# ROSEMEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING MINUTES

**CONSENT** 

September 3, 2020

The Board of Trustees of the Rosemead School District met in a regular meeting on Thursday, September 3, 2020, held as a Teleconference/Electronic Zoom meeting ID#957 3794 4024 at 6:30 p.m., following the guidance issued via Governor Newsom's Executive Order # N-29-20 and # N-25-20.

#### CALL TO ORDER

President Quintanilla called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Trustees present via roll call included: Mr. Ronald Esquivel, Mr. John Quintanilla, Ms. Nancy Armenta, Mrs. Veronica Peña, and Mrs. Diane Benitez.

Superintendent Mr. Alejandro Ruvalcaba was also present. All audience members connected electronically via Zoom.

## President Quintanilla made the following statement:

As a result of Governor Newsom's Executive Order for the elimination of public gatherings, the Rosemead School District Board of Trustees must conduct their public meetings virtually. In order to ensure the board's business is heard clearly, we would like to respectfully request for all attendees to mute their microphones unless you are requested by the Board President to address the Board.

## President Quintanilla made the following statement:

As a result of the current national health emergency COVID-19 and as per Governor Newsom's Executive Order # N-29-20 signed on March 17, 2020, a local legislative body is authorized to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and to otherwise electronically to all members of the public seeking to observe and to address the local legislative body.

As per the Governor's Executive Order, the Rosemead School District Board of Trustees will conduct this meeting with all participation via Zoom Meeting, which is accessible to the public.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Minutes: That the Agenda, be approved.

Motion made by: Mrs. Benitez Seconded by: Ms. Armenta

Roll Call Ms. Armenta Yes Mrs. Peña Yes
Votes: Mr. Esquivel Yes Mr. Quintanilla Yes

Mrs. Benitez Yes

# PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Mrs. Bracamonte checked the <u>board@rosemead.k12.ca.us</u> email account for submittals of public comment. There were none.

#### RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

President Quintanilla began Closed Session at 6:35 p.m.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

- Public Employee (Appointment, Employment, Reassignment, Evaluation, and Discipline/ Dismissal/Release)
- 2. Conference with Labor Negotiators pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:
  - Rosemead Teachers' Association, California School Employees Association and its Rosemead Chapter 9, Management, Confidential, and Unrepresented
- 3. Public Employee Performance Evaluation and Contract pursuant to Government Code Section 54957
  - Superintendent

#### RECESS CLOSED SESSION

President Quintanilla recessed closed session at 7:30 p.m.

#### RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

President Quintanilla reconvened the meeting to open session at 7:36 p.m.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION (if any)

President Quintanilla reported that the Board of Trustees took no action in closed session and will continue closed session after the completion of open session items.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Quintanilla requested for Dr. Jennifer Fang to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

## AWARDS/RECOGNITION VIRTUAL PRESENTATION(S): None

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Bracamonte checked the <u>board@rosemead.k12.ca.us</u> email account for submittals of public comment. The following public comments were received:

• Diana Richardson, RTA Co-Lead Bargaining Chair: Good evening,

On behalf of the RTA negotiations team, I would like to thank the District for working collaboratively with RTA on the return to school MOU. Personally, I am very proud of what we accomplished being that we were able to begin the school year with language for both distance learning and hybrid models, whereas most districts only have distance learning language in place.

Additionally, we appreciate the District recognizing the burdensome forms the CDE has put forth for teachers to track student attendance and engagement and appreciate their willingness to come up with solutions that meet CDE requirements while not adding so much additional paperwork for teachers.

It is a relief to know the District understands all of the extra hours required by teachers in order to implement and execute distance learning in our classrooms.

