



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Closed Session 6:00 PM / Regular Meeting 7:00 PM

Education Center · 685 E. Jack London Blvd. · Livermore, CA · 94551

Under the Executive Department of the State of California, Executive Order N-25-20 and Government Code section(s) 8567, 8571, and 8572, Board members may participate via teleconference from an offsite location.

Board Members Present: President Craig Bueno, Clerk Chuck Rogge, and Members Emily Prusso, Chris Wenzel and Anne White were present.

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Kelly Bowers, Superintendent; Chris Van Schaack, Deputy Superintendent; Susan Kinder, Assistant Superintendent; Mike Biondi, Assistant Superintendent; Geoff Warner, Chief Technology Officer; Teresa Fiscus, Director of Fiscal Services; Melissa Theide, Director of Human Resources; Frank Selvaggio, Director of Special Education, Scott Vernoy, Director of Student Services; Dana Dodge, Child Nutrition Director; and Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Cathy McConnell

Student Board Member Representatives Present:

Bobby Zepeda - Granada High School
Michaela Esposito - Livermore High School

1.0 6:00 P.M. - CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Craig Bueno with Clerk Chuck Rogge and Members Emily Prusso, Chris Wenzel, and Anne White present.

2.0 ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session to discuss items 2.1 through 2.5. Staff in attendance included Dr. Kelly Bowers, Superintendent; Chris Van Schaack, Deputy Superintendent; Susan Kinder, Assistant Superintendent; Mike Biondi, Assistant Superintendent, and Frank Selvaggio, Director. Karen Samman, legal advisor from Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost, was also in attendance.

2.1 Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Leave/Employment/Complaint Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957

2.2 Conference with Labor Negotiator Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6 Employee Organizations: California School Employees Association (CSEA) – Chris Van Schaack; Service Employees International Union (SEIU) – Chris Van Schaack; Livermore Education Association (LEA) – Chris Van Schaack

2.3 Anticipated Litigation, Conference with Legal Counsel – Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: Two Cases

2.4 Existing Litigation, Conference with Legal Counsel – Pursuant to Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 (Gov Code 54954.5 9 (c)): Two Cases

2.5 Conference with Real Property Negotiators
(Government Code section 54956.8) APN 905-0018-024 (3266 Constitution Drive), APN 905-0018-025 (3278 Constitution Drive), in Livermore, California
Agency Negotiators: Chris Van Schaack, Susan Kinder, Dr. Kelly Bowers

3.0 7:11 P.M. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

3.1 The Regular Board Meeting was reconvened in Open Session by President Craig Bueno. Clerk Chuck Rogge and Members Emily Prusso, Chris Wenzel, and Anne White were present.

- A. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by our Student Board Representatives, Bobby Zepeda and Michaela Esposito.
- B. Actions approved in Closed Session: None to report.
- C. Expulsion Action - None
- D. Meeting Procedures – President Craig Bueno reviewed all meeting procedures.

4.0 CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Our Superintendent stated that there were no changes to the agenda to report.

5.0 RECOGNITIONS

Superintendent Bowers introduced the video recognition of the Junction Avenue K-8 School Chess Club Advisor. Principal Dayna Taylor virtually recognized Mr. Johnny Mulrooney for his 20+ years of dedication as the volunteer Chess Club Advisor at Junction Avenue K-8 School. It was noted that Mr. Mulrooney will retire from his job as District electrician in September, but has promised to continue to support the Chess Club at Junction K-8 School.

Superintendent Bowers introduced the video recognition of the Christensen Middle School Technology Leads. Principal Pat Avilla and Vice Principal Brian Scharmann virtually honored and recognized Michelle Apodaca and Heather Zischka as the school’s “techy twosome” and shared how fortunate the school is to have such dedicated and hard working staff.

6.0 STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Bobby Zepeda, Granada High School, shared that students at Granada have adjusted to distance learning, are finding new solutions, and are having fun all at the same time. The Leadership students have planned Spirit Days every Friday, and are holding the first Spirit Week of the year, the week of September 14th. Bobby noted that the Spirit Week will include a “first” virtual rally which will be filmed and shown to students on September 25th. He shared that Leadership held Freshman Class elections and elected their class officers. Bobby commented that school clubs have begun to meet and that many new clubs have formed. He noted that one new club is called Big Buddy Club, which is a club meant for upperclassmen to assist the 9th graders in navigating through their freshman year on-line, as well as help them feel welcomed. Bobby shared that the Freshmen and Seniors have had their school pictures taken. He invited everyone to participate in the Class of 2021 fundraisers to be held at Panda Express on Friday, September 18th, and Elevation LVK on Thursday, September 24th.

