



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 16, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

Members Present in Person: Mr. Garcia and Mr. Long
Members Present by Video: Ms. Cadman, Ms. Karsch and Ms. Taylor
Others Present: Dr. Judson, Ms. Sprague, Mr. Claflin and Mr. Embleton

1. Call to Order

President Garcia called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. stating this meeting is by video and telephonic webinar, and that microphones for the participating public will be kept on mute for all portions of the meeting with the exception of the public comment and public hearing periods. When the meeting was called to order, President Garcia performed an attendance roll call wherein Member Karsch, Member Taylor and Member Cadman, indicated they were present by video and Member Long and Member Garcia indicated they were present in person. President Garcia announced that a roll call vote would be taken and recorded on each motion made at this meeting and that all open sessions of the board meeting are audio recorded and may capture sounds of those participating in the meeting. President Garcia asked those participating in the meeting to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Public Comment

Pursuant to Board Policy 9324, Board Minutes and Recordings: "The minutes shall reflect the names of those individuals who comment during the meeting's public comment period as well as the topics they address."

A. Comments on agenda items except agenda item 4. A. None offered.

3. Review/Adopt Agenda

A.* The Board of Trustees adopted the agenda as presented on a motion by Member Long, seconded by Member Taylor and carried by a unanimous roll call vote, with all members present voting yes.

4. Superintendent's Presentation

A. 1.* Superintendent Judson presented 2 recommendations relating to the 2020-2021 school year opening: (1) Begin the school year with instruction in the Virtual and Home School models only; (2) Change the start date of school to August 7, 2020, for virtual instruction.

- Member Karsch asked what will trigger us to return to the hybrid in-school model? Superintendent Judson stated we will be working with the Department of Public Health to help determine the criteria to return to the hybrid model.
- Member Karsch asked originally if we were in phase 1, based on state recommendations, we would be in virtual home school model only? When we go to phase 2 & 3, we would be in the hybrid model and phase 4 back to full time, if the state does not officially go to phase 1, then we will just follow the data? Superintendent Judson stated that is correct.
- Member Karsch asked what happens if a family does not choose an election, how would they default? Superintendent Judson stated the default would be to the hybrid model, with the same teacher that they have in virtual learning.
- Member Cadman asked if we will be having child care on our school campuses? Superintendent Judson stated when we are in the model for virtual learning, we will be offering child care to our staff.
- Member Cadman asked if special needs students will not be on campus? Superintendent Judson stated that is correct. They would be in virtual learning or in the home school model.

4. Superintendent's Presentation (continued)

- Member Taylor asked if we still are giving parents the opportunity to make a decision and if they choose the hybrid model, then students will be assigned a teacher in virtual learning and once the students are back on campus that they remain with that teacher? Superintendent stated that is correct.
- Member Taylor asked who is going to set the criteria for schools and children to get back into schools? Superintendent Judson stated we would work with the Department of Public health, to see what criteria they would recommend and as things begin to improve, they may allow us to re-open schools and use a different criteria that is higher than the state level.
- Member Taylor asked if the County Board of Education for San Bernardino or the State Board of Education stated which criteria we should use to make a decision regarding in seat, hybrid or virtual learning? Superintendent Judson stated not that he is aware of.
- Member Taylor asked if we knew if they plan on setting guidelines? Superintendent Judson stated he did not know, however, the Governor has a press conference tomorrow and will be talking about schools, not sure if that will be part of his announcement.
- Member Taylor stated we don't know if the Governor will set guidelines either. Then asked if there are no guidelines to whether kids are safe in school setting or whether or not they have to do distance learning and there are no guidelines by any Department of Public Health or County Board of Education or government agencies that is listing where the numbers need to be for our students to be in their seats? Superintendent Judson stated not that he is aware of.
- Member Taylor asked if the numbers we are going off for your recommendation are only the numbers that have been given have put us in the category of restaurants, hair salons and other businesses, then there are no guidelines for schools? Superintendent Judson stated that is correct.
- Member Taylor stated this is upsetting, surprising and terribly annoying. Superintendent Judson stated back in March, the original school closing, there were no guidelines given to schools.
- Member Taylor stated her concerns that back in March, when schools closed, the numbers were very low. Currently, numbers are incredibly high and expect staff and students to go back to school with those incredibly high numbers. Depending who you decide to believe, the CDC, either political party or any news, it is difficult to ascertain whether or not those numbers need to cause concerns. Further stated, as a member of the board, we have a lot of students to worry about, plus staff and she truly believes that last week we had found an incredible way to find balance for our families. Families had options to choose which best worked for their families and still likes our solutions. She stated she understands the concern about exposure to COVID, whether we have staff or children that bring COVID into the classroom and also concerned about the education of children and getting them back into a safe environment, where they can have their needs met, not just education ones. Stated she is very concerned about special education. Concerned about the devices. Students will have internet issues, getting online and parents not being available. Shared there are so many reasons to send kids back to school and has concerns about how to go about that. Stated she is not influenced by what other districts around us are doing, only concerned for our kids in Etiwanda. She also stated we can't just follow the high schools to let them lead us in this discussion and there is a lot of difficult decisions we need to have and she doesn't like being pushed into making a decision because the other districts are doing similar things. She stated she understands the concerns that Dr. Judson has brought forward and respects the research that has been done. Stated she is very curious where the public stands and knows that correspondences and text she has received are all over the place. They match the numbers that are currently enrolling. Stated the model that was previously selected matches what our community wants, whether or not we can safely do that model. Stated it would take a lot of convincing to decide to not stick with what we already have. Shared she wants to hear what other people have to say. Expressed her heart is open and wants to keep kids and staff safe.

