



**Reed Union School District
Minutes**

REGULAR MEETING

September 15, 2020

Closed Session: 5:00 PM

Open Session: 6:00 PM

This meeting was held pursuant to Executive Order N-25-20 issued by California Governor Gavin Newsom on March 12, 2020. All Board Members and the Administration attended the meeting virtually. Members of the public could attend by logging on or dialing in to listen, view presented documents and provide public comment during the designated portion of the meeting.

A. Convene to Open Session/Public Meeting - 5:00 PM

Minutes:

Trustees convened in Open Session virtually from their respective locations at 5:01 PM.

B. Public Comment on Closed Session Items

Minutes:

One member of the public commented to the Trustees and Administration prior to Closed Session.

Carolyn Balfe - Reed Teacher

C. Recess to Closed Session to Consider and/or Take Action Upon

Minutes:

Trustees recessed to Closed Session at 5:05 PM.

C.1. Conference with Labor Negotiator (Dr. Nancy Lynch) Pursuant to Government Code 54957.6 Reed District Teachers' Association (RDTA) and California School Employee Association (CSEA) Chapter #448

D. Convene in Open Session - 6:00 PM

Minutes:

Trustees reconvened in Open Session at 6:01 PM.

E. Pledge of Allegiance

F. Roll Call

Minutes:

All Trustees were present.

G. Report from Closed Session

Minutes:

Board President Sherry Wangenheim stated there was nothing reportable from Closed Session.

H. Approval of Agenda

Motion Passed: It is recommended the Board approve the agenda. Passed with a motion by A. J. Brady and a second by Liz Webb.

Yes A. J. Brady

Yes Amy Jacobs

Yes Sherry Wangenheim

Yes Liz Webb

Yes Afsaneh Zolfaghari

Minutes:

The agenda was approved with a Roll Call vote.

I. Public Comment

Minutes:

Due to the virtual nature of the Board meeting, individuals that wished to make a Public Comment were asked to email Chief Business Official Carlos Estrella of their intent prior to the beginning of the Open Session. President Wangenheim reviewed the required Public Comment Procedures from the Brown Act as noted in the Board Agenda.

The meeting was then opened for Public Comment and the following individuals commented via teleconference:

1. Carolyn Balfe - Reed Teacher
2. Mark Leary - Parent
3. Chuck Hornbrook - Parent

Ms. Balfe thanked all stakeholders in the current discussions regarding returning to in-person instruction and encouraged the Trustees to establish a "No sooner than" start date as she feels seasonal factors are likely to again accelerate the spread of COVID-19.

Mr. Leary stated that we need to have everyone, teachers and children, to be in school safely for their emotional well-being, and that other essential businesses are functioning effectively with protections in place.

Mr. Hornbrook felt that another survey was needed to get wider information on the effectiveness of the current distance learning program, and that all should remember that we are still in a pandemic when deciding the timing of moving between the Phases.

President Wangenheim thanked the Public for their comments and closed the Public Comment time.

J. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion Passed: It is recommended the Board approve the Consent Agenda. Passed with a motion by A. J. Brady and a second by Amy Jacobs.

Yes A. J. Brady
Yes Amy Jacobs
Yes Sherry Wangenheim
Yes Liz Webb
Yes Afsaneh Zolfaghari

Minutes:

Trustees voted to approve the Consent Agenda with a Roll Call vote.

J.1. Approval of Personnel Report

J.2. Approval of Warrants

J.3. Disposal of Surplus or Obsolete Equipment or Instructional Materials

J.4. Approval of the 2020-2021 RUSD School Calendar

K. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

Minutes:

No items were removed from the Consent Agenda.

L. Approval of the Minutes of the July 27, 2020 and August 6, 2020 Special Meetings

Motion Passed: It is recommended the Board approve the minutes of the July 27, 2020 and August 6, 2020 Special Meetings. Passed with a motion by A. J. Brady and a second by Liz Webb.

