MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, June 22, 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 5 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
V. Government Code Section 54957: Public Employee Performance Evaluation - Title: Superintendent

OPEN SESSION VIA ZOOM: Ms. Albiani called the meeting to order at 6:07 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 – John Dixon, Director of Secondary Education, led the pledge of allegiance.

II. Presentations/Recognitions – None

III. Resolutions – None

IV. Student Expulsion/Involuntary Transfer Recommendations – None

V. Public Comment
   Public comments 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. Forcina requested that item 3 be pulled for discussion/action.

Motion 170, 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 23, except for item 3, on the consent agenda be approved. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

Mr. Forcina and Ms. Chaires Espinoza requested that the contracts for services consent item include more information and rationale as to why we need to contract out instead of providing the services inhouse.

Motion 171, 2020-21 – Motion by Mr. Forcina, seconded by Mr. Perez and carried by a 6 – 1 vote of board members present that this request be added to a board meeting agenda for discussion within the next few months. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – Albiani; Absent – None

Motion 172, 2020-21 - Motion by Mr. Perez, seconded by Dr. Martinez-Alire and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that item 3 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. Personnel Actions - Approved personnel appointments, leaves of absence, rehires, probationary releases, promotions, resignations, retirements, and returns from reemployment lists as submitted.

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

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

4. Field Intervention Services Contract – Approved the renewal of Field Intervention Services for the 2021-2022 School year.

5. Warrant Register No. 11 – Approved Warrant Register No. 11 – Warrant Numbers 082439 - 083913, 415363 - 416090. All Funds: May 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021.

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


8. Approval of Purchase Order History – Approved purchase orders for the weeks of May 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021.

9. Approval to Award RFP #705-20/21 - Translation Services – Authorized RFP #705-20/21 Translation Services to LaGuardia Translation, Excel Interpreting, and International Effectiveness Centers for a total contract term of three (3) years and total contract amount not to exceed $1,290,000.00.

10. Approval to Award Bid #703-20/21 – Tires – Authorized the award of Bid #703-20/21 Tires to North State Tire for a contract term of one (1) year and total contract amount of $91,136.46.
11. Approval to Award RFP #707-21/22 After School Program Providers at James A. McKee and Mary Tsukamoto Elementary Schools – Authorized the award of RFP #707-21/22 After School Program Providers (ASES) at James A. McKee Elementary and Mary Tsukamoto Elementary schools to Sacramento Chinese Community Service Center.

12. Approval of an Extension of Request for Proposal (RFP) #667-18/19 After School Provider (ASES) for Edward Harris Jr. Middle School – Authorized the extension of RFP #667-18/19 After School Provider (ASES) for Edward Harris Jr. Middle School for an additional year.


15. Approval of an Extension of Request for Proposal (RFP) #628-17/18 After School Provider (ASES/21ST CCLC) for John Reith and Sierra Enterprise Elementary Schools – Authorized the extension of RFP #628-17/18 After School Provider for (ASES/21ST CCLC) for John Reith Elementary School and Sierra Enterprise Elementary School for an additional year.

16. Approval to Purchase Healthcare/Science Supplies– Authorized the purchase of healthcare/science supplies cooperatively through an RFP secured by OMNIA Partners.

17. Monterey Trail High School, CTE Program: Information Communication Technology, and Health Science and Medical Technology Medical Assisting Award of Contract - Approved the award of contract to RBH Construction, for the total base bid of $174,826.00. Authorized administration to sign all documents and contracts pertaining to this work, and authorized administration to proceed with the next lowest responsible bidder should a fully endorsed contract with the low bidder, accompanied by certification of the necessary bonds, not be obtained.

18. Laguna Creek High School, Green Energy Technology Academy - Change Order No. 2 – Approved Change Order No. 2 with Kaler/Dobler Construction, Inc., and (2) authorize a District Representative to sign the approved change order. Change Order No. 2 changes the contract amount of $4,020,359.00 by $66,521.00 to $4,086,880.00.

19. Laguna Ridge East Elementary School – Soils Remediation Acceptance and Notice of Completion – Accepted the construction of the Laguna Ridge East Elementary School – Soils Remediation project, and authorized the filing of the Notice of Completion.

20. Agricultural Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Funding Application – Approved Elk Grove Unified School District’s annual applications for Agricultural Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Funding for the 2021-2022 program year. Elk Grove High School will receive $46,436, Florin High School will receive $31,452, Pleasant Grove High School will receive $18,576, and Sheldon High School will receive $14,420.