*=Attachments

4. **Superintendent's Presentation (continued)**

There needs to be a way to address the social issues, Zoom is not the way. Shared she strongly feels we need to get kids back in the classroom safely.

A. 2. Public Comments on agenda item 4. A.

President Garcia opened public comments and called for written comments from the public on agenda item 4. A.

Laura Rowland, Director of Personnel, read aloud written comments received for agenda item 4. A.

- Jessica Taylor commented via email regarding Individualized Education Program (IEP), Etiwanda Alternative Studies Education (EASE) and transfers.
- Anne Marie Pierce commented via email in favor of independent study.
- Michelle and Mathew Postel commented via email in favor of virtual learning.
- Ada Torres commented via email in favor of returning to school.
- Ryan Gray commented via email regarding not in favor of virtual learning.
- Craig Moffet commented via email regarding not in favor of virtual learning.
- Amy Cesar commented via email regarding concerns for virtual learning and for student with IEP's.
- Jazmin Parker commented via email regarding concerns with protocols for quarantining.
- Sarah Torres commented via email in favor of returning to school.
- Violeta Reyes commented via email regarding concerns for virtual learning.
- Monica Escobar commented via email regarding concerns for virtual learning and curriculum.
- Brandie Zuk commented via email regarding in favor of child care for the hybrid model.
- The following families; Barber, Stannard, Runstuck, Sobbi, Negron, Alexander, Reed, Marszalek, Mize, Guerra, Bory, Hamill, DeBoisblanc, Spennato, Jimenez, and Atienza, commented via one email regarding not in favor of virtual learning.
- Amy Zohar commented via email in favor of returning to school.

President Garcia called for comments on agenda item 4.A. from remaining meeting participants.

- Brian Baily commented in support of virtual learning and concerns for protocols for safe environment.
- Marian Ghebrial commented on concerns for instruction given during virtual learning.
- Dennis Maglinte commented on concerns for virtual learning.
- April Brazeau commented on support for hybrid model.

The Board of Trustees took action to extend the 30 minute time limit for public comment time on agenda item 4. A., on a motion by Member Long, seconded by Member Cadman and carried by a unanimous roll call vote, with all members present voting yes.

- Erica Holmes commented on concerns for mental health and in favor of returning to school.
- Rita Barber commented in favor of pushing back start date and to make more informed decisions.
- Monica (last name not provided) commented in favor of virtual learning.
- Katie Hocket commented in favor of virtual learning.
- Stephanie Walton commented in favor of virtual learning and concerns for staffing for hygiene.
- Elizabeth Hague commented in favor of virtual learning.