Gratefully, Diana Richardson

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Ruvalcaba provided a brief highlight on the following topics:

- Gave kudos to everyone for a very smooth start to school. Recognized how hard everyone
  is working in the district and shared that administration personally sees it. We also hear
  the recognition and kudos in the community. He also shared that administrators recognize
  the amount of time and work everyone is putting in when they see employees around the
  district.
- Shared that the attendance rate is very high during Distance Learning with over 98% of students in attendance. Every student has participated at least once and staff has been reaching out to the families which have not connected or completed work.
- Reported that the District has 2,348 students enrolled as of today.
- Superintendent Ruvalcaba shared that the District does recognize that there are some obstacles for some families which includes connectivity. He shared that the District was able to provide Chromebooks and hotspots to families who requested them. He shared that we have a waitlist of 100 hotspots for families who have requested them. Mr. Ruvalcaba explained that the hotspots would arrive Friday with immediate distribution to follow.
- Mr. Ruvalcaba expressed that the enrollment is a bit less than was projected and staff is
  finding that because Kindergarten is not required education, some parents have opted for
  not enrolling their children for Distance Learning due to the difficulty Kinder students
  experience in this environment.
- Superintendent Ruvalcaba discussed a recent Los Angeles Times article which confirmed that many districts are not seeing all Kindergarteners registered and attending schools.
- Announced the receipt of the Advanced Grant, previously known as the Arts for All Grant for \$20,500 to continue to provide arts education. Once again the terms of the grant indicate the District earmark matching funds.
- Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Fang, Ph.D. provided a quick summary of the Learning Continuity & Distance Learning Plan. She shared that this plan replaced the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) for the 2020-2021 school year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Fang shared that two parent meetings were held with the DAC and DELAC members and provided a one-page summary of the specific plan outlining how the District will address the priorities. She expressed that districts are finding that supporting a Distance Learning program costs more to run due to all the technology and connectivity required. The DAC/DELAC members discussed how the District will address the learning loss, looking at the whole child, and ensuring our students are well fed. Lastly she shared that the District will begin providing free meals for all children under 18 years of age shortly.
- Upcoming Events and Save the Dates Trustees, RSVP to Cynthia Bracamonte:
  - o Thursday, September 17, 2020, 6:30 p.m. Board of Trustees Study Session Meeting
  - o Thursday, October 1, 2020, 6:30 p.m. Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
  - o Thursday, October 15, 2020, 6:30 p.m. Board of Trustees Study Session Meeting
  - o Thursday, November 5, 2020, 6:30 p.m. Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
  - o Thursday, November 19, 2020, 6:30 p.m. Board of Trustees Study Session Meeting
  - o Thursday, December 10, 2020, 6:30 p.m. Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

- Review of the contents in the night folder:
  - o Learning Continuity & Distance Learning Plan draft
  - o Trustee Mail (if any is received after Board packet delivery)

## **BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

President Quintanilla shared on the following topics:

1. Congratulated both Trustee Esquivel and Clerk Peña for not having to run an election for their new terms. He shared that this will save the District a lot of money. He gave kudos to the District staff for their work to distribute hotspots to families and shared that he has received great feedback from our community for this work.

## **BOARD ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

- Clerk Peña congratulated Shuey for receiving the PBIS community award and for their amazing dedication. She shared that she really appreciates those teaching the students to care for the hard work the Rosemead community does for everyone. Mrs. Peña thanked Principal Soto for inviting her to the Principal Coffee and shared that so much patience was demonstrated to parents. Clerk Peña congratulated the District for the arts grant. Lastly, Mrs. Peña, as a parent thanked all the teachers for everything they do for the Rosemead students.
- 2. Trustee Armenta congratulated Mrs. Maria Ruiz and Mr. Daniel Montoya on their recent retirement. Ms. Armenta expressed her gratitude for the District's efforts to meet the technology needs of our families with hotspots. She shared that she saw the virial photo of the two students who sat at the Taco Bell in the desert to ensure they had wifi to complete their Distance Learning. She shared that we all want to ensure equity for our students. Trustee Armenta thanked Dr. Fang for her work on the arts grant and shared that she knows the arts is part of her passion. Ms. Armenta congratulated Shuey for their PBIS recognition and expressed gratitude for their dedication. Lastly, Ms. Armenta welcomed everyone to the new school year and shared that the new normal, although unsettling, it's through our adversities and our hardships, our true strengths are revealed. She sees the amount of dedication from all employees and thanked everyone for pulling through and doing right by all our students.
- 3. Trustee Benitez congratulated Trustee Esquivel and Clerk Peña on their new term for four more years. She shared that she attended as many sessions of Back to School Night and felt the sessions were amazing. Mrs. Benitez thanked the staff and administration for their wonderful presentations to families during the sessions and recognized all their hard work and effort. Thanked Shuey staff and Dr. Fang for everything they do for the District.
- 4. Trustee Esquivel welcomed everyone back to the new school year and recognized that school is very different this year. Gave kudos to all staff for getting the Distance Learning program up and running with as little speed bumps as possible. Mr. Esquivel shared that the learning is very robust and everyone is doing a great job. Shared that he attended the DAC/DELAC parent meeting and expressed that the information shared was done well. He congratulated the District on the arts grant and recalled the beginning of the program when the District was awarded for the first time. Mr. Esquivel expressed the bitter sweet moment of saying good bye to some of the retirees and recalled Mr. Montoya starting in the District when his daughter was born and Ms. Ruiz being the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher for both his children. He also shared that he didn't know what we would do without Mr. Herrera and Mrs. Monte having been a part of the District for a very long time. Mr. Esquivel wished all retirees great enjoyment and happiness. Mr. Esquivel requested information on the breakdown of the enrollment and where the new students are being placed. Lastly, he

