

**Paso Robles Joint Unified School District  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
April 13, 2021**

**MINUTES**

**A. OPENING CEREMONY**

**1. Meeting Protocols Under COVID-19**

President Arend read the protocols for COVID-19 meetings, and Erin Haley read them in Spanish.

**2. Attendance/Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m.

Present: Mr. Christopher Arend, Mrs. Dorian Baker, Mr. Chris Bausch, Mr. Lance Gannon, Mr. Tim Gearhart, Mr. Nathan Williams

Absent: Mr. Jim Reed (arrived at 5:35 p.m.)

**B. PUBLIC COMMENT (for Closed Session Items)**

**1. Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda Items - To allow public comment prior to the Board's consideration of any closed session agenda item. Govt Code 54954.3**

There were no requests to address the Board on Closed Session topics.

**C. CLOSED SESSION**

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:10 p.m.

**1. Student Discipline Case #20-21.02H (Ed Code 35146, 48900 et seq., 48912(b) et seq., and 20 USC Section 1232g**

The Board convened a hearing on student discipline case No. 20-21.02H. A motion was adopted (6-0-1) to approve the staff recommendation for Case #20.-21.02H (motion by Tim Gearhart, second by Lance Gannon; Jim Reed absent).

**2. Certificated Personnel Action - Govt Code 54957 - Assignments/Replacements; Resignations/Retirements/Terminations; Position Closures**

The Board received the certificated personnel report for action. A motion passed 6-0-1 to approve the certificated personnel actions as presented in the attachment (motion by Chris Bausch, second by Nathan Williams, Jim Reed absent).

**3. Classified Personnel Actions - Govt Code 54957 - Assignments/Replacements; Resignations/Retirements/Terminations; Position Closures**

The Board received the classified personnel report for action. A motion passed 6-0-1 to approve the classified personnel actions as presented in the attachment (motion by Chris Bausch, second by Dorian Baker, Jim Reed absent).

Mr. Reed joined the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

**4. Conference with Labor Negotiators - Government Code Section 54957.6**

The Board conferred with its representatives on the status of negotiations with CSEA Chapter 254 and the Paso Robles Public Educators.

Closed Session concluded at 5:54 p.m.

**D. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

The Board convened in Open Session at 6:02 p.m.

**1. Report on Closed Session Action**

The Clerk reported the Board met in closed session to conduct student discipline hearing No. 20-21.02H, take action on certificated and classified personnel items, and confer with its representatives on negotiations with CSEA and PRPE.

**2. Adopt Agenda**

A motion passed 6-1 to amend the order of the agenda so that item I9 (Ethnic Studies Course) would follow item I3 (Aquatics), and Item I7 (Grade Reconfiguration Committee) would become item J3 (motion by Chris Bausch, second by Dorian Baker, Tim Gearhart voting No).

**E. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Trustee Dorian Baker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**1. 1. Comments from the Public**

Mr. Arend explained that the Board has received a great number of written comments in advance of the meeting. The majority of those are specific to reopening schools and the ethnic studies course, with a smaller number in support of Georgia Brown Elementary School and the aquatics complex. These have been copied and shared with Board members and will be uploaded into the agenda system.

Andrea Uribe addressed the Board regarding the upcoming resolution to commemorate Month of the Child. She mentioned Kids Are Essential.org, SLOfamilyfriendlywork.org, and the We are the Care Initiative, and urged the Board to support child/family-friendly policies, noting that April is Child Abuse Awareness Month.

**2. California School Employees Association, Chapter #254**

The California School Employees Association had no report for this meeting.

**3. Paso Robles Public Educators**

President Jim Lynett submitted a report in support of the ethnic studies course, concerns about the logistics of reopening school, with strong appreciation for all teachers throughout the pandemic.

