

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, May 5, 2020

Adopted

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

Others Present via Zoom Webinar: Christopher R. Hoffman, Superintendent; Robert Pierce and Mark Cerutti, Deputy Superintendents; David Reilly, Associate Superintendent; Bindy Grewal and Craig Murray, Assistant Superintendents; Shannon Hayes, Chief Financial Officer; Steve Mate, Chief Technology Officer, Susan Larson, Executive Director; Xanthi Pinkerton, Director of Communications

CLOSED SESSION VIA TELE-CONFERENCE: The meeting was called to order by Ms. Albiani 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 regular meeting to order, via Zoom Webinar, at 6:00 p.m. and announced that the Board met in closed session via teleconference 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. She thanked everyone for joining and asked for patience in advance as we learn to navigate this new platform for conducting school board meetings.

She 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 – Sue Larson, Executive Director of Education Services, led the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, May 5, 2020

II. Presentations/Recognitions – None

III. Resolutions

1. Classified School Employees Week - Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Pinkerton to read public comments that were submitted through the District's Google Public Comment Form regarding the Classified School Employees Week resolution. The following comment was submitted:

- Jennifer Ballerini, President of AFSCME Local 258, representing classified staff of the Elk Grove Unified School District, submitted the following comment: I would like to thank you for recognizing the work that the classified employees do. As Essential Workers during this pandemic I think we all realize that their contribution to the district and the community is truly essential. We appreciate the leadership that the School Board, Superintendent and Executive Cabinet have shown during this trying time. I am proud to say that we have truly worked as a team to make sure the District is continuing to be an integral part of this community. I have faith that we will make it through this and come out of this having grown in compassion and flexibility.

Motion No. 98, 2019-20 – Motion by Ms. Singh-Allen, seconded by Dr. Martinez-Alire and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that Resolution 74, which establishes Classified School Employees Week for the Elk Grove Unified School District from May 17 - 23, 2020, be adopted. Roll Call Vote: *Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Madison, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Singh-Allen; Nays – None; Absent – None*

2. Recognition of Day of the Teacher - Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Pinkerton to read public comments that were submitted through the District's Google Public Comment Form regarding Recognition of Day of the teacher; there were none.

Motion No. 99, 2019-20 – Motion by Ms. Chaires Espinoza, seconded by Mr. Perez and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that Resolution 75, recognizing May 13, 2020, as Day of the Teacher in the Elk Grove Unified School District, be adopted. Roll Call Vote: *Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Madison, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Singh-Allen; Nays – None; Absent – None*

IV. Student Expulsion/Involuntary Transfer Recommendations

1. Request for return from Student Expulsions - Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Pinkerton to read public comments that were submitted through the District's Google Public Comment Form regarding the request for return from student expulsion; there were none.

Motion No. 100, 2019-20 – Motion by Dr. Martinez-Alire, seconded by Mr. Madison and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that the Readmission Committee's recommendations regarding a student's request for permission to return to the District be approved. Roll Call Vote: *Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Madison, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Singh-Allen; Nays – None; Absent – None.*

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, May 5, 2020

V. **Public Comment** - Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Pinkerton to read public comments that were submitted through the District's Google Public Comment Form. The following comment was submitted:

- Melinda Guzman submitted the following comment: I am a Trustee Emeritus of the Cal State University system, the California Community Colleges system and former Commissioner of the CA Post-Secondary Education Commission. I am also an attorney in Sacramento. Today I speak/write as an aunt of a third-grade student in your district. First, I commend all teachers and this district for managing education in these unprecedented times. Distance learning and serving the needs all students and parents is extremely difficult during this COVID period. I also write to express my concern that teachers apparently have been given the "option" of engaging their students via voice or video teaching. While many teachers upload a voice message with instruction on classes, or engage in Zoom class settings, my nephew who is in third grade received an email before distance learning started, and other than that there have been no phone calls or attempts to connect with students and families. Currently they get one email per week with the homework agenda.

My concern is that children at all levels, but especially in Kindergarten through 3rd grade need personal connection with their teachers. He is left to address questions to his parents and family and most families are admittedly left feeling abandoned. The children already suffer emotional loss from not attending school, and this void in not being able to hear a teacher's voice or to see them via a Zoom call is simply unacceptable and constitutes abandonment. We are fortunate that he is a bright child and has a good support system at home, but many other children may not have that support and so there is a question of equity regarding the inability for students and parents to receive instruction via voice or video technology. And while parents may email their teachers for help, it is simply unacceptable for students to be denied instruction via voice or video technology. An email once a week is insufficient, and it also makes me wonder what this district is doing to support special education students. I challenge this Board to change this practice immediately and before any further need arises for distance learning. All teachers should be required to upload a voice instruction and/or to engage in a Zoom type video class. That allows for enhanced learning and emotional support during this difficult time. Please fix this now. Your students deserve better.