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22. **College Board Contract Renewal** – Approved a contract with College Board in the amount of $123,780 to fund the PSAT Early Participation Program (PSAT for All) for students in grades 8 and 10.


VII. LCAP Update
1. **LCAP Local Indicators for Elk Grove Unified School District** - Ms. Albiani called on Xanthi Soriano for public comments submitted through the District’s Public Comment Form related to this item; there were none.

   Christine Hikido presented a summary of the District’s LCAP local indicators and assessments performance on meeting local indicator standards, which will be publicly posted in the California School Dashboard.

   Board members provided feedback and thanked Ms. Hikido for the presentation.

2. **LCAP Local Indicators for Elk Grove Charter School** - 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 presented a summary of the Elk Grove Charter School’s LCAP local indicators that were considered, in conjunction with other LCAP metrics and stakeholder feedback, in the development of the Elk Grove Charter School’s 2021-22 to 2023-24 LCAPs.

   Board members provided feedback and thanked Mr. Lavine for the report.

VIII. **Race and Educational Equity** - None

IX. Budget Update – None

X. Facilities Update – None

XI. Bargaining Units – None

XII. Reports
1. **Improving, Expanding and Fully Integrating Supports and Services for Students Who Identify as Black/African American Using a Targeted Universalism Approach**

   *Public comment via Zoom audio:*

   Joel Boyd thanked staff, Mark Cerutti and Superintendent Hoffman for having parents review disciplinary actions and allowing input. Mr. Boyd shared that every time he leaves these meetings he’s more and more impressed. Dr. Espinoza, congratulated him on achieving his doctorate degree. It’s a very comprehensive plan, interested in hearing how the plan will be executed and is looking forward to the presentation.

   7:35 p.m. Ms. Albiani called for a break and called the meeting back to order at 7:41 p.m.

   Mark Cerutti shared information about a plan to provide universal and targeted supports to students who identify as Black/African American for the 2021-22 school year and beyond. The Elk Grove Unified School District (EGUSD) is committed to the success of all students in the District. As part
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of this commitment there is a need to provide improved, increased, and fully integrated supports to
students who identify as Black/African American.

Historically, EGUSD has implemented universal strategies to support all students. These efforts have
resulted in improved academic, social emotional, and behavioral outcomes but disproportionately less
so for students who identify as Black/African American.

EGUSD is employing a methodology of support to specific student subgroups termed targeted
universalism. Targeted universalism means setting universal goals pursued by targeted processes to
achieve those goals. Within a targeted universalism framework, universal goals are established for all
students and student subgroups. The strategies developed to achieve those goals are targeted, based
upon the unique needs of different subgroups of students within the District. Targeted universalism is
goal oriented, and the processes are directed in service of the explicit, universal goal.

- The definition is adapted from the work of Powell, Menendian, and Ake; May 2019, Targeted
  Universalism Policy and Practice

The universal goals in EGUSD include:

- High-Quality Curriculum and Instruction: All students will receive high quality classroom
  instruction and curriculum to promote college and career readiness and close the achievement
gap.
- Student Assessment and Program Evaluation: All students will benefit from instruction guided
  by assessment results (formative, interim and summative) and continuous programmatic
  evaluation.
- Wellness: All students will have an equitable opportunity to learn in a culturally responsive,
  physically, and emotionally healthy and safe environment.
- Family and Community Engagement: All students will benefit from programs and services
  designed to inform and involve family and community partners.

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

10:00 p.m. - Motion No. 173, 2020-21, Motion by Ms. Chaires Espinoza, seconded by Ms. Jamerson to
extend the meeting until midnight. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson,
Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

XIII. Public Hearing/Action Items - None

XIV. Discussion Items

1. Community Business Proposals to Support Black/African American Students

   Public comments via Zoom audio:
   Steven Walker, board member of BYLP, shared reasons for his support of the program.

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

   Mark Cerutti provided information about proposals that have been received from community
organization for the Board to identify components of proposals that may be of interest, and if
applicable, direct staff to partner with the identified community organization/s in order to ensure the
scope of services and related budget is in alignment with District contractual requirements and
identified student needs, and bring formalized contract recommendations to the Board of Education.

   Mr. Cerutti introduced Lorreen Pryor of Black Youth Leadership Project, Armani Easley and Trinity
Haynes of Project Optimism and Rolanda Wilkins of Earth Mama Healing to answer the Board’s
questions about their programs.
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Board members thanked everyone for their information and held a discussion.

