



MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

September 19, 2023

Closed Session 6:00 PM / Board Meeting 7:00 PM

Education Center · 685 E. Jack London Blvd. · Livermore, CA · 94551

Board Members Present: President Craig Bueno, Clerk Emily Prusso, Members Steven Drouin, Yanira Guzmán, and Kristie Wang were present.

Administrative Staff Present: Chris Van Schaack, Superintendent; Kelly Manke, Assistant Superintendent; Teresa Fiscus, Assistant Superintendent; Amy Robbins, Executive Director of Human Resources; Tracie Christmas, Director of Student Services; Jason Krolikowski, Director of Secondary Education; Chris Connor, Director of Elementary Education; Shari Johnston, Coordinator of Early Literacy; Glenn Sherman, Director of Maintenance, Operations, & Facilities; Kim McNeely, Bond Program Director; Frank Selvaggio, Executive Director of Special Education; Michelle Dawson, Coordinator of Community Engagement; Geoff Warner, Chief Technology Officer; and Michelle Hill-Gerow, Executive Assistant

Student Board Member Representative Present: Kathryn Johnson, Granada High School

1.0 6:00 P.M. - CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Bueno.

2.0 6:03 P.M. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

2.1 The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session by President Bueno. The Board adjourned to Closed Session to discuss items 2.1 through 2.5. Staff in attendance included: Chris Van Schaack, Superintendent; Melissa Theide, Assistant Superintendent; Teresa Fiscus, Assistant Superintendent; Kelly Manke, Assistant Superintendent..

2.2 Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Leave/Employment Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957

2.3 Conference with Labor Negotiator Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6 Employee Organizations: California School Employees Association (CSEA) – Kelly Manke; Service Employees International Union (SEIU) – Kelly Manke;

2.4 Anticipated Litigation, Conference with Legal Counsel – Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: One Case

2.5 Existing Litigation, Conference with Legal Counsel - Pursuant to Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 (Gov Code 54954.5(c)): One Case

2.6 Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Government Code Section 54956.8)
Property APN No. 98-357-2 (685 E. Jack London Blvd) in Livermore, California Agency negotiators:
Teresa Fiscus, Kelly Manke, Chris Van Schaack

3.0 7:10 P.M. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

3.1 The meeting was reconvened to Open Session by President Craig Bueno with Clerk Emily Prusso, and Members Steven Drouin, Yanira Guzmán, and Kristie Wang present.

3.2 The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Marylin Avenue STEAM Academy Students and Principal Joe Meunier.

3.3 Actions approved in Closed Session -

No actions were taken in the Closed Session.

3.4 The Board of Education will vote on any recommended expulsions - None

3.5 Meeting Procedures - President Craig Bueno reviewed all meeting procedures, including instructions for 8.0 Communication from the Public.

4.0 CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

4.1 The Superintendent will announce any changes to the agenda

Superintendent Chris Van Schaack reported that there were no changes to the Agenda.

5.0 RECOGNITION

5.1 Recognition of Marylin Avenue STEAM Academy Students

Superintendent Van Schaack introduced Joe Meunier, Principal of Marylin Avenue STEAM Academy, who recognized the efforts of staff and students at the Marylin Avenue STEAM Academy. Principal Meunier proudly introduced several students who were nominated by their teachers for showing perseverance, courage, and positivity since the beginning of the school year, as well as providing support and encouragement to their classmates. Marylin Avenue STEAM Academy students present included Ricardo Ramos, Diego Ortiz, Scarlet Weems, Noah Seitz, Valeria Altan Hidalgo, Jayden Batara, Santiago Luna Garcia, Lylah Suarez, Violet Giustino, and Mateo Diaz Enriquez. Principal Meunier congratulated the students and thanked them for their contributions to an amazing start to the school year.

5.2 Recognition of Student Body Presidents

Superintendent Van Schaack introduced our District' Middle and High School student body presidents. The Superintendent expressed appreciation for student leaders at our secondary schools,

recognizing that they create a voice for student leadership, and they have a lot to say about what is going on in their schools. Superintendent Van Schaack also recognized the incredible amount of hard work required of their role as a student leader and standing up for what they believe is right for their school and student body. Among the student leaders present were: Imani Prior, Christensen Middle School; Camia Becerra, East Avenue Middle School; Anya Wood, Joe Michell K-8; Haku Ogawa, Junction Avenue K-8; Bianca Bejines and Addison Rosenlind, Co-Presidents, Mendenhall Middle School; Ava Hepner, Livermore High School; and Ian Hittinger, Vineyard Alternative School. Not present but recognized was Katy Canaan, Granada High School. On behalf of the 13,100 students in our District, Superintendent Van Schaack again thanked our student leaders for the work they do in bringing a voice to our students.

