getting done and we are not getting to the important issues like fixing up the schools.

Kamiya Jackson, student, apologized for the way students are reacting to the board member, but noted that everyone's open to their own opinion. She also noted that she agrees that the money being wasted could be used toward the schools and HBCUs and learning about college opportunities for different students.

Online Public Comments - None

There was discussion by the Board. There was a motion to approve this item.

Motion: Anderson
Second: Ballin

Ayes: Anderson, Ballin, Pope
Noes: Bruno
Abstain: Lee
Advisory Vote: Aye – Mason

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Riley Mason reported on the following:

- boys and girls basketball still going on.
- Soccer is on hold due to facility issues; home games have been postponed.
- Financial Aid Night will be on the 24th of this month
- the week of February 14-17 will be Spirit Week
- February 17th will be their Winter Rally
- invited the board to a student business meeting on February 8th at 7:40 am, Room 603

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Mr. Bruno

- noted that this storms recently have been really bad. Thankful for those who left their homes to deal with the issues within the district.

Mrs. Anderson

- welcomed everyone back from the holidays.
- thanked all for attending tonight.
- noted that she hopes to attend the meeting mentioned by Riley Mason.
- wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Ballin

- welcomed everyone back from the holidays.
- noted that he attended a Safety Symposium in San Mateo with Richard Putnam and Jerald Ferguson.
- noted that on Friday, January 13th he visited the CTE program at CHS, as well as toured the new CTE buildings being built.
- noted that he toured Spinelli Elementary on January 13th.

BUSINESS ITEMS (continued)

- thanked Carol Hunt and the school site staff that shared the January 2023 Report to the board.
- noted that he was surprised of the lack of funding for special need students.
- noted that he plans to tour Dudley, North Country, Oak Hill, Riles and McClellan.
- invited the public to attend the board meetings.
- commended the students in the board room this evening.

Dr. Lee

- greeted all, and welcome everyone to 2023.
- thanked the facilities team for addressing the water issues at the sites and getting our facilities restored as soon as possible.
- noted that a lot of time was wasted tonight and is looking forward to the censure advancing and to the apology that will be delivered once she is vindicated.
- had the pleasure to visit the CSBA virtual sessions; one session focused on Effective Governance Practices with an Equity Lens. She noted that we should learn about and do equity walks.
- noted that she will do what she was elected to do, to shine a light on the burgeoning student achievement in the district and to do what she can to put an end to the monocultural, homophobic and racist practices that we engage in.
- invited everyone to her virtual open office hours from 4-5pm on the first Monday of every month. The next one is February 6th and the link is on the Board website.

Mrs. Pope

- attended the Wilson Riles MS Winter Concert before Winter Break.
- noted that the newsletter from the Business Office was a brilliant idea.
- thanked the sites for submitting the board reports to us.
- noted how proud she is to be a part of a district that works together; they worked together during the emergency situation during the weather.
- noted that on March 7th Spinelli Elementary will host their Multicultural Night.
- noted that we have many successful and talented people within our district, like Mr. Bruno's wife who is a published author. Trustee Pope shared information regarding the book, "Splintered Birthright", which was written by Becca Lyn, CHS student.
- welcomed everyone back.

Mr. Loehr

- noted the Mr. Farrel has hired a School Secretary and will soon be hiring other staff. Congratulated and thanked him for everything he is doing to get things going.
- thanked Mr. Putnam and his daughter for coming out to jump in and help with the storm cleanup.
- thanked our Technology Department for all they did during the storms to get our systems, phones and internet up.
- acknowledged our expanded learning program. It is up and running, and appreciates Mr. Borasi's work to make that happen.
- noted that we will be coming back to the board with information on whether or not we are still under hardship status for modernization projects.
- noted that there is a neighborhood near Santucci and Pleasant Grove that has petitioned with the county to annex over to another district.
- toured sites on Friday.
- noted that Transitional Kindergarten is now at all of our sites.
- thanked Lisa Coronado and her staff for the clean audit.

