

# MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, June 1, 2021

*Adopted*

**Members Present:** Beth Albiani, President; Crystal Martinez-Alire, Clerk; Nancy Chaires Espinoza, Carmine Forcina, Gina Jamerson, Anthony Perez, 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; Shannon Hayes, Chief Financial Officer; Amreek Singh, Chief Human Resources Officer; Steve Mate, Chief Technology Officer; Xanthi Pinkerton, Director of Communications

**CLOSED SESSION:** The meeting was called to order by Ms. Albiani at 3:30 p.m. to address items 1 through 3 on the closed session portion of the agenda.

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

**II. Government Code Section 54957.6:** Conference with Labor Negotiators

Agency designated representatives:

David Reilly, Robert Pierce, Karen Rezendes

Employee Organizations: All Elk Grove Unified School District

Bargaining Units and Unrepresented Employees

**III. Government Code Section 54957:** Public Employee Performance Evaluation - Title: Superintendent

**OPEN SESSION VIA ZOOM:** Ms. Albiani called the special board meeting to order via Zoom at 5:36 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** – Robert Pierce, Deputy Superintendent of Business Services and Facilities, led the pledge of allegiance.

**II. 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.

Motion 159, 2020-21 - Motion by Dr. Martinez-Alire, seconded by Mr. Perez and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that item 1 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. Revised Certificated/Classified Response to COVID-19 Expanded Learning Salary Schedule #4 and #40 for the 2020-2021 School Year** – Approved the revised Certificated/Classified Response to COVID-19 Expanded Learning Salary Schedule #4 and #40 for the 2020-2021 School Year.

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## III. Action Items

- 1. Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan Adoption** - 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 requested that the Board of Education adopt Elk Grove Unified School District's Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Grant Plan. The ELO Grant Plan outlines the District's plan for providing supplemental instruction and support to students, including those identified as needing academic, social-emotional, and other supports, including the provision of meals and snacks. The plan will explain how EGUSD will use the funds it receives through the ELO Grant to implement a learning recovery program for at least the students included in one or more of the following groups: low-income students, English learners, foster youth, homeless students, students with disabilities, students at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, disengaged students, and students who are below grade level, including, but not limited to, those who did not enroll in kindergarten in the 2020-21 school year, credit-deficient students, high school students at risk of not graduating, and other students identified by certificated staff.

Motion 160, 2020-21 - Motion by Mr. Forcina, seconded by Dr. Martinez-Alire and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that the Elk Grove Unified School District's Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Grant Plan be adopted.

Roll Call Vote: *Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None*

- 2. Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan Adoption: Elk Grove Charter** - Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District's Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none.

Marc Lavine requested that the Board of Education adopt Elk Grove Charter School's Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Grant Plan. The ELO Grant Plan outlines the Elk Grove Charter School's plan for providing supplemental instruction and support to students, including those identified as needing academic, social-emotional, and other supports, including the provision of meals and snacks. The plan will explain how Elk Grove Charter will use the funds it receives through the ELO Grant to implement a learning recovery program for at least the students included in one or more of the following groups: low-income students, English learners, foster youth, homeless students, students with disabilities, students at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, disengaged students, and students who are below grade level, credit-deficient students, high school students at risk of not graduating, and other students identified by certificated staff.

Motion 161, 2020-21 - Motion by Ms. Jamerson, seconded by Ms. Chaires Espinoza and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that the Elk Grove Unified School District's Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Grant Plan for Elk Grove Charter be adopted. Roll Call Vote: *Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None*

## IV. Discussion Items

- 1. 2021-22 Budget Update (May Revise)** - Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District's Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none.

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Shannon Hayes provided the Board with a report regarding the Governor's May revision and our estimate on the impact to the 2021-22 school year budget. The report included information about the following:

- Economic Effects of COVID-19
- Proposition 98
- Local Control Funding Formula
- Deferrals
- New Proposals
- One-Time New Proposals
- Other Learning Options

## Next Steps

- 2020-21 Estimated Actuals - June 15, 2021
- 2021-22 State Adopts Budget - June 15, 2021
- 2021-22 Elk Grove Adopts Budget - June 22, 2021
- 2021-22 45 Day Revise - July 20, 2021
- 2020-21 Unaudited Actuals - September, 2021
- 2021-22 1st Interim - December, 2021
- 2022-23 Governor's January Proposal - January, 2022

Board members held a discussion and thanked Ms. Hayes for the report.

## 2. Update on COVID-19 Relief Funding

*Public comment via Zoom audio:*

Becky Strobbles representing EGUSD Social Workers, shared concerns about the contract and salary and requested the positions be funded with ongoing funds.

*Public comments submitted in writing to be read by staff are attached*

Shannon Hayes presented to the Board a budget update on COVID-19 Relief Funds and engage in discussion of timelines and uses of remaining funds, specifically remaining funds from Round 1. In order to optimally plan for the use of COVID-19 Relief Funds, a thorough understanding of the funding sources, spending guidelines and expenditure timelines is needed. On June 1, staff will provide resources to the Board that serve this purpose. This information in turn will enable the Board to adopt timelines for the various portions of the overall COVID-19 Relief Funds.

The Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan (LCP) was the first to be addressed and was approved by the Board of Education at their meeting on September 28, 2020. This plan included \$57 million in COVID-19 Relief Funding (Round 1).

The Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Grant Funds was the next to be addressed for which Staff will be seeking Board approval of the ELO Plan at the June 1, 2021 Board Workshop. This plan includes \$41 million in state funding authorized through AB 86 COVID-19 Relief and School Reopening Grants.

The next portion of the funds staff is recommending for priority planning is approximately \$7.64 million in remaining funds from the LCP (Round 1). Staff is recommending \$3 million be used to fund Food and Nutrition Services breakfast and lunch meal programs as allowed as part of the spending guidelines for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Funds. For the remaining \$4.64 million, staff is recommending priority planning through the lens of: What are the top priorities needed to be in place to support the start of the new school year—July 15 and August 15?

Board members provided feedback and thanked Ms. Hayes for the update.

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**V. Adjournment – 7:27 p.m.**

Submitted by: Christopher R. Hoffman, Superintendent

Approved by:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Beth Albiani, Board President

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**ATTACHMENT: Public Comments submitted in writing to be read by staff.**

First Name	Last Name	Agenda Item	Public Comments of Persons Desiring to Address the Board.
Anonymous		IV. Discussion Items – No. 2	With the amount of funding that EGUSD is getting to support our students, please consider giving the money ACTUALLY to the students. To think that Summer School is able to spend \$14 per student for a 4 week program for materials is absolutely amazing! Think of all of the creative ways teachers can engage their students! Sadly, teachers are only able to spend a total of \$100 for our start up for the entire next school year! We are literally picking and choosing between ordering a class set of crayons (that will need to be replaced by January) and sentence strips or colored copy paper. \$100 adds up very quickly and this teacher will still have to spend her own money to support the students in the classroom. We have spent a lot of our own money this past year (just as we have in the past). It would be nice to have the district give each teacher money to spend on supplies. I appreciate you seriously considering this for the upcoming school year.
Anonymous		IV. Discussion Items – No. 2	Transitional Kindergarten is a hands on learning program that is filled with oral language, fine motor skills, gross motor skills, foundational skills, but most importantly, social emotional skills. The difference between the beginning of the year to the end is always astounding! TK is a very different grade level and we are an incredibly proud group of teachers that collaborate together weekly. It is clear that TK teachers create most of what our students need to learn and keep them engaged. We have a small curriculum, but it is nothing compared to grades K and up. I urge you to consider granting Transitional Kindergarten teachers funds to support the amazing learning that goes on within the TK classrooms. We purchase all of our own supplies, create & copy our own books, purchase our own fine motor activities and tubs to organize them. Please consider TK as you are breaking down the funds that were given to support our students. TK is often forgotten and such an incredibly important foundational grade level.
Anonymous		IV. Discussion Items – No. 2	Dear Elk Grove Board Of Education- As you consider approving funding to assist students in returning to campus for the 2021-22 school year, I hope that you will consider adding more school counselors to middle school and high school campuses. Our current counselor to student ratio is on average 450:1. I am hoping that you will use funding allocated to support the academic and social/emotional needs of our families to add more school counselors to each campus to lower student to counselor ratios. The American School Counselors Association recommends a ratio of 250:1. School counselors are an incredible support and resource for our students, families, and staff on campus. With the return to campuses and so much having changed and endured during COVID, we have never needed school counselors more. Regular counselor contact can increase the number of students on track for graduation, the number of students meeting college eligibility requirements, higher attendance rates on campus, higher academy and pathway participation, safer campuses, and targeted support for vulnerable populations such as English Learners and Special education. This district has always been a leader in the Sacramento area. Show our community that we support the academic, career, and personal/social needs of our families and students by placing more counselors in EGUSD schools. Thank you.
Lorreen	Pryor	IV. Discussion Items – No. 2	Good afternoon Board Members and Staff within EGUSD. I am writing you to remind you of the urgency of this moment as you decide where to direct monies. For over 3 years I have been coming before you all talking about the issues that Black students have been having in EGUSD. From disproportionate discipline to issues with belongingness. There have been a few movements to address some of my concerns but nothing substantial. I have continually asked for a plan to address these issues among others and to date a plan has not been presented. BYLP has forwarded a plan to you all and we are asking for you to consider funding it. We will know your values by how you choose to spend this money that is not even coming from EGUSD coffers. We are asking you to move with intentionality to address these pervasive issues that have landed EGUSD in the #1 spot for disproportionate discipline of Black children. We are ready and willing to work with EGUSD so that Black students are seen, heard and supported. Thank you in advance. Ms. Pryor
Exquisitive	Hundley	IV. Discussion Items – No. 2	Good evening, My name is Exquisitive Hundley . I am a community member and advocate with BYLP. We have submitted a proposal before this board to help insulate and protect our Black children . BYLP has been apart of the community with advocacy and programming for Black students for over 20 years. Hopefully this board will recognize the need of urgency and partner with our organization to ensure that the Black students in Elk Grove get the much needed support they need to not only survival but soon thrive . BYLP is here , and will continue to be here . Now is the time to show the community action behind the words of Community building. Thank you. Exquisitive Hundley