**4. Correspondence Received**

Correspondence received for this agenda includes:

- Letter received April 5, 2021, via email from Amy Oberg and 69 additional Paso Robles citizens asking the Board to reopen schools in full;
- Letters in support of the Ethnic Studies Course (received after deadline for 3/23 agenda) from Maya Avendano, Kimberly Kurtzman, and Ana Mendoza
- Letters in support of the aquatics complex (received after deadline for 3/23 agenda) from Jennelle Haggmark and Coni Wells

## G. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS

### 1. California Voting Rights Act Update

Mr. Pawlowski introduced attorney Devon Lincoln from Lozano Smith who provided an update on the move to a change in trustee voting areas from "at large" to "trustee areas." Because of the pandemic delaying the release of 2020 census data, she recommended the Board proceed based on the 2010 data, and update their maps in 2022 with the 2020 census data. At the next meeting staff will bring forward a resolution reaffirming the transition process, utilizing 2010 data to begin with, and hold the first pre-map hearing. The California Voting Rights Act requires at least two hearings before drawing a map, and the first will be on April 27. The demographer will be present at that meeting. After the second hearing, the demographer will prepare maps, and those will be reviewed at two future meetings, after which the Board will be asked to approve maps.

President Arend asked about the effect on trustees whose seats are not up for election in 2022. Mrs. Lincoln responded that those will be grandfathered, but additional research on this topic is warranted. Mr. Bausch asked about his earlier inquiry about reducing the Board to five trustees, which he believed was an interest during the unification process. Mrs. Lincoln indicated that such a change would require either a public election or a state waiver to forego an election. Mr. Gearhart's recollection of discussions during the unification was there was NOT an interest in reducing trustees for various reasons.

Mr. Pawlowski will get clarification on the maps and current trustee residences, look for historical information on the board's intent during unification, and a legal opinion on the reduction from seven to five trustees.

## H. ACTION/CONSENT ITEMS

Mrs. Baker and Mr. Gannon requested that Item H4 be pulled for discussion. A motion passed unanimously to approve Consent items, with the exception of H4, which was pulled for discussion (motion by Chris Bausch, second by Tim Gearhart).

### 1. Approve Purchase Order Listing

Recommendation: Approve Purchase Orders 211308 - 211463 in the total amount of \$1,252,065.15.

### 2. Approve Payment Listing

Recommendation: Approve warrants for accounts payable, batches 112-120 in the total amount of \$3,781,599.36.

### 3. Approve Williams Act Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report

Recommendation: Approve the Williams Act Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report for the period ending March 31, 2021.

### 4. Approve Revisions to BP 7310 and Rescission of BP 1331

This item was pulled for discussion. Mrs. Baker noted there has been a tradition of naming buildings after former educators and that has been changed in this revision. She suggested it be broadened to include coaches and classified staff who have made significant impact in PRJUSD.

Mr. Gannon noted the exhibit allows for naming facilities to commemorate "outstanding contributions" and noted that many individuals and businesses make significant

contributions not in monetary terms but goods or services which should still be eligible, with which Mr. Gearhart concurred. He further questioned the placement of a student on the committee as they would not be familiar with people being recognized. As to the lifetime members, Mrs. Gaviola explained there are currently seven lifetime members of the existing committee. They would be invited to join this committee if they wish, and be phased out over time. Mr. Gannon also questioned why a name would be approved for a limited duration of time. Mr. Arend asked that committee membership be subject to board approval. This item will return for possible approval at a third reading.

A motion passed to table revisions to BP 7310 and the rescission of BP 1331, with direction to staff to incorporate changes proposed and present this under Action/Discussion at the next meeting (motion by Chris Bausch, second by Nathan Williams, 7-0).

**5. Approve Contract with Ray Morgan Company LLC for Managed Print Services as per RFP-19-20-006 Copier/Managed Print Services**

Recommendation: Approve the managed print service contract with Ray Morgan Company LLC as per RFP19-20-006 Copier/Managed Print Services and authorize the Assistant Superintendent, Business Services to sign all pertinent documents.

**6. Approve Purchase of Six Ford Transit MobilityWorks Vans via Sourcewell Contract 120716-NAF**

Recommendation: Approve the purchase of six new Ford Transit MobilityWorks vans at \$66,331.83 each including tax through Sourcewell Contract 120716-NAF, and authorize the Superintendent or designee to sign all necessary contract documents.

**I. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**1. Resolution No. 21-21 Proclaiming April to be "Month of the Child" and "Child Abuse Prevention Month"**

Public comment was received from Lauren Handley, with "We are the Care," thanking the Board for their support of this initiative. She invited everyone to Saturday's events in Mission Plaza, San Luis Obispo, commemorating Month of the Child. Resolution No. 21-21 proclaiming April to be "Month of the Child" and "Child Abuse Prevention Month" was adopted unanimously on motion of Nathan Williams, seconded by Tim Gearhart.

