MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, May 4, 2021

Adopted

Members Present: Beth Albiani, President; Crystal Martinez-Alire, Clerk; Nancy Chaires Espinoza, Carmine Forcina, Gina Jamerson, Anthony Perez and Sean Yang

Others Present: Christopher R. Hoffman, Superintendent; Robert Pierce and Mark Cerutti, Deputy Superintendents; David Reilly, Associate Superintendent; Bindy Grewal and Craig Murray, Assistant Superintendents; Amreek Singh, Chief Human Resources Officer; Shannon Hayes, Chief Financial Officer; Steve Mate, Chief Technology Officer, Xanthi Soriano, Director of Communications

CLOSED SESSION: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. to address items 1 through 4 on the closed session portion of the agenda.

I. Government Code Section 54956.9 Subdivision (d) Paragraph (1): Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

II. Government Code Section 54956.9 Subdivision (d) Paragraph (2): Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation Significant Exposure to Litigation

III. Government Code Section 54957: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Complaint

IV. Government Code Section 54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiators

Agency designated representatives: Christopher R. Hoffman, David Reilly, Robert Pierce, Karen Rezendes

Employee Organizations: All Elk Grove Unified School District Bargaining Units and Unrepresented Employees

OPEN SESSION VIA ZOOM: Ms. Albiani called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. and announced that the Board met in closed session and no action was taken.

Ms. Albiani provided a welcome to Elk Grove Unified School District’s virtual board meeting through the Zoom Webinar platform.

Ms. Albiani informed everyone that Legislative Bodies including School Districts are now permitted to hold board meetings telephonically or by other electronic means because on March 17, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-29-20, suspending certain provisions of the California Ralph M. Brown Act. In addition, consistent with the March 19, 2020 Statewide Shelter in Place Order issued by the Governor, Executive Order N-33-20, the Sacramento County Shelter at Home Orders issued on March 19, 2020 and April 7, 2020, and the Center for Disease Control’s (CDC’s) social distancing guidelines which discourage public gatherings, this Board meeting was conducted via the Zoom Webinar platform.

I. Pledge of Allegiance – Amreek Singh, Chief Human Resources Officer, led the pledge of allegiance.

II. Presentations/Recognitions

1. High School Student Board Representative Reports - Florin and Valley High Schools – Students from Florin and Valley High Schools reported on activities and academics at their schools via a prerecorded video.
III. Resolutions

1. **Classified School Employees Week** – Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none.

   Motion 136, 2020-21 - Motion by Ms. Chaires Espinoza, seconded by Mr. Perez and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that Resolution No. 65, which establishes Classified School Employees Week for the Elk Grove Unified School District as May 16-22, 2021, be adopted. Roll Call Vote: *Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None*

2. **National School Nurses Day** – Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none.

   Motion 137, 2020-21 - Motion by Ms. Jamerson, seconded by Dr. Martinez-Alire and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that Resolution No. 63, recognizing May 12, 2021 as National School Nurses Day, be adopted. Roll Call Vote: *Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None*

3. **School Lunch Hero Day** – Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none.

   Motion 138, 2020-21 - Motion by Mr. Forcina, seconded by Dr. Martinez-Alire and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that Resolution No. 68, designating May 7, 2021 as School Lunch Hero Day, be adopted. Roll Call Vote: *Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None*

4. **Physical Fitness and Sports Month Resolution** – Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none.

   Motion 139, 2020-21 - Motion by Mr. Perez, seconded by Ms. Chaires Espinoza and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that Resolution No. 64, designating May 2021 as Physical Fitness and Sports Month, be adopted. Roll Call Vote: *Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None*

IV. **Student Expulsion/Involuntary Transfer Recommendations** - None

V. **Public Comment**

   Live comments via Zoom:

   Genice Smith, student at Florin High School, requested that teachers at Florin High School be trained on how to address students specifically during distance learning. Ms. Smith shared her concerns about the way that students are addressed and how it makes her feel like her teachers don’t want to be there.