4. **Superintendent's Presentation (continued)**

- Ryan Brace commented in favor of right to choose and to return back to school.
 - Mandy & Justin commented in favor of virtual learning and parents' right to choose.
 - Areana Runquest commented in favor of virtual learning.
 - Holmes Basset commented with concerns regarding the three models.
 - Stacy Collins commented not in favor of virtual learning model.
 - Lisa Yang commented in favor of virtual learning and in favor of pushing out the school start date.
 - Raquel Borges commented in favor of having options regarding the three models.
 - Aaron & Sherilyn Romero commented in favor of virtual learning.
 - Isabel & Omar Safie commented in favor of virtual learning and hybrid model when it is safe to do so.
 - Tiffany Robinson commented regarding concerns for virtual learning.
 - Daniel Rodriguez commented regarding concerns for safety of staff and in favor of virtual learning.
 - Ada Torres commented regarding in favor of opening of school.
 - Tracee Stewart commented in favor of virtual learning.
 - Nicole commented not in favor of virtual learning and in favor of giving families a choice.
 - Steve & Peggy Rogers commented in favor of options and virtual learning.
 - Rose Lee commented regarding concerns for staff and in favor of hybrid model.
 - Jeff Briggs commented in support of being able to choose a model and in favor of the hybrid model.
 - Rachel M. commented in favor of right to choose.
 - Stacy Collins commented regarding concerns for staff.
 - Frances Hom commented in favor of choices.
 - Albert Chu commented in favor of choices.
 - Mike Miramontes commented regarding concerns for teachers.
 - Monique Chavez commented in favor of virtual learning.
 - Nico Martinez commented with concerns for staff and in favor of virtual learning.
 - Justin Sharp commented in favor of virtual learning.
 - Rocio Figueroa commented regarding supports needed for all students, ESL and IEP's.
 - Aaron Hernandez commented in favor of virtual learning.
 - Uriel Jasso commented in favor of virtual learning.
 - Michelle Jacks, Etiwanda Teachers Association President, commented to support the decision to open school in distance learning.
- A. 3. Discussion and action related to the 2020-2021 school year opening.
 Superintendent Judson expressed his appreciation to all public comment speakers. Stated to email Renee Peccorale with any specific questions. Shared that the different models are available on-line and the learning schedule for the virtual model is similar to the hybrid model.
 President Garcia called on Board Members for any comments or discussion.
- Member Karsch commented that she would appreciate a goal or guideline to predict a return to school and concern for our special education students.
 - Member Cadman commented she has a lot of concerns regarding mental health, achievement gap and technology gap. Stated believes in parent choice and stated we need to help them. Commented that she liked the original phase 1, 2, 3, and 4 plan. Shared that she does not think virtual learning is the right plan. Also commented that she would like to start a day later to help train teachers. Stated she supports the original plan.
 - Member Long stated staff has done a fantastic job. Shared families can choose their own options and is in favor of the original plan.

4. Superintendent’s Presentation (continued)

- Member Taylor commented politics does not need to be part of this decision. Stated we are responsible for families and children in Etiwanda. Stated there is risk in not returning to school. Stated special education students need to be with their teachers and service providers on campuses to meet their needs. Stated the local health department will never approve opening of schools, will never be at a level good enough to return. Stated our protocols we have set forward will help prevent issues that might happen. Stated we can have a successful opening with our hybrid plan. Stated teachers are considered essential workers. Stated in- person learning is a better option for most students than virtual. Stated the 3 options provided give teachers and parents a choice.

Member Taylor stated she would like to make a motion to keep the three learning options of hybrid, virtual and home school and move the school start date to August 17, 2020. Motion seconded by Member Cadman. President Garcia stated motion was made by Member Taylor and seconded by Member Cadman and asked if there were any issues with moving the start date. Superintendent Judson shared calendars are negotiated with the teachers association and if that is the direction of the Board, we would need to discuss with our teachers.

Member Taylor amended the motion to remove the school start date of August 17, 2020, to approve the original plan of the three learning options and to delay the start of school as negotiated with the Etiwanda Teachers Association, seconded by Member Cadman. The motion passed by a 3-2 roll call vote with Board Members Taylor, Cadman and Long in favor, Board Members Garcia and Karsch voting against.

- B.* After discussion, the Board of Trustees approved the Child Care rates for the 2020-21 school year as presented on a motion by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Long, and carried by a unanimous roll call vote, with all members present voting yes.

5. Board/Staff Comments or Suggested items for Discussion at Upcoming Meetings

- Possible change of school start date.

6. Closed Session

The Board of Trustees adjourned to Closed Session at 9:18 p.m. to discuss items A. and B.

- A. Conference with labor negotiator (Government Code 54957.6) for the 2020-2021 school year.
District Negotiator: Terry Embleton, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel Services
Bargaining Unit: Etiwanda Teachers Association
- B. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release. (Government Code 54957)

7. Reconvene to Open Session

The Board of Trustees reconvened into open session at 9:46 p.m.

- A. No further action to report.

8. Adjournment

The Board of Trustees approved the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m., on a motion by Member Long, seconded by Member Karsch and carried by a unanimous roll call vote, with all members present voting yes.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 23, 2020, 6:30 p.m.



Respectfully Submitted



Adopted

*=Attachments