- thanked the Superintendent for keeping up with all the Governor and directives from our local county health department.
- 5. Clerk Peña thanked Mrs. Rock for making an amazing self-care calendar and can only imagine the amount of effort and time she put into it.

## PUBLIC HEARING(S): None

## **CONSENT AGENDA:**

#### General Functions:

- 1. Personnel Status Report Certificated and Classified
- 2. Purchase Orders as of July August 2020 (on file), and Warrants for budgeted expenditures
- 3. Minutes of the August 6, 2020 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 4. Minutes of the August 12, 2020 Board of Trustees Meeting

Minutes: That the Consent Agenda, be approved.

Motion made by:		Ms. Armenta	Seconded by:	Mrs. Peña
Roll Call	Ms. Armenta	Yes	Mrs. Peña	Yes
Votes:	Mr. Esquivel	Yes	Mr. Quintanilla	Yes
	Mrs. Benitez	Yes		

## SPECIAL REPORTS AND PRESENTATION(S):

1. Unaudited Actuals Presentation, by Harold Sullins, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services

Assistant Superintendent Sullins summarized the Unaudited Actuals. See presentation attached.

2. California Department of Public Health - County Data Monitoring (Watchlist), by Alejandro Ruvalcaba, Superintendent

Superintendent Ruvalcaba showcased the new site (<a href="www.covid19.ca.gov">www.covid19.ca.gov</a>) which is monitoring when districts can open schools. He shared that the interactive website was launched on Friday and provides the new criteria for the reopening of the economy. The new criteria indicate that all counties will be evaluated by the number of new cases and the percentage of positive tests. The state dashboard provides a breakdown by county and identifies the criteria per county. Mr. Ruvalcaba shared that Los Angeles County is currently categorized as "widespread" and we must stay in this category for fourteen days. Every county will start in a color for twenty-one days and then can move to the next color if the criteria for the next color has been met for fourteen consecutive days. He also shared that the District must follow the state's and county's guidance, adding that the County has the authority to create more stringent guidelines than indicated by the state. All Districts must follow the County's criteria which will be stricter, specifically if they are seeing hotspots in certain communities.

President Quintanilla inquired whether the City of Rosemead had any additional requirements we needed to meet. Superintendent Ruvalcaba clarified that they currently

don't, however, the City can impose further requirements if there is a need. He also shared that there is a recognition that if within any County, City, or community there are higher levels of case rates and death rates (hotspots) that the City can impose stricter requirements.

Superintendent Ruvalcaba also shared that the Public Health Department recently published a news release indicating that the county was in stage 3 which is different guidance than the County. The County published guidance that would allow Districts to bring back a 10% of their site population, including staff members to provide targeted support to ELA and Special Education students. The District will be moving towards discussing this possibility with current bargaining partners as it has been the practice to include them in the conversation as new guidance is received. He clarified that the District is only required to notify the bargaining units, however, it has been the District's practice to include them in the conversation for transparency purposes. Mr. Ruvalcaba also shared that the County and Department of Public Health can and will do check-ins at the sites to ensure we are following all guidelines and are meeting all criteria with practices and protocols. Superintendent Ruvalcaba estimated the District being ready approximately around September 21st to ensure all conversations have occurred and the District is ready. He also shared that the administration prefers to start with a very small group, test and assess, and slowly add more as we can handle more.

President Quintanilla expressed that the Board's top priority is the safety of all students and staff. Superintendent Ruvalcaba highly agreed with his sentiment and confirmed that it is the administration's top priority and the soonest we could be ready is September 14, but the sign-ups wouldn't necessarily mean everyone is ready emotionally and mentally. We want to ensure our families are also ready to come back. Lastly, he shared that some staff has already received some training and we have been doing health screenings for the past 2-3 weeks, in addition to temperature checks as everyone comes onto campuses.

## **ACTION ITEM:**

## 2019-2020 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report

Minutes: That the 2019-2020 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report, be approved.

Motion made by:Ms. ArmentaSeconded by:Mr. EsquivelRoll CallMs. ArmentaYesMrs. PeñaYesVotes:Mr. EsquivelYesMr. QuintanillaYesMrs. BenitezYes

## 2020-2021 Beginning Fund Balance Adjustments

Minutes: That the 2020-2021 Beginning Fund Balance Adjustments, be approved.

Motion made by:Mr. EsquivelSeconded by:Ms. ArmentaRoll CallMs. ArmentaYesMrs. PeñaYesVotes:Mr. EsquivelYesMr. QuintanillaYesMrs. BenitezYes

## Budget Revisions BA118-BA121

Minutes: That the Budget Revisions BA118-BA121, be approved.

Motion made by: Mr. Esquivel Seconded by: Ms. Armenta

Roll CallMs. ArmentaYesMrs. PeñaYesVotes:Mr. EsquivelYesMr. QuintanillaYes

Mrs. Benitez Yes

# Use of Education Protection Account (EPA) for 2019-2020

Minutes: That the Use of Education Protection Account (EPA) for 2019-2020, be approved.

Motion made by: Ms. Armenta Seconded by: Mrs. Benitez

Roll CallMs. ArmentaYesMrs. PeñaYesVotes:Mr. EsquivelYesMr. QuintanillaYes

Mrs. Benitez Yes

## Resolution No. 20-21/02, Adopting the GANN Limit

Minutes: That the Resolution No. 20-21/02, Adopting the GANN Limit, be approved.

Motion made by: Mr. Esquivel Seconded by: Mrs. Benitez

Roll Call Ms. Armenta Yes Mrs. Peña Yes Votes: Mr. Esquivel Yes Mr. Quintanilla Yes

Mrs. Benitez Yes

#### 2019-2020 Interfund Transfers

Minutes: That the 2019-2020 Interfund Transfers, be approved.

Motion made by: Ms. Armenta Seconded by: Mr. Esquivel

Roll Call Ms. Armenta Yes Mrs. Peña Yes Votes: Mr. Esquivel Yes Mr. Quintanilla Yes

Mrs. Benitez Yes

## Service/Consultant Proposals/Bid Awards/Contract Report

Minutes: That the Service/Consultant Proposals/Bid Awards/Contract/Memorandum of Understanding Report, including:

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

1. ACSA Foundation for Educational Administration

#### CHILD DEVELOPMENT:

- 2. National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
- 3. Rosemead School District Nutrition Services

#### **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES:**

- 4. Discovery Education (Districtwide)
- 5. Mystery Science, Inc. (Encinita, Janson, and Savannah)
- 6. NearPod, Inc. for Google Add-On (Districtwide)
- 7. Teacher Innovations, Inc. Planbook.com (Shuey)
- 8. Teacher Synergy, LLC TPT School Access (Shuey)

#### **NUTRITION & WELLNESS:**

9. Oliver Packaging and Equipment Company (Districtwide) SPECIAL EDUCATION & STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:

10. Pacific Clinics

## , be approved.

Motion made by: Ms. Armenta Seconded by: Mrs. Peña

Roll Call Ms. Armenta Yes Mrs. Peña Yes Votes: Mr. Esquivel Yes Mr. Ouintanilla Yes

Mrs. Benitez Yes

Nomination of Member to the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization (LACCSDO) County Committee

Minutes: Item failed due to lack of a motion.