Michaela Esposito, Livermore High School, thanked the teachers and administrators who have worked tirelessly to accommodate students and families in their adjustment to distance learning. Michaela noted that the change to distance learning has been an adjustment, but she commented that many teachers have made themselves available nearly 24/7 through email or conferences to answer questions students have. Michaela shared that Back-to-School Night was held September 9th, virtually. Teachers utilized Schoology to post presentations for parents that informed them of the course and class expectations. She shared that Livermore High’s virtual Spirit Week will be held the week of September 14th. Students posted pictures of their favorite school memories, their pets, their virtual classroom set-up, and on Friday, September 18th, students dressed in green and gold. Michaela was pleased to report that the LHS Wellness Center website has gone live for students to access. The Wellness Center is located on the first floor of the main building, and is staffed by select students and teachers trained in peer-mediation. Michaela noted that The Center offers services and programs geared towards students; such as counseling, crisis support, Teen Mental Health First Aid, a social justice hub, and substance abuse intervention and resources. She shared that the programs have been developed by the LHS counselors, particularly Mr. Radecke. In closing, Michaela commented that the Safe and Sober Grad Night Committee is selling masks and the LHS Football team is hosting a Board and Brush fundraiser on September 22nd.

7.0 EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATIONS

Aimee Thompson, Livermore Education Association (LEA) President, reflected on the stress of this unusual school year and noted that she has decided to look for the positive changes that will benefit students and staff when life gets back to normal. Ms. Thompson sees potential for improving our use of new learning tools via long-term practice. She is also excited that we have learned that video conferencing is an easy method to meet and communicate with small groups. Ms. Thompson shared that our District’s unaudited actual reports contained positive news with an ending fund balance of

\$6.8 million dollars above the required reserves; but cautioned that this is not a time to celebrate, as our District may be facing budget cuts for next year. She shared that California schools are overly reliant on funding from income and sales taxes, which are less stable sources of funding than property taxes. Ms. Thompson stated that if Prop 15 passes, it would help to remedy California schools' underfunding issues. She shared the benefits, the misinformation, and public concerns regarding the upcoming Proposition 15 ballot measure. Ms. Thompson noted that she was excited to see Resolution No. 111-20/21, Resolution in Support of Proposition 15: California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2020, on our District's agenda. She hoped that our LVJUSD Board of Education would join an exhaustive list of businesses, school districts, community groups, health care groups, housing organizations, and more, in supporting Prop 15. She provided a link to the initiative if anyone would like more information: www.Yes15.org

8.0 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

A Audience Communication

Christine Wentz, on behalf of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation; the non-profit 501 c3, that represents the Livermore Valley winery community whose mission is to raise money for underserved children, presented to our Board of Education a check in the amount of \$85,000. These funds were raised exclusively for our Child Nutrition school meal program via the virtual Livermore Valley Winegrowers Auction held in August. Ms. Wentz introduced Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation Board members, Evelyn Fletcher, Larry Dino, Jeff Hank and Auction Director, Brandi Addington. A special socially distanced photo was taken.

Christine Wentz, on behalf of the Wentz Foundation for Arts Education, whose mission is to raise funding for local arts education programs, presented to our Board of Education a check in the amount of \$50,000, to support technology needs of teachers and students during this challenging time of distance learning.

B Board Correspondence - The Board of Education received the following Formal Board Correspondence:

Ann Marie Rosenberg - Formal Board correspondence received via email to the Board of Education. The Rosenbergs are parents of a Granada High School student and expressed concerns relative to their daughter's on-line learning schedule.

Note: Matthew Hart, Principal of Granada High School, followed up with the parents.

9.0 INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEM

9.1 Attendance Summary Report 2019-2020

Mr. Scott Vernoy, Director of Student Services, presented the Attendance Summary Report 2019-2020, for information only.

Public Comment: None

9.2 Enrollment and Staffing Report

Mr. Chris Van Schaack, Deputy Superintendent, presented the Enrollment and Staffing Report, for information only.

Public Comment: None

9.3 Teaching and Learning Continuum: Phases of Reopening

Mr. Chris Van Schaack, Deputy Superintendent, and Mr. Mike Biondi, Assistant Superintendent, co-presented the Teaching and Learning Continuum: Phases of Reopening.

Public Comment: None

9:15 PM - President Bueno called a short recess.

9:25 PM - President Bueno reconvened the meeting.

10.0 DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

10.1 Approval of the 2020-21 Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan

Mr. Mike Biondi, Assistant Superintendent, presented the 2020-21 Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan, for Board approval.

Public Comment: none

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **Emily Prusso** Moved, Member **Chris Wenzel** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'To Approve the 2020-21 Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was Aye: 5 Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 5 - 0.

Craig Bueno – Yes
Anne White – Yes
Emily Prusso – