



**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
September 3, 2024**

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

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

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

**Administrative Staff Present:** Kelly Manke, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services; Kayla Wasley, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Michelle Dawson, Coordinator of Community Engagement; Geoff Warner, Chief Technology Officer; Chris Connor, Director of Elementary Education; Jason Krolikowski, Director of Secondary Education; Amy Robbins, Executive Director of Human Resources; Ross Volker, Maintenance Manager; Glenn Sherman, Director of Maintenance, Operations and Facilities; Clark Conover, Principal of Granada High School; and, Dr. Torie F. Gibson, Superintendent.

**Student Board Member Representative Present:** Addie Hart representing Livermore High School and Gabriel Benitez representing Granada High School.

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

The meeting was called to order by President Prusso.

**2.0 6:00 P.M. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session by President Prusso.

The Board adjourned to Closed Session to discuss items 2.1 through 2.7. Staff in attendance included: Torie F. Gibson, Superintendent; Kelly Manke, Assistant Superintendent; Kayla Wasley, Assistant Superintendent; Emily Prusso, Board President; Kristie Wang, Board Clerk; and Board Members Craig Bueno and Yanira Guzmán .

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

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

2.3 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

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

2.5 Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Government Code Section 54956.8) Property APN No. 905-10-22 (333 N. Canyons Parkway), in Livermore California Agency Negotiators: Torie Gibson, Kim McNeely, Negotiating Parties: LVJUSD and HDP Family Partnership. Under Negotiation: Price and Terms.

2.6 Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Government Code Section 54956.8) Property APN No. 905-10-21 (365 N. Canyons Parkway), in Livermore California Agency Negotiators: Torie Gibson, Kim McNeely, Negotiating Parties: LVJUSD and Franmar Company LLP and Caliente Cowboss LLC. Under Negotiation: Price and Terms.

2.7 Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Government Code Section 54956.8) Property APN No. 904-2-26 (333 N. 685 E. Jack London Blvd.), APN No. 97-88-94 (1040 Florence Road), in Livermore California Agency Negotiators: Torie Gibson, Kim McNeely, Negotiating Parties: LVJUSD and Shea Homes. Under Negotiation: Price and Terms.

### **3.0 7:28 P.M. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

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

3.2 The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Student Board Members, Addie Hart representing Livermore High School and Gabriel Benitez representing Granada High School.

3.3 Actions approved in Closed Session - None

3.4 The Board voted on the recommended expulsion - None

3.5 Meeting Procedures - President Prusso 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

No changes to the Agenda.

### **5.0 RECOGNITIONS**

5.1 Celebrating the Start of the School Year

Ms. Michelle Dawson, Coordinator of Community Engagement, presented a slideshow celebrating the start of the school year with pictures of District events, school events, classrooms, sporting events, activities and smiling students.

## **6.0 STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS REPORT**

### 6.1 Oath of Office / Code of Ethics for New Student Board Member Representatives

Ms. Kelly Manke, Assistant Superintendent, administered the Oath of Office / Code of Ethics to our new student board members, Addie Hart from Livermore High School, and Gabriel Benitez from Granada High School.

### 6.2 Student Board Member Representatives will report on their school activities

Gabriel Benitez - Granada High School (GHS) reported that he was very excited to give his first report on Granada High School for a School Board Meeting. He shared that so far the school year was going well, with teachers, students and administration alike, beginning to settle into the groove of this new schedule.

Activities have begun to pick up in Matador Nation, with their very first freshman rally happening on the first Friday of the school year. Followed by their first spirit week of the year, with themes like 'dress like your parent day,' and, 'tacky tourist day,' and ending on "Black and Gold Friday" with their welcome back rally. They got hyped up for the upcoming school year.

As for academics, they have a handful of new classes this year, such as IB Business and Management and AP macro/microeconomics, with teachers eagerly introducing new material.

In the Athletic Department, their Matador and Lady matador sports have finished scrimmaging and the real season is starting up. Kickoff to the boys' football season was last Friday with a game against Monte Vista in Danville. This Friday Granada is their first home football game. There is great energy and excitement for Friday night lights at Granada, especially because their new football coach is an on-campus teacher. Coming off of loads of success at the CIF State meet last year, their cross-country team is gearing up for their first invitational in San Francisco on the 7th. Their girls' flag football team has their first game against Amador.

Lastly, he shared that he can't forget about the parents. They had a successful Back to School Night this past Wednesday, with parents meeting all the teachers and seeing what's happening at Granada.

Now, after a restful three-day weekend, he noted that he is thrilled to say that people are happy to be at school, and that he is honored to be sitting in this position for the first time. He thanked all, and wished all a good night.

Addie Hart - Livermore High School (LHS) reported that they had their first pep rally on August 23rd. She shared that it went well and students had a lot of fun getting excited for fall sports. Their cheer and dance teams performed as well.

They have their first home football game on September 6th against Castro Valley. It will be a tribute to Coach Baswell.

Their first Flag Football game of the season is at Monte Vista on September 3rd.

She also shared that the First Responders Football game is September 9th. All Fall Varsity Sports will be wearing special edition red, white, and blue jerseys this week as well.

Girls Varsity Water Polo won their home game on August 27th against Alameda 14 to 7, and had a tournament this past weekend.

Softball stadium construction is well under way and should be ready by the Spring season.

Back to School Night was well-attended. This year, parents were able to meet their students' teachers whom they will have all year.

LHS passed their William's audit with 0 insufficiencies. This means that students have access to all of the course materials that are required for classes.

Community Service Day is on September 7th. Citizens of the community are coming to help beautify the campus with projects determined by the school.

Their Senior Picnic is on September 16th at Great Wolf Lodge.

She congratulated GEA Juniors, Anthony Edwards and Greta Fick-Furlotte, for receiving the Engineers Alliance for the Arts \$1,000 Scholarship.

## **7.0 EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

### **7.1 Employee Associations will report on activities**

Ms. Aimee Thompson, President of the Livermore Education Association, representing teachers, nurses, counselors, psychologists, speech pathologists and teachers on special assignment commented.

Ms. Thompson shared that at the July 30th Board Meeting she reported that they were preparing for new hire orientation. She was pleased to report that the new hire orientation went well, and 80% of participants said the presentation from LEA was helpful.

She went on to share that many of their members volunteered their time before the start of the work year to participate in meet and greet events and to hand out student schedules, helping to provide a smooth start to the school year for students. She noted that the first day of school went well. Teachers had the opportunity to share information with parents at Back to School Night events. She shared that there had been a few hiccups with the new high school schedule, but that has been worked out together to get them resolved.

She is interested to see the unaudited actual report for last year when it is released. At the end of last year, she mentioned that Mr. Van Schaack reported a \$4.5 million structural deficit in the budget. And noted that it will be interesting to see what light is shed on that situation with the actual numbers.

Ms. Thompson shared that the enrollment and staffing report shows that there is a decline in enrollment of 59 students, and a decline in Livermore Education Association (LEA) bargaining unit positions (teachers) of 21 people. She compared data from the past 2 years, and said that she saw that the net decline in student enrollment is 38 students and the net decline in LEA positions of 44 people. She shared that she was unsure what, if any, conclusions can be drawn from this data since it is a count of the number of employees, and not of the number of jobs. Apparently, last year the number of LEA members from this report decreased by 23 people, but that somehow resulted in a net increase of 9 positions.

She closed by stating that one might draw the conclusion that more than half of the structural budget deficit has been solved by reducing the number of teachers- but more specific information is needed.

## **8.0 COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC**

### A) Audience Communication

None

### B) Correspondence

Board Clerk Kristie Wang announced that there were three Board Correspondences:

1. Ethan Sadkowski, Greta Fick-Furlotte, Annabella Piazza, Emily Couch, Pehnina-Shannelle Faataualofa, Ezra Raskin, Keylan Orr-Ellis and L Xu - Students, asked the Board to reconsider placing Drama to a zero or 9th period course.
2. Lainie Pascall, Parent, commented regarding internal cameras at East Ave Middle School.
3. Dawn Wantroba, Parent, also commented regarding internal cameras at East Ave Middle School.

## **9.0 INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

9.1 Summer Projects for Maintenance, Operations, and Facilities (MOF) Department 2024

Mr. Glenn Sherman, Director of MOF, and Ross Volker, Maintenance Manager, presented the Summer Projects for Maintenance, Operations, and Facilities (MOF) Department 2024, for information only.

Public Comments: None

9.2 Enrollment and Staffing Report - SY 2024/2025

Ms. Kelly Manke, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services, presented the Enrollment and Staffing Report - SY 2024/2025, for information only.

A correction was made to page 4 of the Enrollment and Staffing Report PowerPoint. Day 10 Enrollment numbers from the 2022-2023 year were inadvertently placed under 2023-2024. A corrected copy of the PowerPoint was uploaded to Agenda Item No. 9.2.

Public Comments: None

**10.0 DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS**

10.1 Naming of the Granada High School (GHS) Stadium

Mr. Clark Conover, Principal of GHS, presented the Naming of the GHS Stadium, for Board approval.

The Board selected ‘Kevin Drake Stadium’ as the name of the GHS Stadium.

