

# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, OCTOBER 17, 2023

*Adopted*

**Members Present:** Nancy Chaires Espinoza, President; Beth Albiani, Carmine Forcina, Gina Jamerson, Anthony Perez, Michael Vargas, Sean Yang; Absent: Isabella Sigal, Student Board Member

**Others Present:** Christopher R. Hoffman, Superintendent; Mark Cerutti and Kristen Coates, Deputy Superintendents; David Reilly, Associate Superintendent; Bindy Grewal and Chad Sweitzer, Assistant Superintendents; Amreek Singh, Chief Human Resources Officer; Amari Watkins, Chief Financial Officer; Steve Mate, Chief Information Officer; Jenifer Avey and Lisa Levasseur, Executive Directors

**CLOSED SESSION:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. to address items 1 and 2 on the closed session portion of the agenda. Ms. Chaires Espinoza announced that the Board would meet in closed session to address the items on the agenda and called for public comment on these items; there were no public comments.

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

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

Agency designated representatives: Christopher R. Hoffman, Karen Rezendes

David Reilly, Amreek Singh, Mark Cerutti, Kristen Coates, Amari Watkins

Unrepresented Employees: Unrepresented Management Employees

**OPEN SESSION:** Ms. Chaires Espinoza called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and announced that the Board met in closed session and no action was taken.

Ms. Chaires Espinoza provided a welcome and announced that live streaming of the board meeting is made available via the Zoom platform and meetings are recorded (video and audio) and will be made available on the Elk Grove Unified School District's YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/user/elkgroveunified](http://www.youtube.com/user/elkgroveunified)

**I. Pledge of Allegiance** – Cynthia Garcia led the pledge of allegiance and was recognized by the Board of Education for her contributions to the students and staff at Monterey Trail High School.

## **II. Presentations/Recognitions**

**1. Student Regional Report - Valley Region:** Students from Valley High School, Samuel Jackman Middle School, Herman Leimbach Elementary, Charles Mack Elementary, Prairie Elementary, John Reith Elementary, and Union House Elementary reported on academics and activities at their schools.

## **III. Resolutions**

**1. National School Psychology Week** – Motion No. 41, 2023-24, Motion by Mr. Forcina, seconded by Mr. Yang and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that Resolution No. 24, recognizing November 6-10, 2023, as National School Psychology Week be approved.

**2. Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day** – Motion No. 42, 2023-24, Motion by Ms. Jamerson, seconded by Mr. Perez and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that Resolution No. 15, which endorses November 14, 2023, as Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day be approved.

**3. Native American Heritage Month** – Motion No. 43, 2023-24, Motion by Mr. Forcina, seconded by Mr. Yang carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that Resolution No. 25, designating November 2023 as Native American Heritage Month be approved.

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, OCTOBER 17, 2023

- 4. Sikh American Awareness and Appreciation Month** - Motion No. 44, 2023-24, Motion by Mr. Yang, seconded by Mr. Vargas and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that Resolution No. 26, designating November 2023 as Sikh American Awareness and Appreciation Month be approved.

### *Public Comment:*

Mandeep Singh shared his appreciation for the acknowledgement and shared additional information about the Sikh culture and history.

Rose Malhi and Simron Chatha shared information about upcoming events at their schools.

- 5. Red Ribbon Week** – Motion No. 45, 2023-24, Motion by Mr. Forcina, seconded by Mr. Vargas and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that Resolution No. 27, recognizing October 23-31, 2023, as Red Ribbon Week be approved.

## IV. Student Expulsion/Involuntary Transfer Recommendations

- 1. Request for Student Expulsion** – Motion No. 46, 2023-24, Motion by Ms. Albiani, seconded by Ms. Jamerson and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that the recommendations for student expulsion be approved.
- 2. Request for Return from Expulsion** – Motion No. 47, 2023-24, Motion by Ms. Jamerson, seconded by Ms. Albiani carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that the recommendation for readmission from expulsion be approved.

## V. Public Comment

Kurk Thompson shared his thoughts about some public comments that were made at a previous board meeting.

Steven Ruiz expressed his concerns about ACT scores, students not being prepared for the post-secondary level, and requested that college graduation rates of former district students be provided.

Dustin Noble asked that the Board look into how the district can do more to promote inclusion, promote activities centered around disabilities and spotlight neurodiversity.

Emily shared concerns about the lack of access to bathrooms at Pinkerton Middle School, student access to paraeducators, and lack of funding for library technicians and library books.

Melissa Brown expressed her frustration about her 10-year-old being taught the meaning of LGBTQ+ without her consent by his classroom teacher. Ms. Brown indicated that site administration has not provided any answers or help with the situation.

Jess Carlson shared her thoughts about public comment from a past board meeting and asked that the Board protect student legal rights.

Ms. Walsh spoke in support of the National School Psychologist Week resolution and shared how pleased she is with her son's new elementary school.

Gary Hickman, Charlotte, and Amelina shared concerns about the explicit materials and books available to students in school libraries and requested they be removed from school sites.

Rett Pennell shared concerns about her grandson who continues to be bullied at school and the lack of assistance provided from site administration regarding this matter.

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, OCTOBER 17, 2023

Heidi shared her concerns about the California Healthy Youth survey, the lack of a survey for students leaving the district, and the lack of security officers at school sites and board meetings.

### VI. Consent Agenda – Action

Prior to the vote, Mr. Perez pulled items 1, 2, 26, 27 and 28 for discussion/approval.

Motion No. 48, 2023-24, Motion by Mr. Vargas, seconded by Mr. Yang and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that items 3 – 33, except for items 1, 2, 26, 27 and 28 on the consent agenda be approved.

Motion No. 49, 2023-24, Motion by Ms. Albiani, seconded by Mr. Vargas and carried by a 6 – 1 vote that item 1 on the consent agenda be approved. *Ayes: Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Vargas, and Yang; Nays: Perez*

Motion No. 50, 2023-24, Motion by Mr. Forcina, seconded by Mr. Vargas and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that item 2 on the consent agenda be approved.

Motion No. 51, 2023-24, Motion by Mr. Vargas, seconded by Mr. Yang and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that item 26 on the consent agenda be approved.

Motion No. 52, 2023-24, Motion by Mr. Vargas, seconded by Ms. Albiani and carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all board members present that item 27 on the consent agenda be approved.

Motion No. 53, 2023-24, Motion by Mr. Forcina, seconded by Mr. Vargas and carried by a 6 – 1 vote that item 1 on the consent agenda be approved. *Ayes – Albiani, Chaires Espinoza, Forcina, Jamerson, Vargas, and Yang; Nays – Perez*

#### 1. Approval of Board Policies – Approved updates made to the policies listed below:

- BP 4212.6 & 4312.6: Personnel Files
- BP 6146.1: High School Graduation
- BP 6173: Education for Homeless Children
- BP 6173.1: Education of Foster Youth

#### 2. Approval of Minutes – Approved the minutes from the special board meeting that was held on August 22, 2023, and the regular board meeting that was held on September 5, 2023.

#### 3. Approval of Revised Elk Grove Unified School District Governance Handbook – Approved the revised EGUSD Governance Handbook.

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

#### 5. Revised Job Description - Director, Research & Evaluation – Approved the revised Director, Research & Evaluation job description as reflected in the actions below.

#### 6. Proposed Job Description - Human Resources Compliance Technician – Approved the Human Resources Compliance Technician Job Description for the position supporting the Human Resources Compliance Coordinator.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, OCTOBER 17, 2023**

**7. Certification of Administrator’s Competence to Evaluate** – Granted Certification of Administrator’s Competence to Evaluate for the following newly-hired district administrators who have successfully completed the District’s training process:

- Aaron Pedrodalasol, Sheldon High School
- Candace Raffanti, Sheldon High School
- Carrie Mitchell, Robert McGarvey Elementary
- Jamie Henson, Charles Mack Elementary
- Julie Plaisance, James Rutter Middle School
- Irina Jackson, Herman Leimbach Elementary
- Marilyn Delgado, Jessie Baker Elementary
- Nicole Beam, Laguna Creek High School
- Paul Delgado, Calvine High School
- Sage Smith, Sierra Enterprise Elementary
- Saody Freeman, Elizabeth Pinkerton Middle School

**8. Refugee Support Services Fund** – Approved Resolution No. 22, 2023-24, for the Elk Grove Adult and Community Education’s (EGACE) acceptance of the Sacramento Training and Employment Agency (SETA) Refugee Support Services Grant funds to operate the English Language Learner (ELL) Workforce Navigator program.

**9. Out-of-State Field Trips** – Approved the out-of-state field trips listed below.

|                                 |               |  |                      |
|---------------------------------|---------------|--|----------------------|
| Sheldon High School             | Meridian, ID  | Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament      | December 13-17, 2023 |
| Sheldon High School             | Las Vegas, NV | Tarkanian Basketball Tournament            | December 13-22, 2023 |
| Laguna Creek High School        | Reno, NV      | Sierra Nevada Classic Wrestling Tournament | December 27-30, 2023 |
| Elk Grove High School           | Reno, NV      | Sierra Nevada Classic Wrestling Tournament | December 28-29, 2023 |
| Pleasant Grove High School      | Reno, NV      | Sierra Nevada Classic Wrestling Tournament | December 28-29, 2023 |
| Katherine Albiani Middle School | Atlanta, GA   | Junior Theatre Festival (JTF)              | January 11-15, 2024  |

**10. Revisions to High School Courses** – Approved revisions to the high school courses below:

**EL Language Lab** (Course #02860) (9-12/ELD-Elective) - Revising to add *Get Ready* curriculum as a possible support material used for this class. The curriculum used should match concurrent enrollment of the ELA/ELD class.

**AVID Tutor** (Course #09014) (10-12 Elective) - Revising course title from “AVID Tutorial” to “AVID Tutor.” AVID Tutors will support the AVID elective courses with facilitating tutorials and completing various assigned tasks under the supervision of the AVID elective teacher and/or Coordinator. The course will require a prerequisite GPA of 2.75 and be allowed to repeat for up to 20 credits.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, OCTOBER 17, 2023**

- 11. K-12 Technology Proficiency Standards** – Approved the revision to the K-12 Technology Proficiency Standards.
- 12. Disposal of Obsolete/Surplus Property** – Authorized the disposal of various obsolete/surplus property as submitted. No income is anticipated to be received by the district for these items. However, any income that is received will go into the General Fund.
- 13. Approval of Purchase Order History** – Approved contracts signed by authorized staff in accordance with Board Policy 3312 as submitted.
- 14. Approval to Purchase Furniture through Omnia Partners Cooperative Agreement** – Approved the purchase of Furniture as needed cooperatively through Omnia Partners, dba Omnia Partners, Public Sector Region 14 ESC-TX Contract # 07-85.
- 15. Professional Services Selection for Various Projects** – Authorized administration to approve the updated list of qualified consulting firms to provide design and construction administration services, and approve the professional services recommendation related to the District's Facilities Master Planning (FMP) services and related projects.
- 16. Modular Building Design, Construction, and Installation Lease-Leaseback (LLB) Services** – Authorized administration to approve the updated list of qualified providers of Lease-Leaseback (LLB) construction services to provide modular building design, construction, and installation.
- 17. Central Kitchen Modernization, Increment #2 Lease-Leaseback Agreement Amendment** – Approved a Lease-Leaseback Amendment with C. T. Brayton and Sons, Inc. for the Central Kitchen Modernization Project; and approved a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$115,561.00 for the construction of Upstream Condenser Work, Inc#2 of the Central Kitchen Modernization Project.
- 18. Valley High School, Exterior Window Replacement at Building L Award of Contract** – Approved the award of contract to Pro-Ex Construction, Inc. for the total base bid of \$126,900.00. Authorized administration to sign all documents and contracts pertaining to this work, and 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.
- 19. Central Kitchen Modernization, Increment 1 – Cooling Tower Replacement Change Order No. 1** - Approved Change Order No. 1 with C.T. Brayton and Sons, Inc. and authorized a district representative to sign the approved change order. Change Order No. 1 changes the contract amount of \$122,742,740.00 by (\$9,085.00) to \$113,657.00.
- 20. Valley High School, Exterior Painting Change Order No. 1** – Approved Change Order No. 1 with Mason Painting, Inc., and authorized a district representative to sign the approved change order. Change Order No. 1 changes the contract amount of \$220,240.00 by \$18,065.00 to \$238,305.00.
- 21. Valley High School, Fence Repair at Tennis Courts Change Order No. 1** – Approved Change Order No. 1 with Pisor Fence Division, Inc., and authorized a district representative to

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, OCTOBER 17, 2023**

sign the approved change order. Change Order No. 1 changes the contract amount of \$149,094.00 by \$2,951.00 to \$152,045.00.

- 22. Security System Upgrade – Group 5 Change Order No. 6** – Approved Change Order No. 6 with ICU Technologies, Inc., and authorized a district representative to sign the approved change order. Change Order No. 6 changes the contract amount of \$14,610,510.89 by \$21,057.24 to \$14,631,568.13.
- 23. Security System Upgrade – Group 5 Acceptance and Notice of Completion** – Accepted the construction of the Security System Upgrade – Group 5 project at various schools and authorized the filing of the Notice of Completion.
- 24. Valley High School Fence Repair at Tennis Courts Acceptance and Notice of Completion** – Accepted the construction of the Fence Repair at Tennis Courts project at Valley High School and authorized the filing of the Notice of Completion.
- 25. Central Kitchen Modernization, Increment 1 – Cooling Tower Replacement Acceptance and Notice of Completion** – Accepted the construction of the Central Kitchen Modernization, Increment 1 – Cooling Tower Replacement project, and authorized the filing of the Notice of Completion.
- 26. Ratification of Grant Contracts/Agreements for Funding** – Approved grant contracts/agreements signed by authorized staff as submitted.
- 27. Ratification of Contracts, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU's) and Agreements for Services** – Approved contracts signed by authorized staff in accordance with Board Policy 3312 as submitted.
- 28. Resolutions for Authorized Signatures** – Approved Resolution Numbers 28 – 31, 2023-24 for Authorized Signatures.
- 29. Acceptance of Gifts** – Approved donations to the district's schools/programs as submitted.
- 30. Approval of Purchase Order Encumbrance Modification History** – Approved purchase order encumbrance modifications from September 9, 2023 – October 4, 2023.
- 31. Quarterly Investment Report** – Received a quarterly report of investments.
- 32. Warrant Register No. 3** – Approved Warrant Register No. 3 – Warrant Numbers 124792 – 126523, 444702 – 445656.
- 33. Approval for the District to Prepare and Submit a Request for Proposal for District Internet Connectivity** – Authorized the Elk Grove Unified School District to submit a Request for Proposal (RFP) for District (leased lit or dark fiber) Internet connectivity (E-rate eligible).

*At 7:40 pm, Board President Chaires Espinoza called for a 10 minute break and called the meeting back to order at 7:50 p.m.*

**VII. LCAP Update – None**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, OCTOBER 17, 2023**

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

**IX. Budget Update – None**

**X. Facilities Update – None**

**XI. Bargaining Units – None**

**XII. Reports – None**

**XIII. Public Hearing/Action Items – None**

**XIV. Discussion Items**

**1. Instructional Material and Library Media Center Policies Update** – Mark Cerutti provided an update on the Board subcommittee, serving in an advisory capacity, that was established to review the drafts policies, regulations, and related exhibits. The subcommittee was comprised of Board president Nancy Chaires Espinoza, Board members Carmine Forcina and Michael Vargas, and district staff: Mark Cerutti, Deputy Superintendent of Education Services & Schools; Jenifer Avey, Executive Director of School Support; LaRae Blomquist, Director of Instructional Support in Curriculum & Professional Learning; and Karen Rezendes, legal counsel. An overview of the process used to complete the draft documents including the draft documents. Staff will use the feedback and direction from the Board to create final draft policies to be brought back to the Board for approval. Note: only policies are approved by the Board. Administrative regulations and exhibits are approved by the Superintendent with input from the Superintendent’s Cabinet. The documents discussed included BP, AR, and Exhibit 1312.2 – Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials, BP and AR 6161.1 – Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Material, BP 6163.1 – Library Media Centers, and EGUSD Library Materials Selection Protocol.

Board members held a discussion, and staff will draft requested changes.

*Public Comment:*

Gary Hickman shared concerns about the pilot program, the policies in the presentation and requested they be revised before approval.

Dustin Noble and Jencie thanked the district for the presentation and expressed their appreciation of school librarians and requested that the Board consider more hours and funding.

Heidi, Amelina, Meg Madden, Mariel Clark, Charlotte shared their thoughts about the books available to students in school libraries, policies, procedures, and the book selection process.

**XV. Action Items – None**

**XVI. Board Member and Superintendent Reports** – Board Members and the Superintendent reported on organization and committee meetings and information relative to the district and its operation.

**XVII. Consideration of Future Agenda Items – None**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, OCTOBER 17, 2023**

**XIII. Adjournment** – 7:52 p.m.

Submitted by Christopher R. Hoffman, Superintendent

Approved by:   
Gina Jamerson, Board President