   Lorreen Pryor expressed her concerns about her group not being listed as a community partner and shared that she still hasn’t heard from anybody regarding her request for information about the disproportionate discipline of black children.

   Trinity Mosby, student at Laguna Creek High School, shared her experiences with staff at her middle school and high school. Miss Mosby requested that BYLP be on every campus to give black students a better experience.
Public comments that were submitted in writing to be read by staff are attached.

VI. Consent Agenda – Action – Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none.

Prior to the vote on the motion, Mr. Perez requested that items 4, 12, 13 and 14 be pulled for discussion/action.

Motion 140, 2020-21 - Motion by Ms. Chaires Espinoza, seconded by Dr. Martinez-Alire and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that items 1 through 11, except for item 4 on the consent agenda, be approved. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

Motion 141, 2020-21 - Motion by Ms. Chaires Espinoza, seconded by Ms. Jamerson and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that items 4, 12, 13 and 14 on the consent agenda, be approved. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

1. Approval of Minutes – Approved the minutes from the regular board meeting that were held on April 6, 2021 and April 20, 2021.

2. Personnel Actions - Approved personnel appointments, leaves of absence, rehires, probationary releases, promotions, resignations, retirements, and returns from reemployment lists as submitted.

3. Certificated/Classified Response to COVID-19 Expanded Learning Salary Schedule #4 and #40 – Approved the Certificated/Classified Response to COVID-19 Expanded Learning Salary Schedule #4 and #40 for the 2020-2021 School Year.

4. Acceptance of Gifts - Approved donations to the District’s schools/programs as submitted.

5. Quarterly Investment Report – Received a quarterly report of investments. As of March 31, 2021, the District has $320,332,871 from all funds, in addition Mello-Roos Investment proceeds of $12,800,067 and General Obligation Bond Investment proceeds of $10,629,616 for a total of $343,762,554 in the County Treasurer’s pool. This is 8.32% of the total county pooled assets of $4,131,326,160. The surplus funds of the District are conservatively managed by the County Treasury.

6. Ratification of Contracts for Services - Approved contracts signed by authorized staff in accordance with Board Policy 3312 as submitted.

7. Ratification of Grant Contracts/Agreements for Funding - Approved grant contracts/agreements signed by authorized staff as submitted.

8. Approval of Purchase Order Encumbrance Modification History – Approved purchase order encumbrance modifications from April 1, 2021 – April 14, 2021.

9. Approval to Award Bid #701-20/21 – Milk & Dairy Byproducts – Authorized the award of Bid #701-20/21 Milk & Dairy Byproducts. Contract awarded to Producer’s Dairy at an annual cost of $2,027,845.14. Funding source has been budgeted through the Food and Nutrition Services Department’s general operating funds.
10. **Approval to Award Bid #702-20/21 – Ready to Bake Pizza** – Authorized the award of Bid #702-20/21 Ready to Bake Pizza. Contract awarded to Papa Murphy’s at an annual cost of $603,500.00. Funding source has been budgeted through the Food and Nutrition Services Department’s general operating funds.

11. **2021-22 Ratification of CIF Representatives** – Appointed the following representatives from the District’s high schools to serve as each school’s league/conference representative for the 2021-2022 school year.

- **Cosumnes Oaks High School**
  - Juan Jauregui, Principal
  - George Smith, Athletic Director
  - Eugene Christmas III, Principal
  - John Heffernan, Athletic Director
  - Rudy Ortega, Principal

- **Elk Grove High School**
  - Dave Nickerson, Vice Principal
  - William Kapp, Athletic Director

- **Florin High School**
  - Rudi Nickerson, Vice Principal
  - William Kapp, Athletic Director

- **Franklin High School**
  - Chantelle Albiani, Principal
  - Michael Cody, Athletic Director

- **Laguna Creek High School**
  - Jonathan Ussery, Athletic Director

- **Monterey Trail High School**
  - Lara Ricks, Principal
  - David Coronado, Athletic Director

- **Pleasant Grove High School**
  - Taigan Keplinger, Principal
  - Scott Gradin, Athletic Director

- **Sheldon High School**
  - Paula Duncan, Principal
  - Denise Aguilar, Athletic Director

- **Valley High School**
  - Richard Gutierrez, Principal
  - Kenneth Smith, Athletic Director

12. **BP Productions Contract for 2021 Graduations** – Approved a contract in the amount of $148,532 with BP Productions for the 2021 comprehensive and alternative educations high school graduations.