Yes A. J. Brady
Yes Amy Jacobs
Yes Sherry Wangenheim

Yes Liz Webb
Yes Afsaneh Zolfaghari

Minutes:

Trustees approved the Minutes of the July 27, 2020 and August 6, 2020 Special Meetings with a Roll Call vote.

M. Information Items

M.1. Reports from PTA and The Foundation for Reed Schools

Minutes:

Ms. Becky Miller, PTA President, stated that due to the pandemic PTA dues are their primary source of fundraising, and she encouraged all families to join the PTA to support activities at the schools. She also presented a number of new initiatives they are developing and implementing to adapt to the current conditions.

Ms. Christina Bosch, Executive Director of the Foundation for Reed Schools, thanked families for their high level of response to the recent Foundation survey, and said that a video will be released to respond to the survey inputs. She encouraged families to invest in the Family Giving Campaign which will launch soon, and to look for Foundation material that will arrive in mailboxes this week.

M.2. Information from the Board of Trustees

Minutes:

Trustees attended a number of events as the school year began, including Superintendent Coffee Chats, School PTA meetings, and virtual Back-to-School nights along with Yellow Bus JPA and Communications Committee meetings. They reported that the distance learning feedback they had received, along with the distance learning they had seen with their own families, was positive and an improvement over the earlier emergency efforts in the spring.

President Wangenheim and Trustee Zolfaghari commented on the recent hate speech incident at a local high school and encouraged all to have the difficult conversations with students at home and at school to teach and reinforce that hate speech is never acceptable.

President Wangenheim thanked the four candidates who have filed for the two open seats on the Board of Trustees in the upcoming November 3 election.

She also encouraged the RUSD community to remain vigilant with regards to COVID-19, even if things are beginning to feel more normal, and stated that if parents want their children back in school the best way to help accelerate the schedule is to enforce the safety protocols at home and away from school

with their children.

M.3. Report from the Superintendent

Minutes:

Superintendent Dr. Nancy Lynch reported that the community feedback on the new distance learning program had been quite positive, and that next week a distance learning survey would be going out to parents, students and staff now that they have over three weeks of experience with the program.

Superintendent Lynch also commented on the recent hate speech issues at the local high school district and said a letter will be sent to families regarding the situation tomorrow. She strongly stated that RUSD will be part of the solution and process to address this issue, and that we are in support of the high school district and their efforts.

M.4. COVID-19 Update

Minutes:

Superintendent Lynch reported that the School Site Specific Protection Plans have been completed for each school and are expected to be reviewed and approved this week by Marin Public Health and to be posted at each school site and on the District website.

Earlier in the day it was announced that Marin County had been approved by the state to advance from the purple Tier 1 to the red Tier 2 in regard to the spread of COVID-19. Superintendent Lynch explained that if Marin County remains in the Tier 2 for the next two weeks that Phase 2 in-person instruction could begin as early as Tuesday, September 29. She recommended that the District prepare to move to Phase 2 on Monday, October 5, which will allow time to send material to parents and students on what Phase 2 school will look like and their responsibilities as students return to the schools. This will also provide time to refresh staff training on the protocols and safety measures to be followed. She also reported that a COVID-190 Student and Family Handbook is in the final stages of development and will be sent to families this week via Actionaly.

Superintendent Lynch then responded to questions from the Trustees.

M.5. Extended Distance Learning Program Update

Minutes:

Superintendent Lynch reported that during the first week of school the Acellus Platform, which was being used as the foundation for the Extended Distance Learning (ExDL) program, was discovered to have some unacceptable racist and sexist tones in the material and was immediately terminated. Ms. Ashley Williams, Coordinator of Special Projects and Teacher on Special Assignment, then presented the criteria and selection process for the replacement platform, announcing that Accelerate Education meets the

District standards and will be piloted as the new core of the ExDL program. Administrative and teacher training with Accelerate Education has begun and it will be implemented as soon as possible.

Superintendent Lynch and Ms. Williams then responded to Trustee questions.

M.6. Reports from the Administrative Team

Minutes:

Principals Mr. Brian Lynch, Principal at Del Mar Middle School, Ms. Lexie Cala, Principal at Bel Aire Elementary School, and Dr. Mary Niesyn, Principal at Reed Elementary School, reported on the start of the school year at their respective schools. All reported that the distance learning experience has been very positive to this point, and that they are proud of their students, families and staff for all of their efforts to make the start of the school year so successful.

M.7. Enrollment Report

Minutes:

Superintendent Lynch presented the updated enrollment report, which now reflects ExDL student enrollment separately from the traditional student enrollment.

N. Public Comment

Minutes:

No Public Comment was made at this time.

O. Trustee Considerations

O.1. PUBLIC HEARING: 2020/2021 Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan (LeCAP)

Minutes:

A Public Hearing was held on the 2020/2021 Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan as presented by Superintendent Lynch.

There were no public comments during the Public Hearing.

O.2. Approval of the 2019-2020 Unaudited Financial Report

Motion Passed: It is recommended the Board approve the Unaudited Financial Report for 2019-2020. Passed with a motion by A. J. Brady and a second by Liz Webb.

Yes A. J. Brady

Yes Amy Jacobs

Yes Sherry Wangenheim

Yes Liz Webb

Yes Afsaneh Zolfaghari

Minutes:

Chief Business Official Mr. Carlos Estrella presented information regarding the 2019-2020 Unaudited Financial Report and responded to Trustee questions.

The 2019-2020 Unaudited Financial report was approved with a Roll Call vote.

O.3. Adoption of the Gann Limit Resolution No. 02-2020/2021

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board approve the Gann Limit calculation and the resolution for Adopting the Gann Limit. Passed with a motion by A. J. Brady and a second by Afsaneh Zolfaghari.

Yes A. J. Brady

Yes Amy Jacobs

Yes Sherry Wangenheim

Yes Liz Webb

Yes Afsaneh Zolfaghari

Minutes:

Mr. Estrella presented the background of the annual Gann requirement and responded to Trustee questions.

Board Resolution No. 02-2020/2021 Gann Limit Resolution was approved with a Roll Call vote.

O.4. Approval of Fundraising Activities for the 2020-2021 School Year.

Motion Passed: The Board annually reviews and approves fund raising activities by the school sites, PTA, and The Foundation for Reed Schools. The list of activities is attached for review and approval. Passed with a motion by Afsaneh Zolfaghari and a second by A. J. Brady.

Yes A. J. Brady

Yes Amy Jacobs

Yes Sherry Wangenheim

Yes Liz Webb

Yes Afsaneh Zolfaghari

Minutes:

Superintendent Lynch presented the Fundraising Activities 2020-2021 document and it was approved with a Roll Call vote.

O.5. PUBLIC HEARING: Sufficiency of Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Minutes:

A Public Hearing was held regarding the District's sufficiency of textbooks and

instructional materials. There were no Public Comments.

O.6. Approval of Resolution No. 03-2020/2021, Sufficiency of Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Motion Passed: Approval of Resolution No. 03-2020/2021, Sufficiency of Textbooks and Instructional Materials. Passed with a motion by Afsaneh Zolfaghari and a second by A. J. Brady.

Yes A. J. Brady
Yes Amy Jacobs
Yes Sherry Wangenheim
Yes Liz Webb
Yes Afsaneh Zolfaghari

Minutes:

After completion of the Public Hearing, Board Resolution No. 03-2020/2021 Sufficiency of Textbooks and Instructional Materials, was approved with a Roll Call vote.

O.7. Future Items for Trustee Consideration

Minutes:

Trustee Zolfaghari requested that a Communications Committee update be made at the October Regular Board Meeting.

Trustee Jacobs requested a summary of the Distance Learning survey results and the October Regular Board Meeting and a report on student assessment results at the November Regular Board Meeting. She also wanted a Discussion Item regarding the number of District Committees and how they can be used to get more parent and teacher engagement.

P. Conclusion

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.