**2. Accept 2019-20 Annual Financial Audit Report**

The Board received the 2019-20 audit report. Auditor Michael Ash reviewed the report, noting that districts were granted a delay from December 15 to March 31 due to COVID. The auditor's findings were minor and his opinion was "unmodified," the best statement given. Discussion followed. A motion was adopted to accept the 2019-20 Annual Financial Audit Report (motion by Chris Bausch, second by Lance Gannon; passed 7-0).

**3. Measure M Project Priorities: Aquatics Complex**

In addition to many written comments received in advance of the meeting and distributed to the Board, public comment was received from several community members in support of the aquatics complex including Dale Gustin, Jill Ogorsolka, and Gwen Severson. Mrs. Ogorsolka, with the Swim Paso Association, explained the urgency is due to the fact that DSA approval stamps on the blueprints will expire if the project is not started soon, and there is a deadline for the organization to submit a grant request under Prop 68.

Brad Pawlowski explained the project was tabled in January 2019 when bids came in higher than estimates. The proposed action affirms the Board's desire to move forward with the project, remains active, and we continue to seek additional funding. Staff will come back to the Board with a donation agreement between the district and Swim Paso to outline the responsibilities of the parties.

A motion by Nathan Williams, seconded by Tim Gearhart passed unanimously that the Board affirmed their desire to complete the aquatics complex project and affirmed that it remains active on the Measure M facilities project list, acknowledging that additional funding sources such as grants and donations will be required to supplement bond funds for the project. Further, the Board directed PRJUSD administration to continue to work in good faith with the Swim Paso Association (SPA) and other community partners to achieve this goal.

**4. Approve Revised Reading List/Course Description for Ethnic Studies Course at PRHS: Multicultural America**

Mr. Arend announced that the Board received almost 60 emails in advance of the meeting, all but one in support of the course. Erin Haley reviewed the changes that have been made based on the Board's direction from the last meeting. Teacher Geoff Land explained his work to revise the course and reading list. Public comment was received from Nancy Anastasia, Carey Alvord with students Cheyanne Holliday, Kelen Macharia, Mel Gonzales, and Sharon Elmer; Chuy Caracoles, Rita Casaverde, Ruth Enriquez-Bauge, Jennifer Grenninger, Dale Gustin, Adelita Hiteshaw, Jessica Kiger, Vianette Mendoza-Orozco, Brandy Moody, Kristal Roman, and Sandra Stratman, all in favor of the ethnic studies course.

A motion to approve the revised reading list and course curriculum for PRHS course - Ethnic Studies: Multicultural America failed (motion by Tim Gearhart; second by Christopher Arend).

AYES: Christopher Arend, Tim Gearhart, Nathan Williams

NOES: Dorian Baker, Chris Bausch, Lance Gannon, Jim Reed

Board members shared their continued concerns about the course curriculum and materials.

A motion passed to approve the revised reading list and course curriculum for Ethnic Studies: Multicultural America as a one-year pilot for grades 11-12, with additional material course substance to include contributions from Thomas Sowell and Ayaan Hirsi Ali (motion by Nathan Williams, second by Christopher Arend; Jim Reed voting NO).

**5. Approve Three-Year Renewal of Behavior Alert Agreement with School Innovations & Achievement (SI&A)**

A motion passed unanimously to approve the contract renewal with SI&A for an additional three years, at a total cost of \$29,355 through June 30, 2024 (motion by Lance Gannon, second by Tim Gearhart).

**6. Acceptance of Donations**

A motion passed unanimously to accept donations with gratitude (motion by Lance Gannon, second by Tim Gearhart).

**7. Approve Board of Trustees' Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Bausch called out errors in the minutes of March 23, 2012, and January 9, 2021. These will be brought back to the April 27 meeting agenda. A motion passed unanimously to approve the corrected minutes of December 15, 2020, and May 12, 2020 (motion by Chris Bausch, second by Nathan Williams).

**8. Considerations/Options for Reopening Schools**

Superintendent Dubost presented his rationale for recommending an increase to in-person learning (Option 3). Public comment was received from Ruth Enriquez-Bauge, urging the Board to support teachers and families by maintaining the status quo for the remainder of this year. Deputy Superintendent Jennifer Gaviola shared the stresses of staff in supporting students. She noted that high school has only been back for 8 weeks, a mere blink within the year. Dr. Dubost restated his belief that adding Monday to the schedule is best for students and meets the State's dictate that kids should be in school as much as possible. Mrs. Gaviola explained the reasons a full-time return is not possible because of the lack of available staffing. Public comment was received from Ruth Enriquez-Bauge and Amy Oberg.

At 10:27 p.m., a motion passed to extend the meeting to 11:30 p.m. (motion by Chris Bausch, second by Tim Gearhart, Nathan Williams voting NO).

Discussion continued. A motion failed to direct the Superintendent and staff to explore Option 3 to maintain the hybrid schedule, but shift to five days per week of in-person learning (motion by Chris Bausch, second by Lance Gannon).

AYES: Dorian Baker, Chris Bausch

NOES: Christopher Arend, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

A motion passed to continue this school year in the current hybrid model, 4 days per week (motion by Tim Gearhart, second by Nathan Williams).

AYES: Christopher Arend, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Nathan Williams

NOES: Dorian Baker, Chris Bausch, Jim Reed

**J. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**1. Monthly Financial Budget**

Mr. Pawlowski shared the monthly budget report. Public comment was received from Mr. Dale Gustin.

**2. Proposed Changes to Board Policy Update: 1312.4 (First Reading)**

Mrs. Gaviola shared changes proposed by CSBA but explained this is impacted by Federal Program Monitoring. Approval will be requested at next meeting.

**3. Grade Reconfiguration Committee**

Erin Haley reviewed the information sent to all elementary and middle schools. The objective is to evaluate three potential grade configurations for the 2022-23 school year and provide a comprehensive review of the committee's recommendation to the Board in June. The three options are:

- TK-5; 6-8 (current model)
- TK-6; 7-8
- TK-6; 7-8; TK-8 dual immersion

Meetings will be held on Zoom and are scheduled for April 22, 29, and May 6, with a virtual community input meeting on June 2 at 6 p.m. Five committee members will represent each site, composed of 1 administrator, 2 staff members, and 2 parents, plus 5 community members at large. This will create a large committee of about 50 people.

Mrs. Haley explained that requests for committee members have been disseminated twice to all families and staff for applicants. Parents will be selected by lottery.

Mr. Gannon noted that all the committee meetings occur before the community input and suggested an additional community input amid the committee meeting dates.

Public comment was received from Mr. Dale Gustin.

**K. SUPERINTENDENT/STAFF COMMENTS**

Dr. Dubost waived his report for this meeting.

**L. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Williams thanked Kim Holmes for copying the public comment, and thanked staff for their continued work. He reminded everyone that the Paso Strong fundraiser is ongoing and items will be featured at Premier Ag soon.

Mr. Gearhart reported that Paso Robles Historical is preparing to reopen and is interested in coordinating with teachers on different options. He has been talking with YMCA and they would like to take over after-school programs. Tim will meet with Brad Pawlowski to share their comments about this. He will talk with Erin Haley about YMCA's interest in summer camps. He shared that he is now the contact person for Adelaida Historical Society.

Mr. Gannon shared his concerns about student safety with the ethnic studies class coming forward. His interest is to ensure that students who have different viewpoints are able to speak their mind without retribution and that any attempts to bully or silence them will be dealt with immediately. Additionally, he wants to be sure that all incidents are reported and the Board is informed.

Mr. Bausch commented on a lack of consistency in how the Board treats its guests. As callers are the Clerk's responsibility, he asked President Arend to allow him to do that job without interference. Public comment on agenda items is not being handled consistently. He requested an agenda item on a possible policy for how agenda action items are introduced and handled with his suggestion that the item/proposed motion be read, the Board conduct their debate, and finally a formal motion be made.

Mrs. Baker requested an overview of curriculum offerings in the Friday Report, along with the standards.

Mr. Arend announced he will appear on the Dave Congalton show at 5 p.m. tomorrow to discuss school issues. He will clarify that he is speaking for himself and not for the Board.

**M. INFORMATION/AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS**

Mr. Arend requested an agenda item on April 27 regarding public comment in English, noting the simultaneous translation services now available mean callers/presenters no longer need to speak in Spanish. He provided a memo to the superintendent to explain how that can be addressed in the Board Bylaws.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 p.m. (motion by Nathan Williams. second by Lance Gannon).

  
Board Clerk

  
Board President

