MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, January 24, 2018

Adopted

OPEN SESSION – The meeting was called to order by Ms. Chaires Espinoza at 5:05 p.m. in the Board Room of the Education Center.

Members Present: Nancy Chaires Espinoza, President; Beth Albiani, Clerk; Carmine Forcina, Chet Madison, Sr. and Bobbie Singh-Allen; Absent: Crystal Martinez-Alire, Anthony Perez

Others Present: Christopher R. Hoffman, Superintendent; Mark Cerutti and Robert Pierce, Deputy Superintendents; Donna Cherry, David Reilly, Associate Superintendents and Shannon Hayes, Chief Financial Officer.

I. Pledge of Allegiance–Joseph Kerr Middle School – Ms. Rochelle Edwards, Joseph Kerr Middle School’s Education Partner, led the pledge of allegiance and was recognized by the Board of Education for her contributions.

II. Presentations/Recognitions

1. High School Student Representative Reports–Cosumnes Oaks, William Daylor, and Laguna Creek High Schools – Students from Cosumnes Oaks, William Daylor and Laguna Creek High School reported on activities and academics at their schools.

2. Recognition of the 2017-2018 District Spelling Bee Winners – The Board recognized the 2017-18 District Spelling Bee winners; Matthew Agustin, a 7th grade student from Edward Harris Jr. Middle School and this year’s runner up, J Lana, a 6th grade student from Arlene Hein Elementary School.

3. Arlene Hein Elementary School-2017 National Blue Ribbon School – The entire Arlene Hein Elementary team, led by Principal Lynne Mayer and Vice Principal Diane Davis Quidgeon, was recognized for their hard work resulting in an award winning application naming Arlene Hein Elementary School a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School.


III. Resolutions

1. Day of Remembrance – Motion No. 52, 2017-18, Motion by Mr. Forcina, seconded by Ms. Singh-Allen and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that Resolution No. 46, reaffirming the Day of Remembrance Resolution, which declares annually a “Day of Remembrance” across the Elk Grove Unified School District, be adopted. Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Madison, and Singh-Allen; Noes – None; Absent – Martinez-Alire, Perez

2. African-American History Month – Motion No. 53, 2017-18, Motion by Mr. Madison, seconded by Mr. Forcina and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that Resolution No. 45, designating February 2018 as African-American History Month, be adopted. Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Madison, and Singh-Allen; Noes – None; Absent – Martinez-Alire, Perez
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3. Career Technical Education Month – Motion No. 54, 2017-18, Motion by Ms. Singh-Allen, seconded by Mr. Forcina and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that Resolution No. 43, designating February 2018 as Career Technical Education Month, be adopted. Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Madison, and Singh-Allen; Noes – None; Absent – Martinez-Alire, Perez

IV. Student Expulsion/Involuntary Transfer Recommendations
1. Request for Student Expulsions
Motion No. 55, 2017-18 – Motion by Mr. Forcina, seconded by Ms. Singh-Allen and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that the Hearing Panel’s recommendations regarding student expulsions be approved. Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Madison, and Singh-Allen; Noes – None; Absent – Martinez-Alire, Perez

V. Discussion/Action Items
1. Gateway Community Charters for the Elk Grove Unified School District to authorize the Sacramento Academic and Vocational Academy (SAVA-EG) Petition – The Board of Education was asked to approve or deny a petition from Gateway Community Charters (GCC) for EGUSD to authorize Sacramento Academic and Vocational Academy in Elk Grove (SAVA-EG).

At the December 5, 2017, Governing Board meeting, Elk Grove Unified School District staff and legal counsel shared findings based on their review of the charter petition submitted by Gateway Community Charters (GCC) proposing the authorization of a Sacramento Academic and Vocational Academy-Elk Grove school (SAVA-EG). Since December 5, 2017, EGUSD staff have been working with SAVA and GCC staff to address concerns and gather more information.

EGUSD, SAVA-EG will be a school within GCC, which has been in operation since 2003 and currently serves over 4,500 TK through 12th grade students throughout the Sacramento region. GCC has managed a SAVA Charter for 10 years that is authorized by Twin Rivers Unified School District (TRUSD) and currently operates four resource centers, one of which is within the boundaries of EGUSD. However, in Anderson Union High School District v. Shasta Secondary Home School (2016) 4 Cal.App.5th 262, the California Court of Appeals held that the geographic and site limitations of the Charter Schools Act are applicable to all charter schools, including non-classroom based programs, such as SAVA. Therefore, GCC needs authorization by EGUSD to operate its SAVA-EG school.

SAVA’s mission is “to be a public, non-classroom-based charter school with a career and vocational emphasis.” It is open to all students who wish to attend and has a special focus on serving the following student populations: high-risk, out-of-school youth; disenfranchised students including wards of the court; dropouts and pregnant/parenting teens; students who have not been successful in traditional schools for a variety of reasons; and 5th-year seniors. In 2016-17, SAVA enrolled 519 students with EGUSD addresses throughout its system among its total enrollment of 928. The enrollment at SAVA-EGUSD was 456.