6.0 STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS REPORT

6.1 Student Board Members will report on their school activities

Amanda Dunmeyer - Granada High School (GHS) reported that Granada is in the midst of a flurry of exciting events for the month of September. GHS will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15th - October 15th. GHS library staff have invited students in grades 10-12 to apply for the Library Advisory Board. Homecoming nominations opened the week of Sep. 7th, and Homecoming will be held at GHS on October 7th. Senior Information Night is September 20th. GHS students are encouraged to join the Cinema Club, where students watch films and discuss with friends how cinema has grown from past to present. Kudos to Chemistry teacher Amanda Cleveland and Math teacher Matthew Clifton, who were honored by the Pedrozzi Foundation for inspiring students. Congratulations to Computer Science Teacher of the Month, Kenon Willis. On September 7th, the JV Football team had an astronomical turnaround, winning their game against Castro Valley. On September 8th, the Varsity Football team won at home against Castro Valley. The teams are also sponsoring a fundraiser selling t-shirts, and 100% of the proceeds will go to support the Maui Firefighters. Girls' Flag Football kicked off their season with a win against Livermore HS. Check out the new GHS YouTube Broadcast Production Channel. Back to School Night was held on September 13th, and was a huge success. On September 12th, Oregon State University and UC San Francisco kicked off the first college visits of the year. She closed her remarks by reminding students, "Stay classy, Matadors."

Amanda Dunmeyer presented on behalf of Kathryn Johnson - Livermore High School (LHS) reported that LHS students have settled into their new routines, and are enjoying the events and excitement that come with the beginning of the school year. Spirit Week kicked off on September 11th. There was a lot of participation, and the new Spirit points system is keeping the competition high among classes. On September 15th, the Red, White & Blue game was held in honor of those who lost their lives on 9/11. The Girls' Flag Football team lost their first game, but look forward to learning from the experience. On September 15th, LHS hosted a Belly Flop Fiesta, won by the Senior Class representative. During Back to School (BTS) Night, it was exciting to see many posters hung around campus advertising upcoming activities, including Homecoming. Classes are busy planning their dances for Homecoming Skit, and it is fun to watch. BTS was a big success, with lots of parent participation. A recent Club Info Meeting has students excited for the official start to club activities. Seniors are preparing for the Senior Picnic. One of the Student Leadership groups is decorating a bulletin board for Hispanic Heritage Month. The theme for this year's yearbook is "Beyond What's Here." The Teacher of the Year Award recipient for Tri-Valley ROP, Mr. Bernard, was recognized by the

Alameda County Superintendent of Schools and County Board of Trustees. Channel 2 News and a representative from LLNL recently visited LHS and Ms. Johnson's Physics class to report on her curriculum about the use of cell phones for class. The first Principal's Advisory meeting was held to discuss students' concerns about campus. Ms. Myllenbeck was recognized as Teacher of the Month for her work on equity and inclusion, as well as her overall school spirit. The September focus for PBIS is "Making Connections", and October's theme will be "Anti-Bullying." There will be a speaker assembly next month on the topic, and everyone is invited to attend. LHS was recognized with a Silver Award in 2022-2023, and looks forward to going for a Gold Award in 2023-2024 school year. Closing remarks included, "Today is a great day to be a Cowboy!"

7.0 EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION REPORTS

7.1 Employee Associations will report on activities

Stephanie Waggener, Classified School Employees Association (CSEA) President, thanked everyone who attended the Annual CSEA Potluck (held in May 2023) and supported fundraising efforts for annual scholarships awarded to members' students attending and/or planning to attend college. She reported that CSEA and the District have been working on negotiating a successor agreement for some time, and expressed disappointment that the salary increase (which CSEA did not negotiate) resulted in CSEA members not receiving specific concessions they requested. She shared that CSEA has been advised that, due to an anticipated \$6 million deficit next year, the District is not able to negotiate anything related to finances. She commented that, rather than close out selected student programs to reduce costs, the Board reversed course and retained those programs, and shared her opinion that if these difficult funding decisions are about the students, then perhaps the recent salary increases should not have occurred, although she is happy that CSEA members received a pay increase. She anticipates finalizing the successor agreement pending a few items currently being negotiated. CSEA is happy to report that, following the recent classification and compensation study, five (5) job classifications were identified as being below market value and have been reclassified to a higher range on the CSEA Salary Schedule.