12:00 a.m. - Motion No. 174, 2020-21, Motion by Mr. Perez, seconded by Ms. Chaires Espinoza to extend the meeting until 12:40 a.m. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

Board members continued their discussion about the community proposals.

12:35 a.m. - Motion No. 175, 2020-21, Motion by Mr. Perez, seconded by Ms. Chaires Espinoza to extend the meeting until 1:00 a.m. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

Board members continued their discussion about the community proposals.

1:00 a.m. – The Elk Grove Unified School District Board of Education took action consistent with California Government Code section 54955, to continue its Board meeting by adjourning the regular meeting to 1:00 p.m. on Friday, June 25, 2021.

June 25, 2021, Continuance of June 22, 2021 Regular Board Meeting

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

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

OPEN SESSION VIA ZOOM: Ms. Albiani called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and began with the June 22, 2021, board meeting agenda and the related attachments to the June 22, 2021 agenda packet.

XIV. Discussion Items
1. Community Business Proposals to Support Black/African American Students
   Public comments submitted in writing to be read by staff are attached.

   The Board of Education identified components of the proposals that were of interest, and directed staff to provide an update at the next board meeting to the progress of the contracts and meeting with vendors.

XV. Action Items
1. Adoption of Elk Grove Unified School District's Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)
   Public comments submitted in writing to be read by staff are attached.

   Motion 176, 2020-21 - Motion by Mr. Forcina, seconded by Dr. Martinez-Alire and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that Elk Grove Unified School District's Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) for the 2021-22 year be approved.
   Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None
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2. Adoption of Elk Grove Charter School’s Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) - 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 177, 2020-21 - Motion by Mr. Perez, seconded by Ms. Chaires Espinoza and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that Elk Grove Charter School’s Local Control Accountability Plan (LCA) for the 2021-22 year be adopted. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

3. 2021-22 Adopted Budget - 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 178, 2020-21 - Motion by Ms. Chaires Espinoza, seconded by Dr. Martinez-Alire by and carried by an affirmative vote of Board members present that the 2021-22 Adopted Budget as presented on June 15, 2021 be approved. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – Forcina; Absent – None

4. COVID-19 Relief Funding – Remaining Round I – Funding Approval - 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 179, 2020-21 - Motion by Mr. Perez, seconded by Dr. Martinez-Alire and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Board members present that a spending plan for the remaining Round I COVID-19 Relief funds be approved. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Martinez-Alire, Perez and Yang; Nays – None; Absent – None

XVI. Board Member and Superintendent Reports – Superintendent thanked the Board for their leadership and Cabinet for their support in the work that’s been done. 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
Mr. Forcina requested the following:
• discuss what constitutes reasonable time period for staff response to public comments
• existing transportation policy be reviewed
• a report about restorative practices, how they work with PBIS, where they are currently implemented in the district, the role of our social workers and what services they provide and how much training have they received in restorative practices
• open meetings beginning in July

Mr. Perez requested that the transportation report be reconfigured and shared with the Board.

XVIII. Adjournment – 4:02 p.m.

Submitted by: Christopher R. Hoffman, Superintendent

Approved by: ____________________________

Both Albiani, Board President
ATTACHMENT: Public Comments submitted in writing to be read by staff

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<th>First Name</th>
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<td>Susan</td>
<td>Swenson</td>
<td>V. Public Comment</td>
<td>I am a Mexican parent who fled the bay area to avoid leftist indoctrination disguised as “Ethnic Studies” curriculum only to find out that this district is going down the same path with “Race and Educational Equity.” It is not YOUR job to teach MY kids about race, or even “Gay Pride.” Your job is to teach Math, English, and History, real History. My kids are Hispanic, but do not even understand why that is relevant today. They are being raised to understand that WE ARE ALL GOD’S CHILDREN. I am leaving my job to homeschool my children because I rather be dirt poor than allow my children to be indoctrinated. MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND FORGIVE YOU! During last week’s board meeting, Superintendent Hoffman provided an update about when the public would be allowed back in-person at school board meetings. There was first mention that Newsom extended his executive order for the electronic provision until September 30. But there was also mention of not waiting to invite the public back; mention of “concurrent” board meeting sessions with both in-person and ZOOM capabilities; a mention of discussing these “various options;” and a rough date for allowing stakeholders access to in-person sessions – with perhaps the first public access to meetings in August. Sadly, there seemed to be a clear deference in decision making about allowing the public our in-person due process. As I thought about this over the past week, it became quite clear, that perhaps little has improved with inclusion of all stakeholders – for parents, teachers, students, and other district employees and representatives to truly be heard. Because here we are again, this time lobbying for a seat in the chambers and a mic at the podium. Yet there’s no real reason why this could not have happened at the June 15 meeting. Zero reason based on the state’s reopening. So perhaps you can help the public understand why there needs to be discussion, when all that needs to happen is opening the doors to the boardroom? And as a demonstration of collaboration and inclusion with all stakeholders, you can keep doing ZOOM to broaden reach to those who may not be able to attend in person. Everything else is already in place with ZOOM, live telephonic comments and written comments. I also find it odd that the board quite simply did not take a proactive lead on the handling of their meetings but instead, it seemed as though the superintendent was driving that decision process with a lot of in-decision. Let’s not wait until August to do the right thing, when it is so incredibly easy to partner with the public. Please allow us to attend the next board session in person. Thank you. I fully support the new Black Student Advocacy &amp; Success Program. My daughter is a sophomore at Inderkum with a 4.7 GPA and we travel across town to attend BYLP gatherings. Through this program, my daughter has gained leadership skills, honed in on her community advocacy efforts, and has developed a stronger sense of herself as a young Black woman. This group is life-affirming and life-changing! As a supporter of BYLP and a member of the Sacramento Capitol community, I originally saw the program create outstanding opportunities for students who want to learn more about policy and legislation. Since then, I have had the opportunity to witness as the program has grown and to see how the program leaders nurture students during the most important years of their development. I’ve seen how they encourage these students to excel and succeed in school and beyond, and I have had the great fortune to see these young women and men become active and vital participants in their communities and schools. BYLP is one of the most impactful programs in the area - it creates real opportunities and real change for young people. I hope you will support the inclusion of the Black Student Advocacy &amp; Success Program at EGUSD.</td>
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I would like to comment in support of the proposal to add Black Youth Leadership (BYP) programs to EGUSD campuses. I’m sure everyone here is aware of EGUSD status as #1 in the state of CA for the disproportionate discipline of Black students. This is not a new problem and has been the topic of a number of board meetings. Awareness and discussion doesn't solve the problem. BYLP is proposing implementation of its programs that have already been shown to have a positive impact on Black youth it has served. I'm sure everyone here genuinely wants to see all kids thrive, and right now in EGUSD more attention and support needs to be focused on our Black youth. On a personal level, my son has been involved with BYLP's Goals Organization Academics & Transcripts (GOAT) program for the past 4 years. In that time I have watched him mature, gain confidence, set and reach goals, & thrive under the guidance and support that he received from Black mentors and peers. I have no doubt that his present and future success will be in large part due to his involvement with BYLP. Youth in BYLP’s G.O.A.T. program consistently set and reach goals, receive college acceptances, awards, & scholarships. I urge all board members to support the proposed addition of the Black Student Advocacy & Success Program to the EGUSD campuses so that students in need of additional support can access all they need to succeed and thrive! Thank you!

Adiyah Obolou

Personally, I’ve seen BYLP be a catalyst for students success and not only helped them outside of school, but within the classroom as well.

Chris Lodgson

Good Afternoon. My name is Chris Lodgson. I’m one of the co creators of the American Redress Coalition of California, Coalition for a Just and Equitable California, and National Assembly of American- Slavery Descendants. We work for Reparations and Reparative Justice. I strongly support BYLP’s proposal. And so should you. BYLP has a proven track record, more than competent leadership, and deep ties and trust in Black communities. Support their proposal and let’s get to work making deep and effective change for Black Students on Elk Grove’s campuses. Thank you.

Mariah

Hello my name is Mariah and I am not only a black child, I am a displaced black student within your district. Being a black student is hard enough, it becomes an even more difficult time when you feel that there are no supports present to help you thrive in that environment. There are no people to root for my success or even advocate for me when I feel invalidated or belittled by the rigorous journey of highschool. This is why I want to showcase my full support of the implementation of BYLP influence on our campuses. In my few months on being involved with the organization, I realize that the heavy burdens I internalized have been lifted off my shoulders because I now have a stable outlet to connect to when I am feeling unsure about how to process the world around me. BYLP has not only made me a better person, it has made me a more confidently outspoken student leader who isn’t afraid of submitting comments such as this one. I ask the board that they allow more and more students to have a chance at feeling the love that this organization has to give. Thank you.

Darryl Scarbrough

As Senior pastor of Bayside of South Sacramento Church and Vice President of National Action Network Sacramento, I have the privilege of walking closely with many community members. I have found BYLP to be a consistent force in bettering the lives and opportunities of our youth. I have seen them help children, not only learn, but come to love learning while opening their eyes to new potential. Programs that teach students how to navigate the political landscape to allowing them to explore new cities and places to teaching them how to plan their own events. This organization boldly aims high and has always landed where they should. I suggest this board strongly consider the proposal before them, as I am certain it will help all involved to succeed.

Antonio Ferraro

What a great opportunity to partner and drive change. My family has been personally impacted by suspension. I thought there were multiple opportunities for improvement around the entire suspension and record keeping process. People making the decisions didn’t understand the ramifications, didn’t understand the data, and had very limited perspective of the bigger picture. I've seen all of the issues laid out here first hand. Further, the district wide data strongly suggests there is significant opportunity for improvement more broadly. My Incident is not isolated, in fact, it’s way too common. Given some of my interactions with the administration, I believe the will is there to improve our results. Their heart is in the right place and priorities are around the education of our youth. This is a fantastic opportunity to partner to drive real results. Why can’t we be a district with one of the lowest African American suspension rates? We have such a great opportunity in front of us and you have a partner in front of you to help drive accountability and change.
I am writing in strong support of Black Youth Leadership partnership with EGUSD. BYLP has been actively advocating for Black students in Elk Grove and shining the light to the disproportionate discipline rates in the District. The programs they currently offer serve as support networks so students are valued, heard and seen. Black students are finding their voices with an organization that is specific and intentional to their needs, as they are the group most affected. The numbers don't lie. We can not fix this problem with a solution that blankets all students. We must do better!

BYLP programs are designed to educate and empower Black youth in the education system, unapologetically. Black students need purpose and strategy to effect change and achieve their goals in and beyond the school campus, given they suffer the most under the hands of teachers/administration.

Allow BYLP to make recommendations for new or improved restorative justice program implementation and strategies to eliminate discipline disproportionality in your district. And give them the opportunity to improve mental and emotional support for the Black community. Show your community you care about the trajectory of Black students lives.

I am speaking up in support of BYLP being chosen by the district to lead, create, and implement support for our district’s Black students. EGUSD being #1 in the STATE for disproportionate discipline of Black students, is deplorable. BYLP is representative of our local Black community and their programming has proven successful for students and families locally and beyond. BYLP should be in charge of the Black Student Advocacy and Success Program... this kind of support is WAY past due so please hand it over to those who can and will best support our beautiful and brilliant, Black students.

Over the past six years I’ve witnessed BYLP's powerful impact on our Black students and their families. From teaching students and families how to use their own voice, to being THE VOICE when students and families felt like theirs weren’t being heard OR even when they believed they didn’t have voice. As a parent of 3 black school aged children, as well as an educator and community leader, I know firsthand what it feels like to be unsupported in educational spaces. I should never have to feel that way again. Our babies and our families should never have to feel that way again. If there is even a question of WHY the BYLP program should be on campuses, then I would challenge those who pose the question to check their own heart and motives. Educational equity is about giving our babies what they need, when they need it and how they need it. So let’s stand up and walk for the change that our babies need to see. And it starts with BYLP’s program being district-wide. Dominate Your Day. Thank you.

Good evening, I am a student and apart of the BYLP program, I am a mentee in the Black Boys Support Network and attend their other programs like: Justice Bootcamp & Legislative Open House. BYLP has helped me in many ways and I feel it can be very beneficial for Black boys like me because it gives us a safe space to express our feelings and the things we experience on these campuses on a daily bases. Things that we may not feel comfortable sharing with staff at school. This is why I think Elk Grove Unified should be the first of many Districts to bring this program to their campuses to help support Black students.

My name is Exquisite Hundley . I am an advocate with BYLP. I am writing on today to show my support and commitment to the proposal that was submit from my organization to help our Black students here at Elk Grove. We have submitted a proposal to address the Disproportionate discipline of Black students . We have been present and have addressed this very issue over and over again. Now is the time for this very board to take action. To engage and support our Black students and get our program into the campuses so that true community can began here at Elk Grove Unified.

Black Youth Leader Project and their programs must be included in schools throughout the Elk Grove Unified School district. Even though the Monterey Trail region has started an equity council, I believe that in order to make black students feel comfortable on campuses, in the school district, there needs to be a program designed for black students, made by black people. Without BYLP on school campuses, black students have little to no support when they go to school. BYLP has done so much for black students. Their programs have given high school students internships that help them with important skills they need, they have a program that helps students get into their desired college(s), and they also have support networks for black kids, adults, and allies to be able to come together in a safe space and talk about what needs to be talked about.
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Samuel Hundley XIV. Discussion Items, No. 1
Good evening, I am a student apart of the BYLP program and a mentee with Black Boys Support Network. BYLP has helped me to express and work through micro-aggressions and offensive comments as a Black boy with comforting responses, empathy and understanding. Elk Grove Unified accept this proposal so that other black students can have the same growth as I have had in BYLP.

Marianna Sousa XIV. Discussion Items, No. 1
As a Mental Health First Aider with extensive experience serving the state of California, I am in total support of youth development programs for students of African descent. My mission is to provide students with tools and resources to survive and overcome the socio-economic effects of historical marginalization as a result of systemic white supremacy. The goal is to encourage students to participate in programs that support positive environments for culturally responsive trauma-informed care and mental health practices. Students must have access to strength-based approaches within safe spaces that provide opportunities designed to foster healing and guidance. It is imperative that funding is allocated specifically for programs that will provide facilitation for students to build personal and scholastic achievement. Students who have the support of quality life development programs gain the ability to successfully complete their student education plans and thrive as healthy, productive human beings.

Shamar Hundley XIV. Discussion Items, No. 1
Hello my name is SHAMAR Hundley and I’m writing today to voice my support towards the partnership between Elk Grove Unified and BYLP. With Elk Grove Unified currently being number one in the disproportionate rate of Black children being disciplined and suspended in the state of California I feel this is a vital need to end a pandemic that has been ravaging our community long before Covid. If Elk Grove Unified is genuine in their attempt to change this narrative and become a gold standard of true equity not just in the state but the country then it only makes sense to partner with an organization that has a grass roots foundation within the community. BYLP has more than proven they are up to the task of protecting are Black children and providing them a voice within this district. Now is the time to make this partnership official and begin the work of true authentic change within Elk Grove Unified district and it’s surrounding community.

Jalen Hill XIV. Discussion Items, No. 1
I want to offer my support of BYLP’s proposal. Everything that they do helps build up Black Youth and the EGUSD is of dire need of that. Their programs and support networks are extremely beneficial to the community.

Jayda Preyer XIV. Discussion Items, No. 1
I would like to show my support for BYLP programming to be implemented on your campuses throughout the district. BYLP has proven itself to be an excellent partner to EGUSD. As an outside organization BYLP has established itself as a strong pillar for Black students in the most critical stages in their life. Since the numbers of the exclusionary/dispportionate discipline of the Black students has increased (EGUSD is #1 in the state), EGUSD must pivot in the way it has traditionally chosen to address these issues, thereby sending the message that Black students are disposable. One of the best ways to start to make changes is by choosing to partner with BYLP. I am in support of EGUSD approving BYLP’s proposal. Stand with your Black students by recognizing the services BYLP offers are critical for their self development. If you really want to see a change, you must do something different and be the change. Board members, you have the ability to set an example. With your leadership you can become a turnaround district model in California and eventually for the entire country by intentionally deciding that non action is unacceptable. BYLP is ready to roll out all programs because they are already in place, July and August only gives us more time. Please vote in favor to stand in solidarity with your Black students.
Good afternoon and thank you for your time. All students deserve an educational environment where they can safely learn and evolve into their best possible selves. Unfortunately, that environment is currently not in place for black students within EGUSD, as evident by the large number of black students suspended within the district. While the current situation is disheartening, the good news is that the EGUSD Board now has the opportunity to remedy this situation.

As a black male growing up with a parent who worked in my school, I was lucky to develop a positive association with learning and the educational system even though there were very few teachers, administrators, or staff who looked like me or were from my neighborhood. But that journey was not linear. Yet when I lost my way, my school didn’t exclude from the community through suspensions and other exclusionary policies, instead they brought me closer to the fold by finding ways for me to connect with mentors and similarly situated students. This helped me not only avoid disaster, but to thrive and ultimately obtain a professional degree. Thankfully, the Black Youth Leadership Project (“BYLP”) can offer a similar opportunity for students within EGUSD.

BYLP has no less than five distinct, existing programs that provide support for black students while providing a safe, structured environment for them to blossom. For years BYLP has delivered tangible and quantifiable results for the black students it serves. There is no doubt that if this board takes the opportunity it has before it to implement BYLP’s services within the district, the district will see a decrease in negative outcomes for black students which will in turn improve the educational outcomes for all of its students. Thank you for your time. Respectfully, Embert P. Madison, Jr., Esq.