VI. **Consent Agenda – Action** - Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Pinkerton to read public comments that were submitted through the District's Google Public Comment Form regarding the Consent Agenda; there were none.

Motion No. 101, 2019-20 – Motion by Dr. Martinez-Alire seconded by Ms. Singh-Allen and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that items 1 through 13 on the consent agenda be approved. Roll Call Vote: *Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Madison, Martinez-Alire, Perez, and Singh-Allen; Nays – None; Absent – None*

1. **Approval of Minutes** – Approved the minutes from the virtual regular board meeting that was held on April 21, 2020.
2. **Personnel Actions** - Approved personnel appointments, leaves of absence, resignations, retirements, promotions and returns from reemployment lists as submitted.
3. **Acceptance of Gifts** - Approved donations to the District's schools/programs as submitted.

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, May 5, 2020

- 4. Warrant Register No. 9** - Approved Warrant Register No. 9 – Warrant Numbers 067999-069665, 405716-406883. All Funds: March 1, 2020, through March 31, 2020.
- 5. Ratification of Contracts for Services** - Approved contracts signed by authorized staff in accordance with Board Policy 3312 as submitted.
- 6. Ratification of Grant Contracts/Agreements for Funding** - Approved grant contracts and agreements signed by authorized staff as submitted.
- 7. Approval of Purchase Order Encumbrance Modification History** – Approved purchase order encumbrance modifications from April 1 – April 22, 2020.
- 8. Approval to Purchase John Deere Lawn and Grounds Utility Tractors** – Authorized the purchase of lawn and grounds utility tractors cooperatively through CMAS contract 4-07-51-0019A.
- 9. Approval to Purchase Educational School Supplies** – Authorized the purchase of educational school supplies through Region 4 ESC contract number R190503.
- 10. Approval to Purchase Cafeteria Tables/Furniture** – Authorized the purchase of cafeteria tables/furniture cooperatively through an RFP secured by Omnia Partners Region 4 ESC.
- 11. Approval to Purchase Heavy Construction Equipment with Related Accessories, Attachments, and Supplies** – Authorized the purchase of heavy construction equipment with related accessories, attachments, and supplies through Sourcewell contract #032119-BAI.
- 12. Foulks Ranch Elementary School, Prop. 39 Upgrades - Change Order No. 1** – Approved Change Order No. 1 with Kaler Dobler Construction, Inc., and authorized a district representative to sign the approved change order. Change Order No. 1 changes the contract amount of \$610,000.00 by (\$29,796.00) to \$580,204.00.
- 13. Disposal of Surplus Vehicles** – Authorized the disposal of the following vehicles:
 - Van #195VM, Year 2000, Make E350, VIN: 1FTSS34M4YHB87824
License: E052523, Odometer:125486, Date: 1/17/20
 - Van# 180VM, Year 2000, Make E350, VIN:1FTSS34M9YHB87818
License: E052507, Odometer: 133352, Date: 1/17/20
 - Truck #146TM, Year 1990, Make GMC-P30, VIN:1GTKP32KIL3502328
License: E205223, Odometer: 90409, Date: 1/17/20
 - Van #181VM, Year 2000, Make Ford E350, VIN: 1FTSS34M1YHB87814
License: E052508, Odometer:93617, Date:1/17/20
 - Truck# 079TM, Year 1987, Make GMC-P30, VIN: 1GDHP32K1H3506750
License: E071194, Odometer: 63670 Date:1/17/20

VII. LCAP Update - None

VIII. Race and Educational Equity - None

IX. Budget Update – None

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, May 5, 2020

X. Facilities Update – None

XI. Bargaining Units – None

XII. Reports

1. EGUSD’s Distance Learning Supports for Students and Families – The Board of Education received a report on the District’s distance learning services including technology and food and nutritional services. Since the closure of schools on March 16, 2020 due to COVID-19, EGUSD administrators and staff have been working to provide educational, technology and food and nutritional services to all students and families.

The report included updates from departments with regard to the following areas:

- Food and nutrition services
- Technology
- Curriculum and instruction
- Title I sites and socioeconomically disadvantaged students
- Special Education programming
- Attendance
- Surveys and feedback systems
- English Learner students
- Foster youth and homeless students

Board members shared their thoughts, provided feedback and thanked staff for the report.

XIII. Public Hearing/Action Items – None

XIV. Discussion Items – None

XV. Action Items – None

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

XVII. Information Items

1. Other Items from the Floor – The board agreed that it is necessary to revisit the practices contained in the board governance handbook during an upcoming workshop.

XVIII. Adjournment – 9:13 p.m.

Submitted by: Christopher R. Hoffman, Superintendent

Approved by: _____



Beth Albiani, Board President