8.0 COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

A) Audience Communication

1. Zoha Khan, parent, shared her thoughts about the possibility of LGBTQ+ curriculum in schools, and expressed her feelings regarding parents' rights and responsibilities to manage those conversations with students.
2. Sameera Amin, parent, shared her thoughts on what she considers LGBTQ+ indoctrination in schools and parental rights around discussing these topics with students.

B) Correspondence

Board Clerk Emily Prusso reported that no formal Board Correspondence was received.

9.0 INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

9.1 Marilyn Avenue Steam Academy Report

Superintendent Van Schaack asked Marylin Avenue STEAM Academy Principal Joe Meunier to present the Marylin Avenue Steam Academy Report for information only.

Public Comments: None

9.2 Maintenance, Operations, & Facilities (MOF) Summer Projects Report 2023

Superintendent Van Schaack asked the Director of Maintenance, Operations, & Facilities (MOF) Glenn Sherman to present the MOF Summer Projects Report 2023 for information only.

Public Comments: None

10.0 CONSENT ITEMS - MOTIONS

- 10.1 Approval of Consent Items - Motions
- 10.2 Approval of Employment of Personnel
- 10.3 Approval of Employment of Extracurricular Coaches, 2023/2024
- 10.4 Approval of Leaves of Absence
- 10.5 Confirmation of Resignations/Retirements
- 10.6 Approval of Consultant
- 10.7 Approval of the revised California School Employees Association (CSEA) Salary Schedule for the 2023-2024 School Year and Job Descriptions
- 10.8 Approval of Out-of-State Conference for One Staff Member to Attend the California Schools to Watch Leadership Retreat in Nevada, October 27-28, 2023
- 10.9 Approval of Out-of-State Conference for Three Staff Members to Attend the California Association of Directors of Activities (CADA) State Convention in Nevada, March 6-9, 2024
- 10.10 Approval of the Purchase Order Summary Report for August
- 10.11 Approval of Measure J Bond Program Contract Amendment/Change Order Ratification
- 10.12 Award of Contract for Pre-Construction Services for the Granada High School Varsity Softball Field Rehabilitation Project
- 10.13 Approval of Contract Amendment for Construction Management Services
- 10.14 Approval of Response to the Local Control and Accountability Plan Clarifying Questions
- 10.15 Approval of the September 5, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

ORIGINAL - Motion

Clerk **Emily Prusso** Moved, and Member **Steven Drouin** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion to 'Approve Consent Items - Motions No. 10.2 - 10.15.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 5 - 0.

Craig Bueno	Yes
Emily Prusso	Yes
Steven Drouin	Yes
Yanira Guzmán	Yes
Kristie Wang	Yes

12.0 CONSENT ITEMS REMOVED FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION/VOTE

13.1 Consent items removed for separate discussion will be placed here and voted on separately

No Consent Items were removed for separate discussion.

13.0 BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND REQUESTS

14.1 Board Members reported on their activities and/or made requests to staff.

Trustee Emily Prusso reported that she attended Back to School (BTS) Night at Marylin Avenue Elementary School and was pleased to see the turnout. She was unable to attend Livermore High School's BTS Night, but heard that participation was strong there, as well. At a recent Tri-Valley ROP Board Meeting, Criminal Justice and EMR Instructor Austin Hudson was recognized for his contributions to the program. Trustee Prusso provided an update regarding ROP summer programs including Teacher Externship experiences, along with a series of free camps for ROP students hosted at Las Positas Community College. Topics included Girls Who Design and Construct, Robotics Manufacturing with participation and support from Tesla, and Drones; she noted that the camps were fully attended, but we need to encourage greater participation from our Livermore students next year. Trustee Prusso also attended the Lawrence Elementary Fun Run, and remarked that they raised a significant amount of money. She is a member of the Health & Wellness Committee, and shared that their latest meeting included a presentation by Child Nutrition Director Katie Crouse, discussions about policy changes regarding health and wellness, student mental health, and the continued emphasis by the Superintendent and Board to address mental health, bullying, and hate speech. Trustee Prusso believes that we are seeing anecdotal progress in these areas, and is anxious to see how the school year continues; she is hopeful that we can continue to improve student and teacher/staff relationships and mental health.

Trustee Kristie Wang reported that she recently attended the first middle school Cross Country meet of the season, as well as BTS Night at Joe Michell K-8 and Granada High Schools. The *Flavors Addict Kids Livermore* team attended BTS at Livermore High School, where they displayed vape related items confiscated from students in the first three weeks of this school year. She expressed appreciation for school administrators' willingness to display to parents/guardians the number of vape-related items on our campuses any given day. This continues to be an issue, and she encouraged people to talk with their kids about it. Trustee Wang participated in an All Schools Call hosted by the Alameda County Office of Education (ACOE) and Department of Public Health where they encouraged "community immunity" through COVID vaccines and flu shots. Ms. Wang attended the Tri-Valley SELPA meeting, where they discussed Special Education staffing, which continues to be a challenge across districts, and the use of creative staffing options such as consultants and internship programs. She appreciates Executive Director Frank Selvaggio for also trying to come up with creative ways to staff the program and looking ahead for long-term solutions to resolve the issue. Mr. Selvaggio and Special Education Coordinator Zandra Texeira will present the Annual State of Special Education on Sep 20th at 7pm presentation at the Livermore Library - Civic Center, and Special Education parents/guardians and

students were encouraged to attend. Saturday, September 23rd is the start of the multicultural series at Bankhead Plaza, and Trustee Wang hopes to see everyone there.

Trustee Steven Drouin wished everyone a happy Hispanic Heritage Month. He reported that he attended the Youth Climate Summit on Saturday, September 9th, and noted that it was a fantastic event with engaging speakers and diverse booths. While the event was student-driven and targeted toward students, community members of all ages attended. Trustee Drouin attended a garden beautification event at one of our elementary schools and was wowed by the enthusiasm and dedication of the volunteers, and is appreciative of everyone helping out with the community gardens at our various schools. Mr. Drouin toured the SMART (Sheet Metal, Air, Rail, and Transportation) Local 104 training facility to learn about their training and career opportunities, which was a great way to learn about pathways in the trades. He is looking forward to the Green Strides tour at Altamont Creek Elementary on September 20th. October 4th is Walk & Roll to School Day, sponsored by the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) Program to encourage families to safely walk and/or roll to school. Trustee Drouin and his child will ride their bikes to school that day.

Trustee Yanira Guzmán reported that she attended BTS Night at the middle and high schools. It was great to see so many families from diverse backgrounds attend and take part in their students' learning. On September 9th, she attended Junction Avenue K-8 School's 2nd annual Car Show hosted by their PTO, and it was an amazing event. Trustee Guzmán announced two upcoming community events: Saturday, September 23rd at Bankhead Plaza there will be a celebration of Indigenous Peoples and Hispanic Heritage Month. On Sunday, September 24th, Quest Science and the Bankhead Theatre will host a free screening of the film *A Million Miles Away*, the life story of astronaut José Hernández. Mr. Hernández has visited our schools and serves on the board of Quest Science Center, and will be in attendance to answer questions in both English and Spanish. The event is free but requires a ticket, so please obtain tickets from the Bankhead Theatre website (<https://livermorearts.org/>) She then repeated her report in Spanish. Trustee Guzmán hopes to see community members and families there.

President Craig Bueno reported that he also attended BTS Night and is looking forward to the Walk & Roll event. He acknowledged that there are a lot of good things going on in our schools, and appreciates the efforts in steering the improvements at Marilyn Avenue and our MOF department projects. President Bueno noted that these are extraordinary tasks that require a lot of people behind the scenes.

14.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

15.1 The Superintendent reported on District activities.

Superintendent Van Schaack is happy to report that we are in the fifth week of the school year, and expectations have been set and routines established. He reiterated our District's renewed focus this year on creating and maintaining high expectations of student behavior, particularly as they relate to language, with a goal of eliminating profanity and hate speech from our schools. The Superintendent noted that we are also working to create school environments where appreciation and gratitude are regularly communicated. Fall sports are in full swing and we have already seen great performances by our student athletes. Superintendent Van Schaack announced that the District recently sent surveys to students and parents regarding the high school schedule and a move toward a semester-based system, which aligns with neighboring districts and provides students with opportunities to develop

connections with teachers over a longer period of time. After reviewing the information gathered, a decision will be made this fall. He shared that national and local dignitaries will visit Altamont Creek Elementary School (ACES) on September 20th (as part of the Green Strides tour) to observe their work with waste diversion and environmentally sound practices. ACES is among several of our schools recognized nationally for efforts to save energy and reduce waste. Superintendent Van Schaack thanked Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) for helping to provide instructional support for the Physics and Metal Shop programs at LHS. We have had great partnerships with LLNL and Sandia over the years, and our students continue to benefit from those partnerships. Lastly, the Superintendent has received emails requesting he thank the Board and Leadership Team for supporting their efforts to make classrooms inclusive and supportive learning environments for all students.

15.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, President Craig Bueno adjourned the Meeting at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Board President

Board Clerk

Approved and entered into the proceedings of this Board this 3rd day of October, 2023.