13. **Memorandum of Understanding Between Sacramento County Office of Education for Special Education Services** – Approved an MOU, effective for the 2020-21 school year in the amount of $2,865,167.99 paid from Special Education funds with Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) for Special Education services at the following sites.

- Florence Markofer Elementary School
- Prairie Elementary School
- Sunrise Elementary School
- James Rutter Middle School
- T.R. Smedberg Middle School
- Monterey Trail High School
- Sheldon High School
- Jessie Baker School

14. **Approval to Purchase Chromebooks and Services** – Authorized staff to purchase 3000 Chromebooks, and configuration services utilizing the Sourcewell (formerly National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA)) contract #081419 awarded to CDW-G.

VII. **LCAP Update** – None
VIII. Race and Educational Equity – None

IX. Budget Update – None

X. Facilities Update – None

XI. Bargaining Units – None

XII. Action Items

1. Resolution to Re-Initiate a Transition to a By-Trustee Area Election System Commencing with the 2022 Governing Board Election – Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none.

   Robert Pierce provided the Board with an update on the current Census Bureau delays, and a proposed timeline moving forward. A prepared resolution accompanied the presentation to allow the Board to initiate the transition process immediately. Currently the Elk Grove Unified School District’s Board of Education is elected under a hybrid “at-large” election system, where trustees reside in designated trustee areas, and are elected by voters of the entire District. Trustees are elected in even-numbered years and serve staggered, four-year terms.

   Cities, public entities, and other school districts have recently had their at-large election systems challenged under the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA). These situations have resulted in expensive and divisive litigation. On December 17, 2019, the Board adopted Resolution No. 32, 2019-20, Resolution to Initiate a Transition to a By-Trustee Area Election System Commencing with the 2022 Governing Board Election. As provided in Resolution No. 32, 2019-20, the Board intended to wait until the release of the 2020 Census data, scheduled for March 2021, and then immediately begin the transition process. Due to COVID-19 pandemic-related delays, the 2020 Census data is not expected to be made available to state and local agencies until September 30, 2021 or later, which is a substantial delay from the original due date of March 31, 2021.

   Due to this significant delay, the potential for further delay, and the tight timelines to complete the process in time for the 2022 elections, the District has concerns about continuing to delay the process until the 2020 Census data is released. The District aspires to promote a robust public input process and believes that it may now be in the best interest of the District not to wait until the release of the 2020 Census data, but to move forward immediately to transition to by-trustee area elections using the 2010 Census data pursuant to the process provided in the Elections Code and Education Code. If the Board chooses to take this action, it will then review the 2020 Census data upon its release to ensure the adopted trustee areas maintain appropriate population balance pursuant to Education Code section 5019.5. The final maps to be used in the 2022 election will rely upon the 2020 census data.

   Board members held a discussion and thanked staff for the report.

   Motion 141, 2020-21 - Motion by Dr. Martinez-Alire, seconded by Mr. Forcina and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that Resolution No. 67, to Re-Initiate a Transition to a By-Trustee Area Election System Commencing with the 2022 Governing Board Election, be adopted. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

Ms. Albiani call for a break at 8:05 pm and called the meeting back to order at 8:10 pm.
XIII. Public Hearing/Action Items

1. First Public Hearing Regarding Potential Composition of Trustee-Areas Prior to Drawing of Maps - Robert Pierce provided the Board with a report regarding trustee area map development. The District’s Board of Education is currently elected under a hybrid “at-large” election system, where trustees reside in designated trustee areas, and are elected by voters of the entire District. Trustees are elected in even-numbered years and serve staggered, four-year terms.