Black Youth Leadership Project has had a strong effect on Black youth. It has made children feel empowered, safe, and worthy. These are all qualities that children need in order to succeed and this is not happening with the current disproportionate discipline of Black youth happening in the district.

There is an increasing need for services for Black Students in the Elk Grove Unified School District. Who better than BYLP and Mrs. Loreen Pryor-Trowel? She is hands on with hundreds of black students providing them advocacy services, mental health services, art therapy, but most important, teaching them how to become leaders in their lives and their communities. We need organizations like BYLP who relate to our black students and we need equitable services for our black children in the Elk Grove Unified School District. As a community leader and parent in the district, I would like to highly recommend BYLP and encourage you elected Board Members to give this contract to an organization that operates in excellence!

On behalf of the Greater Sacramento NAACP, I want to express my strong support for the Black Student Advocacy and Success Program proposal, as submitted by the Black Youth Leadership Project (BYLP). It is imperative that EGUSD invests in the African American student population to ensure supports are in place to help them thrive post pandemic.

It is no secret that the COVID-19 pandemic created a divide of its own. Even students who had access to internet services and computers, struggled to stay connected not only academically, but mentally and emotionally. Students were disciplined for minor infractions such as turning off their cameras. Through its own investigation, BYLP discovered that African American students were disciplined more than students of other races, which resulted in them missing valuable instruction time.

BYLP provided support systems and wrap-around services for this population of students and parents during the entire pandemic. These vital services helped students overcome depression, unworthiness and feelings of isolation. Students were also connected with tutors who looked and spoke like them, mentors and many other community members who supported this vision.

If this proposal is funded, BYLP will be able to continue and expand its work within the community. A multi-pronged approach that focuses on the African American student population specifically, is needed to help them successfully navigate the educational system post pandemic. This proposal is a step in the right direction to address disproportionate discipline and rebuild community trust in the district. However, funding is tantamount to the success of any program, and also allows the services to remain free of charge to participants.

I respectfully urge your support of the Black Student Advocacy and Success Program proposal. Salena Pryor, Chair Greater Sacramento NAACP Education Chair
MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, June 22, 2021

Jordan Sanders XIV. Discussion Items, No. 1
I would like to show my support for BYLP's programs to be implemented on your campuses throughout the district. BYLP has proven itself to be an excellent partner to EGUSD. As an outside organization, BYLP has played a key role to the success of many Black students and has established itself as a positive & healthy influence in the most critical stages of their lives. Since the numbers of the exclusionary/disproportionate discipline of the Black students has increased (EGUSD is #1 in the state), EGUSD must pivot in the way it has traditionally chosen to address these issues, thereby sending the message that Black students are disposable. EGUSD's traditionalism is failing. One of the best ways that you can correct these issues is by choosing to partner with BYLP. I am in support of EGUSD approving BYLP's proposal. Stand with your Black students by recognizing the services BYLP offers are critical for their self development. If you really want to see a change, you must do something different and be the change. Board members, you have the ability to set an example. With your leadership you can become a turnaround district model in California and eventually for the entire country by intentionally deciding that non action is unacceptable. The fate of Black students in this district is relying on your approval of BYLP. Make the right decision and allow BYLP to implement their programs. Thank you.

TIFFANY Means XIV. Discussion Items, No. 1
I am community member and you writing to show your full support for the partnership with BYLP and Elk Grove Unified. Now is the time for Elk Grove to make Black students a priority and address to disproportionate discipline of Black students.

Bobby Roy XIV. Discussion Items, No. 1
As a 37 year resident in the Elk Grove Unified School District, alumnus of Valley High School, and 20 year employee at the California Department of Education, I write to support directing staff to partner with the Black Youth Leadership Project (BYLP), Earth Mama Healing (EMH), and Project Optimism (PO) on these proposals. As partners in this work, they can be bridges to bring out the best in our students. Noted is that while the BYLP plans to work across grade spans, EMH at a couple of high schools, and PO at middle schools, I encourage the board to also direct staff to find community organizations that can provide a focus on elementary grade spans and students in special education programs.