## DISCUSSION ITEM(S):

1. California School Boards Association (CSBA) Annual Education Conference Registration

Superintendent Ruvalcaba reviewed the information provided by staff to the Board of Trustees and provided each member the opportunity to confirm their intentions to participate. Trustee Esquivel clarified that he would like to see the details regarding the topics of each workshop. Staff shared that CSBA has yet to publish that information and that staff will continue working towards providing the details once received.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Exhibit 1 Matrix for New Business Topics and Follow Up

- Superintendent Ruvalcaba provided the information updates on the CSBA Annual Education Conference and answered questions. Trustees confirmed their participation as follows:
  - o President Quintanilla does not plan to attend
  - o Trustee Armenta does not plan to attend
  - o Trustee Benitez does not plan to attend
  - o Trustee Esquivel does not plan to attend
  - o Clerk Peña does not plan to attend

Superintendent Ruvalcaba clarified to the audience that the Board's decision not to attend in the annual conference, by no means is commentary on CSBA, as they provide a high quality program and simply due to the current pandemic and environment of the forum in which the conference will be delivered among other important factors.

- Plan for suspended and expelled students Superintendent Ruvalcaba shared that Coordinator Chalian will proceed with the preparation of the plan and shared that due to the Distance Learning program students' behavior has been pretty good thus far.
- Cost analysis of DLI Mandarin program Superintendent Ruvalcaba shared that the now
  that the Unaudited Actuals have been completed, giving big kudos to the fiscal services
  team, staff will move forward with preparing the cost analysis and also provide a report on
  contracted services by comparing the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 expenditures. He added

- that the report on the DLI program will also include funding received for students who transferred into the District.
- Report on enrollment Superintendent Ruvalcaba shared that enrollment is one of the two topics for the September 17<sup>th</sup> study session and will also include a report on facilities. He shared that for the new school year, the enrollment will be done by classroom.
- Trustee Benitez requested the numbers for the DLI enrollment. Superintendent Ruvalcaba shared that now that the Unaudited Actuals are completed, staff can extract the true costs for different areas, such as the DLI program versus providing estimates.
- Trustee Benitez requested enrollment numbers for the DLI program, including the total number of students that were taken from other schools and other Districts.
- Trustee Esquivel commented that the security guards are dressing more professionally.
   Superintendent Ruvalcaba shared that Assistant Superintendent Sullins is conducting daily checks.
- President Quintanilla requested a study session to update the District's Vision Plan.
   Superintendent Ruvalcaba expressed that it is a good annual practice to revisit and realign if necessary.
  - o It was the Board's consensus to move forward with this request and schedule it during the already scheduled Study Session in October.
- President Quintanilla requested for the District to work towards securing our network. He expressed that some Districts are having issues with securing their network.
  - O Superintendent Ruvalcaba shared that Network Administrator Gaeta has been working on different solutions. Staff will share proposals and timelines in October or sooner if we have sufficient information.
- President Quintanilla proposed that the Board give direction in regards to the District considering a hiring freeze with a resolution or further action.
  - o Trustee Armenta expressed that this is something that the Superintendent is in charge of and felt that the Board taking action on this would be premature.
  - Superintendent Ruvalcaba shared that there are a couple of things to consider in regards to this topic, including negotiations implications and shared that this is a conversation for closed session. He also shared that these types of decisions would need to be negotiated with bargaining units.
- President Quintanilla shared that he does not see English characters on the walls on the north side of the Encinita campus facing Lower Azusa.
  - o Superintendent Ruvalcaba shared that the painters started adding the English language on Tuesday which might have been after the expressed observation.

# <u>PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS</u> (3 minutes per person or 20 minutes per topic)

Mrs. Bracamonte checked the <u>board@rosemead.k12.ca.us</u> email account for submittals of public comment. There were none.

## RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

President Quintanilla recessed the meeting to closed session at 9:17 p.m.

#### CLOSED SESSION

# ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

President Quintanilla reconvened the meeting to open session at 10:06 p.m.

# RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

President Quintanilla reconvened the meeting at 10:08 p.m.

# ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION (if any)

President Quintanilla reported that the Board of Trustees took no action in closed session.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Minutes: That the September 3, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting, be adjourned at 10:10

p.m.

Motion made by: Ms. Armenta Seconded by: Mr. Esquivel

Roll CallMs. ArmentaYesMrs. PeñaYesVotes:Mr. EsquivelYesMr. QuintanillaYes

Mrs. Benitez Yes

Signed,

President





