Ms. Albiani opened the public hearing regarding potential composition of trustee areas prior to the drawing of maps and called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none.

Ms. Albiani closed the public hearing.

2. Education Code section 17556, et seq.: Consideration of Resolution to Grant Permanent Electrical Facilities Easement to the Sacramento Municipal Utility District for the Pleasant Grove Elementary School Project - Robert Pierce reported that the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) has requested that the District convey (at SMUD’s expense) a permanent Electrical Facilities Easement on the Pleasant Grove Elementary School site at 10160 Pleasant Grove School Road, Elk Grove, California. The final configuration of the easement will be established after the completion of the installation of the electrical facilities and documenting the easement accurately in relation to the facilities installed. The purpose of the easements is to allow SMUD to access, construct and maintain electrical facilities serving the Pleasant Grove Elementary School campus.

Ms. Albiani opened the public hearing to receive comments on the granting of a permanent electrical facilities easement and called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none. Ms. Albiani closed the public hearing.

Motion 142, 2020-21 - Motion by Mr. Forcina, seconded by Ms. Chaires Espinoza and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that Resolution No. 62, Granting Electrical Facilities Easement to the Sacramento Municipal Utility District for the Pleasant Grove Elementary School Project be adopted. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

3. Consideration and Public Notice of Elk Grove Unified School District’s Initial Proposal to Psychologists and Social Workers Association (PSWA) Regarding Collective Bargaining for the 2021-2022 School Year - Ms. Albiani opened the public hearing and called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none. Ms. Albiani closed the public hearing.

Motion 143, 2020-21 - Motion by Ms. Chaires Espinoza, seconded by Ms. Jamerson and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that EGUSD’s initial proposal to PSWA be accepted. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

4. Consideration and Public Notice of Elk Grove Unified School District’s Initial Proposal to National Union of Healthcare Workers (NUHW) Regarding Collective Bargaining for the 2021-2022 School Year - Ms. Albiani opened the public hearing and called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none. Ms. Albiani closed the public hearing.
Motion 144, 2020-21 - Motion by Dr. Martinez-Alire, seconded by Ms. Chaires Espinoza and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that EGUSD’s initial proposal to NUHW be accepted. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

5. Consideration and Public Notice of Elk Grove Unified School District’s Initial Proposal to Elk Grove Education Association (EGEA) Regarding Collective Bargaining for the 2021-2022 School Year - Ms. Albiani opened the public hearing and called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none. Ms. Albiani closed the public hearing.

Motion 145, 2020-21 - Motion by Ms. Chaires Espinoza, seconded by Dr. Martinez-Alire and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that EGUSD’s initial proposal to EGEA be accepted. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

6. Consideration and Public Notice of Elk Grove Unified School District’s Initial Proposal to California School Employees Association (CSEA), and its Elk Grove Chapter #831, Regarding Collective Bargaining for the 2021-2022 School Year - Ms. Albiani opened the public hearing and called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none. Ms. Albiani closed the public hearing.

Motion 146, 2020-21 - Motion by Ms. Chaires Espinoza, seconded by Dr. Martinez-Alire and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that EGUSD’s initial proposal to CSEA and its Elk Grove Chapter #831 be accepted. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

7. Consideration and Public Notice of Elk Grove Unified School District’s Initial Proposal to Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), Local 256, Regarding Collective Bargaining for the 2021-2022 School Year - Ms. Albiani opened the public hearing and called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none. Ms. Albiani closed the public hearing.

Motion 147, 2020-21 - Motion by Ms. Chaires Espinoza, seconded by Dr. Martinez-Alire and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that EGUSD’s initial proposal to ATU be accepted. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

8. Consideration and Public Notice of Elk Grove Unified School District's Initial Proposal to American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Local 258, Regarding Collective Bargaining for the 2021-2022 School Year - Ms. Albiani opened the public hearing and called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none. Ms. Albiani closed the public hearing.

Motion 148, 2020-21 - Motion by Ms. Chaires Espinoza, seconded by Dr. Martinez-Alire and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that EGUSD’s initial proposal to AFSCME be accepted. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None
MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, May 4, 2021

XIV. Reports

1. Recruitment and Retention Board Report

Public comment via Zoom: Mr. Joel Boyd shared that he hoped Ms. Albiani contacted a student who had made a public comment earlier in the evening and shared that he had the opportunity to meet with various teachers and administrators and left the meetings feeling optimistic. Mr. Boyd expressed concerns about the district’s employee retention and suggested that the Board look at the Office of Education Equity and invest money into the department because the District has some very bright teachers and administrators who are engaged and committed.

Amreek Singh and Xanthi Soriano provided the Board with an overview of Elk Grove Unified School District’s recruitment and retention efforts. Information about the District’s Talent Acquisition Campaign was shared along with tactics, digital ad samples and audience targeting.

The Board provided feedback and thanked Mr. Singh and Ms. Soriano for the report.

2. 2021-22 Planning Process Update and Board Priority Discussion – Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none.

Mark Cerutti provided the Board with an update about the 2021-22 planning process and engaged the board in a brief discussion regarding budget priorities that will be discussed in greater detail at the board workshop on May 11, 2021.

The Board provided feedback and thanked Mr. Cerutti for the report.

XV. Discussion Items - None

XVI. Board Member and Superintendent Reports - None

XVII. Information Items

1. Other Items from the Floor - None

XVIII. Adjournment – 11:33 pm

Submitted by: Christopher R. Hoffman, Superintendent

Approved by: [Signature]

Beth Albiani, Board President
At the last Board meeting Mr. Forcina put the question on the table, is a rubber stamp board? I submit that the board is absolutely a rubber stamp. The only ones that bring up tough questions and issues are Mr. Forcina and Mr. Perez. When they do, they are generally attacked by Ms. Chaires Espinoza and Ms. Albiani for bringing up what constituents are asking about.

No better example was the discussion of the purchase of two vehicles for $85,000 each. Both Ms. Albiani and Ms. Chaires Espinoza lectured about basically not wasting the Board’s time. Mr. Hoffman even got in on the action that trucks were necessary to deliver supplies, using the example of Chrome book distribution. I’m curious Mr. Hoffman, how did the security team help distribute Chrome books…oh, that’s right, in sedans. And in the end Ms. Chaires Espinoza chimed in that $170,000 for two vehicles wasn’t a trivial amount…because it’s not! Since it appears that Ms. Martinez Alire is just along for the ride. The question comes down to, will the newest board members, Ms. Jamerson and Mr. Yang step up and put an end to rubber stamping whatever is presented?

We also got to see Mr. Hoffman double down with his non-apology, apology. The un-heartfelt apology was only around procedure and didn’t address the core issue of calling a constituent a liar. In fact, Mr. Hoffman reiterated that the constituent is lying. From watching Mr. Hoffman’s behavior and actions over the last year it’s become crystal clear than not only is he a narcissist, he’s also a bully that doesn’t tolerate being questioned. If this board wants a boss and not a leader, you’ve got your man.

It would seem logical that an independent investigation into this situation is warranted since one of the two isn’t telling the truth. My money is on the constituent, but the facts will bear out the truth. Oh, I forgot…this is a rubber stamp board.

I am with Black Youth Leadership Project and demand action to correct the Districts disproportionate discipline of our Black students. I am disgusted at how far back in public comment this has been brought up with absolutely no resolution, matter of fact while the issues are worsening. The disregard of our Black students’ mistreatment by the Elk Grove school district is unacceptable. I hear the frustrations firsthand, our students are tired and we are too! Black students are continuously overlooked in their talents and abilities in the classroom. Instead of being recognized for being inquisitive, they are viewed as a threat or challenging authority. They are forced to deal with daily microaggressions by teachers and administrators. No child should have to endure so many hurdles in a system set up for academic success. All students should receive respect, genuine care, and assistance to help them achieve their goals by people hired to work with our children. This is not the case for our Black students! A plan to address the ignorance and bias of teachers, administrators, and staff must be put into place. Use the CARES Act funds to make a significant change to the trajectory of Black children’s future instead of checking a box on an equity team. Partner with BYLP who is actively advocating for the Black students your District continues to discipline and lock out. The time is now! We are not going away, our babies lives are too precious. What are you going to do?
Five weeks ago, the board unanimously voted to add to the agenda a discussion about a full return to in-person learning. Here we sit, roughly 1 month before the board will decide to announce plans for next year, and there has been no agenda item in any of the past several board meetings to discuss this matter publicly. The board continues to hide behind legal jargon as an excuse for not discussing this matter over email with concerned citizens but has no excuse as to why it is still not an agenda item for the public to hear. Once again highlighting the lack of transparency with this board. During the parent listening session last week, Mr. Cerutti announced that 91% of the individuals that responded to the district's inquiry of the type of learning they preferred for the upcoming school year chose FULL IN-PERSON RETURN. 91% of the constituents that you as the board are supposed to represent want their kids back in school full-time and in-person and therefore want to hear the boards plans for that, yet you remain silent. It is utterly amazing that you as a board continue to ignore the voices of the individuals who elected you…the voices of individuals YOU work for…the voices of people who you yourselves say know what is in the best interest of their children. You do not work for Superintendent Hoffman. You do not work for the governor of California. You do not work for the teacher’s union of Elk Grove (although based on the monetary contributions to some of your campaigns, it appears you may be working for them). You work for us and we are making it clear what we want. This item was voting on to appear on an agenda and therefore it can and should be discussed immediately. June 15 is a date that was thrown out by the board as the date that they will make their decision regarding 2021-2022 school year. Not coincidentally, it is also the same date that the governor announced California will magically reopen. Based on numerous written and TV news stories that Mr. Hoffman has done with the governor of California, there is no question that the political influence of the state has breached the EGUSD; yet this board is to remain a non-partisan board. The board cannot and should not allow Superintendent Hoffman (and his influence from Governor Newsom), nor the teacher's union of Elk Grove to dictate the direction this district is heading. This board needs to stand up and make decisions based on the wants and needs of individuals that elected them and not be politically influenced. We continue to ask that the issue of reopening be discussed NOW with the key stakeholders (including parents and students) and not wait for Superintendent Hoffmann and Governor Newsom to hold a news conference on one of the EGUSD campuses with KCRA present. We need to know now, and we need to have our voices heard. Thank you!

I’d like to discuss the disproportionate number of discipline your black students are facing day in and day out while being students in your district. Not only are they being targeted in person but they are also targeted virtually. I’ve been speaking to students that go to different schools within Elk Grove unified and they all tell me the same thing, they do not feel safe on your campuses, even virtually... so what policies, practices and programs are you going to implement in your district to ensure that Black children start feeling safe, welcomed and comfortable? And I expect a response.
Good evening my name is Exquisitive Hundley. I am an advocate with BYLP and wanted to continue to bring to light the egregious way Black students are treated within this District. According to Dr. J. Luke Wood, a San Diego State University professor who co-authored the report about Discipline within California School System, said the Sacramento area is “Ground Zero” for suspensions in California. Ground Zero originated as a term to describe the site of a nuclear explosion and later was used to refer to the point of any dramatic or violent event. Let that sink in this district is "GROUND ZERO." In other words Elk Grove unified is complicit in further traumatizing our Black babies. Elk Grove is complicit in Disproportionate discipline of Black students. To give some context with over 63,152 students enrolled only 11% (6,647 students) of these students are Black. However Black students make up over 36 percent of the out of school suspensions and 33% of the expulsions according to propublica when will this school District stop with the violence against the Black students ?? Black Youth Leadership Project will continue to stand in the forefront for our children and call out this school district until something is done, We are NOT NO WHERE !