Candace Wails XIV. Discussion Items, No. 1
As a community member and family of 2 egusd students I am 1000% in favor of the BYLP proposal. This proposals will offer on campus support, services and resources to black students. EGUSD has had continued increase of reports of issues of racial discrimination. Students have voiced and shared concerns for diversity on campus and not feeling heard or understood by faculty and staff. Various staff have engaged in insensitive comments and behaviors that are demeaning to black student. BYLP can offer black students a space to feel heard, supported and understood with academic, social and personal needs.
My name is Megan Sapigao, and I am a resident, former student of the district, parent, and community leader in the Asian and Pacific Islander community. I also represent the Sacramento Asian/Pacific Islander Regional Network. And we stand in solidarity with the Black community and all sibling communities of color that are are affected by disproportionate discipline and racial disparities in the district.

It is disturbing to see the alarmingly disproportionate rates of discipline leveled on our Black students in the district. According to the the report, "Suspending our Future," the data notes that "based on unduplicated suspensions, the highest suspension district in California was Elk Grove Unified (n = 1,184, total suspensions n = 2,386). This is followed closely by Oakland Unified, with 1,138 unduplicated suspensions. However, an important distinguishing characteristic is that Oakland has far more Black students enrolled than Elk Grove yet suspends fewer than Elk Grove." This data is absolutely appalling, and screams the need for the district to take a close look at how we not only rely too heavily on punitive actions, but also how we do not explicitly support our Black Youth and families of color in this community, when it's so clear we need to.

You don't have to go far to know that research supports moving away from carceral measures and systems like campus resource officers, suspensions, and other prison-to-pipeline actions, and rather robustly funding measures that provide culturally competent therapy, mental health support and community-centered programming to our youth. The programs and measure outlined in BYLP proposal work for students and their families.

EGUSD says it cares about equity. The administration has had an equity plan on paper for years. It is very lucratively funds a staff position for implementing equity in the district. It constructs youth councils and parent stakeholder groups to talk about "equity" throughout the year. Yet, there is no clear action or explicit and robust funding directed to ensuring those who are the most impacted, the closest to the pain, and the most at risk, are adequately supported here in the district. THAT is equity. And I don't know if we're scared. I don't know if there is some hidden counter-data somewhere that the district is sitting on. I don't know what is the hold up. But to do nothing despite knowing for years we have had a suspension problem here in this district, is unacceptable. I urge you, Trustees, to be bold and unapologetic, and listen to the Black community, listen to your Black students, and listen to the BYLP-- Act on implementing their proposals presented today. Thank you.

Good evening, I would like to show my support for BYLP's Proposal to put programs in place for the Elk Grove Unified School District campuses under the umbrella of Black Student Advocacy & Success Program. EGUSD is currently #1 in the state of CA for disproportionate discipline of Black students and this has to change. To date, there is no comprehensive plan by EGUSD to tackle this issue. Thankfully, the BYLP wants to help solve this problem. They have stepped up to do their part to be a part of the solution to this growing problem. They've drawn up a plan addressing a growing problem negatively affecting the young black students in the school district. They have proposed putting their support networks such as GOAT and other Advocacy services, along with outlets like art therapy and mental health supports in place for the students. You have the solutions being handed to you on a silver platter. Please take advantage of the opportunity being presented to you. The marginalized students are depending on you. Like Dr. Martin Luther King said: An injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. Let's stop the injustices our young black students are facing today, and let's do right by them today. Thank You.
Transformational Leadership means setting bold goals and making clear decisions that will allow all members of our entire school community of students and staff to work productively to achieve their own best quality of life.

We now have a timely opportunity in funding and shared vision, for school board leaders to hire more school counselors. So that we are best equipped, in the same spirit as our teacher colleagues and class size reduction research, to address the individual and diverse of our students. At the secondary level, mental health first aid response has been by school counselors. I imagine a reality where we can do more with more school counselors on deck.

In other states that are closer to a recommended average of 1:250 counselor-to-student ratio, there is correlational student outcome data. In the early 2000s, the more optimum ratio was closer to reality in EGUSD with AB1802 categorical funding, but the recession led to cuts to school counseling teams that have never been fully restored.

Please attend to the LCAP survey responses from our students and staff on “how can the district support the mental health and social-emotional health of students?” The resounding response was to hire and train more school counselors. Our teacher colleagues have become reinforcements for us school counselors. If there are more school counselors to counsel, our teachers can be freed up to teach and support in ways they are best trained and equipped to too.

I can imagine being more proactive, rather than reactive. Our shared charge to support the whole child in their wellness and in their education and graduating life-ready, remains a priority. Please invest in more school counselors to meet this moment.

Thank you.