Superintendent Gibson recommended that GHS celebrate the naming with the Drake Family.

Public Comments: None

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **Emily Prusso** Moved, and Member **Yanira Guzmán** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion to ‘Adopt the name of the Granada High School Stadium.’ Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 4 - 0.

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

10.2 Approval of the Employment Agreement for Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

Ms. Amy Robbins, Executive Director of Human Resources, presented the Approval of the Employment Agreement for Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, for Board approval.

Ms. Amy Robbins read out the following:

'This item is the Board's discussion and possible approval of a contract of employment with Michelle Pechette as the new Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services in our District. The proposed contract contains the following material terms:

1. The term is from October 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027.
2. The annual base salary is \$256,386 for 12 months of full-time service, with annual step increase or decrease equal to that granted to membership of the Leadership Team for the duration of this agreement. When only a portion of any month or year is served, the Assistant Superintendent's salary shall be prorated to reflect such service.
3. The Assistant Superintendent shall be annually entitled to the same annual stipend for earned Master's and/or Doctorate degrees as other members of the Leadership Management Association.
4. The Assistant Superintendent shall receive the same holidays as provided to other District employees.
5. The Assistant Superintendent shall be reimbursed for travel outside of the county in accordance with Board Policy.
6. The Assistant Superintendent shall be provided with health and welfare, including vision and dental, insurance coverage with premium costs paid by the District to the same extent as such coverage is afforded to Leadership Management Association members.
7. The District shall provide the Assistant Superintendent at District's expense, with a fully paid term life insurance policy in the face amount of \$200,000.
8. In the event the Board decides to terminate the contract without cause, the Assistant Superintendent will be entitled to compensation equaling her then current base salary for the lesser of 12 months or the remaining term of her contract.

That concludes the summary of the contract. A full copy may be reviewed on the District website as an attachment to this agenda item and is available from the District office upon request.'

Public Comments: None

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **Craig Bueno** Moved, and Member **Yanira Guzmán** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion to 'Approve the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 4 - 0.

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

### 10.3 Approval of Addendum to the Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services' Employment Agreement

Ms. Amy Robbins, Executive Director of Human Resources, presented the Approval of Addendum to the Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services' Employment Agreement, for Board approval.

Ms. Amy Robbins read out the following:

'Having received a satisfactory evaluation for 2023-24, the Employment Agreement of the Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services shall be extended for one year. All other terms and conditions of the agreement remain in effect.

Per Paragraph 1 and Paragraph 3 of the Agreement, the Assistant Superintendent's annual salary for the 2024-2025 school year shall be Two Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand and Three Hundred Eighty-Six Dollars (\$256,386)

The Superintendent's recommendation is to Approve the extension to the Asst. Superintendent of Administrative Services' Employee Agreement.'

Public Comments: None

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **Yanira Guzmán** Moved, and Member **Kristie Wang** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion to 'Approve the Addendum to the Employee Agreement for the Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 4 - 0.

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

#### **11.0 CONSENT ITEMS - MOTIONS**

11.1 Approval of Employment of Personnel

11.2 Approval of Leaves of Absence

11.3 Confirmation of Resignations/Retirements

11.4 Approval of Employment of Extracurricular Coaches, 2024/2025

11.5 Approval of Consultant - Timothy Bowen for ELOP

11.6 Approval of Revised Job Descriptions - Livermore Management Association (LMA)

11.7 Ratification of Non-Public Agency Contracts for Resolution No. 087-23/24

11.8 Ratification of Non-Public School Contracts for Resolution No. 087-23/24

11.9 Ratification of Non-Public School Contracts



- 11.10 Approval of Non-Public Agency Contracts
- 11.11 Approval of Special Education Transportation Contract Amendment with First Student, Inc.
- 11.12 Approval to Retain Legal Services for the 2024-2025 School Year - Perry & Villarreal, LLP
- 11.13 Measure J Bond Program Contract Amendment/Change Order Ratification
- 11.14 Approval of the August 6, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Public Comments: None

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **Kristie Wang** Moved, and Member **Yanira Guzmán** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion to ‘Approve Consent Items - Motions No. 11.1 through 11.9.’ Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 4 - 0.

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

**12.0 CONSENT ITEMS - RESOLUTIONS**

12.1 Resolution No. 006-24/25, Acceptance of the Granada High School Varsity Softball Field Rehabilitation Project - Notice of Completion

Public Comments: None

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **Yanira Guzmán** Moved, and Member **Kristie Wang** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion to ‘Adopt, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 006-24/25, Acceptance of the Granada High School Varsity Softball Field Rehabilitation Project - Notice of Completion.’ Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 4 - 0.

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

**13.0 CONSENT ITEMS REMOVED FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION/VOTE**

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

None

## 14.0 BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND REQUESTS

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

Trustee Steven Drouin was absent.

Trustee Yanira Guzmán shared that she believes that August was a very long month. The school year was off to a great start. She had an opportunity to be a parent by attending Back to School Night. She noted that if you have a middle school child, it was loud and clear that the teachers are asking that the students please wear deodorant. She was curious to hear about the 'dress like your parents' day,' and said that that sounds very fun, especially since she is very stylish.

Trustee Kristie Wang shared that she attended some of the beginning of the school year Meet and Greet for staff. She acknowledged that the first day of school was great. She stopped at a few schools and enjoyed the staff social at the end of the first day of school. She had a great time at Marilyn Ave., and was invited to speak to third graders about the local elections and why it is important to vote. Committee meetings have started: Intergovernmental, Policy, Math Task Force. She attended Back to School Night.

She wanted to let the community know about an organization: Asian Pacific islander American public affairs association. They do summer internships for students to be placed in elected offices and local government. County and State, to learn what they do. She said it was a really great program. Every year she tries to get Livermore students to apply. It's a great summer opportunity, and she would like to see Livermore students to apply. Applications are due in January. Check her social media or email her for information.

Saturday is Community Service Day.

The Editor of one of our local newspapers is doing a two part series about [media](#) literacy at the Library starting this coming Saturday at 2pm, and the following Saturday at 2pm. The first Science on Saturday is September 14th at Stockman's Park, 10am-1pm.

Trustee Craig Bueno shared that he attended the same meetings, and Back to School events. He mentioned that there has been a lot of correspondence going back and forth and a high level of passion for the Arts in this community. He gave credit to the folks who run this place, our Superintendent and the leadership with the locals, LEA and everyone who came together and worked through it. We are going to do what's best for kids. That is the mission of this District. This Board has maintained consistent leadership, and through that leadership goals are met, and expectations of the community. He thanked all the partners who worked through that. He thanked some of the candidates for expressing their interest, and thanked them for attending the meetings so that they can get up to speed.

President Emily Prusso began by sharing that she also wanted to hear about 'wear what your parents wear.' She said that in the past her kids have worn her letterman's jacket because she always wears it. She was able to go to the first day of school, and spend time at LHS and CMS. They were all able to welcome the new teachers and go to the Meet and Greet with staff.

She was also able to go to Back to School Night, Junction Ave., and Livermore High School. This is her last Back to School Night as a parent, and she was quite emotional. She was able to go to the Math task Force where she is learning Algebra. She was able to go and visit with the teacher of the Year, Ms. Albornoz, at Lawrence Elementary. She shared that she is an amazing teacher.

President Prusso asked to take a moment to thank the entire Community for their patience and understanding as 'we get our sea legs back.' We are all adjusting to our new school schedule, and that can be challenging. She also knows that we are adjusting to a new high school schedule. She feels we have a lot of support from our Community and are making steady progress. She extended a heart-felt thank you to the incredible teachers and administrators. And noted that their dedication and hard work does not go unnoticed, and that they have navigated these changes with grace and ensured that our students can continue to receive the quality education that they deserve. She is also very excited to get back into the swing of things with Homecoming, football games and athletics. She has already been to 4 water polo games. All of those activities bring our Community together. If there is a home game for Livermore Football... She will be there, and will definitely be at the GHS/LHS football game.

She closed by sharing that these events are the heartbeat of our schools, and the heartbeat of our Community. She is very excited to start the year with a strong foundation. She thanked all for being part of the journey.

## **15.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### 15.1 The Superintendent reported on District activities

Superintendent Gibson began her report by sharing that it was a great start to the school year.

She attended a lot of the same events that the Board Members attended. She shared a few highlights.

Dr. Gibson visited Ms. Albornoz's classroom where the kids taught her the different ways to solve a math problem.

She has made it to all sites for 1:1 visits with principals.

She gave a shout out to the LEA Leadership. And shared that they have had a few little bumps in the road, but they have been wonderful coming to the table to solve scheduling issues and some other things. They were able to problem solve so that they can do what's best for students.

She announced that for the record, under no circumstance, was there ever a plan to cut Art programs.

Dr. Gibson welcomed Kayla Wasley, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, as this was her first meeting. She has hit the ground running and has been extraordinarily busy.

She also shared information about the interviews for the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services position.

Dr. Gibson looks forward to welcoming Mrs. Michelle Pechette, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, on October 1st.

**16.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, President Emily Prusso adjourned the Meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Board President

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Board Clerk

Approved and entered into the proceedings of this Board this 17th day of September, 2024.