Public Comments:
Jason Sample of Gateway Community Charters thanked the Board and provided them with a copy of the revised petition.

Ricketa Bluford, Zelia Jong, Greg Mitchell, Mariah Theroux, Laurie Lorenzo spoke of the positive experiences and the difference SAVA has made in their lives.
The Board thanked and recognized the staff at SAVA for the great work and services they provide to students.

Motion No. 56, 2017-18 – Motion by Ms. Singh-Allen, seconded by Mr. Forcina and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that the petition from Gateway Community Charters for EGUSD to authorize Sacramento Academic and Vocational Academy in Elk Grove be approved. Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Madison, and Singh-Allen; Noes – None; Absent – Martinez-Alire, Perez

VI. Consent Agenda-Action | Motion No. 57, 2017-18 – Motion by Ms. Albiani, seconded by Mr. Madison and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that item number 1 be approved. Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Madison, and Singh-Allen; Noes – None; Absent – Martinez-Alire, Perez

1. Board Member Absence – Approved Resolution No. 47, 2017-18 authorizing payment of the monthly compensation to Carmine Forcina for a meeting missed on January 16, 2018, due to illness.

VII. Public Comment
Amar Shergill requested that the District move to a one-person, one-vote system.

Debbie Roberts, teacher at Sheldon High School invited the Board to attend Universal Rhythm’s 20th Anniversary performance.

Clinton Chrisman thanked the Board for the special board meeting held on January 16. He thought that listening to the parents was important so that together the District can move forward. He offered to assist and be part of committees.

Danny Williams offered his assistance as we move forward to make change in the District and would like to see the discussion continue. Mr. Williams provided the Board with a community publication and stated that he would like to assist in bringing back African American curriculum.

Audrea Williams offered her assistance and would like to provide resources for African-American families and ethnic communities. Ms. Williams requested the opportunity to provide a presentation to the Board.

Lorraine Pryor referenced a program called Images that she participated in at Valley High School when she was a student. The curriculum came from the Department of Education and she stated that this program changed her life as a student. Ms. Pryor asked the Board for their support and invited them to the Black Leadership Project’s 19th annual legislative open house on Friday, March 16, where they will be talking about racism and the effects on campus climate and requested that black students also attend on that day; she will provide more information. She offered her assistance to be a part of the solution.

Allegra Taylor asked if the Board is making changes district-wide with the racism that is occurring. Ms. Taylor requested information about how her group of 15 mothers can get clearance to volunteer on EGUSD campuses. She asked that during Black History Month students be taught about African Americans who have contributed to this country other than Martin Luther King and slavery.
VIII.  LCAP Update – None

IX.  Budget Update – None

X.  Facilities Update – None

XI.  Bargaining Units – None

XII.  Reports – None

XIII.  Public Hearing/Action Items – None

XIV.  Discussion Items

1.  Elementary School Calendar Discussion – Donna Cherry and Robert Pierce provided the Board with information of possible school calendar conversions for 2019-2020. The report consisted of enrollment and projections data and a timeline to complete the school calendar conversion process.

The recommendations for the 2019-2020 school year are as follows:

- Transition Elitha Donner and Joseph Sims Elementary Schools from Multi-Track Year-Round to Traditional calendars.
- Transition Maeola Beitzel Elementary School from Modified Traditional to a Multi-Track Year-Round calendar.
- Transition Mary Tsukamoto Elementary School from a Traditional to a Multi-Track Year-Round Calendar.

Timeline to Transition:

- January 2019 • For transition to Multi-Track Year Round Calendars only – Provide once a week public notice as required by Ed Code 37611. Whenever the governing board of any school district, pursuant to Section 37610, determines to operate one or more schools of the district on a continuous school program in such a manner as to require any pupil to enroll in a continuous school program, it shall publish, not later than November 1 of the school year preceding the commencement of such a program, its intention to operate a continuous school program in such a manner as to require any pupil to enroll in a continuous school program in a newspaper of general circulation within the district, or if there is no such newspaper, then in any newspaper of general circulation that is regularly circulated in the district. Publication of notice pursuant to this section shall be once each week for three successive weeks. Three publications in a newspaper regularly published once a week or more often, with at least five days intervening between the respective publication date not counting such publication dates, are sufficient.
- February 2019 • Hold random selection process to determine track assignments or notify parents of track assignments.
- July 2019 • Start of new school year for Multi-Track Year Round schools.
- August 2019 • Start of new school year for Traditional and Modified Traditional schools

The Board held a discussion where they shared that they appreciated the timeline and the random selection process. They all agreed that it’s important to share information with communities in advance.
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XV. Action Items – None

XVI. Board Member and Superintendent Reports – The Superintendent reported on organization and committee meetings and information relative to the District and its operation.

XVII. Information Items

1. Other Items from the Floor – Ms. Singh-Allen requested someone on staff to have further conversations with Mr. and Mrs. Williams. She thanked them for the work that they do and expressed her support.

XVIII. Adjournment – 7:42 p.m.

Submitted by: Christopher R. Hoffman, Superintendent

Approved by: Beth Albiani, Clerk
February 6, 2018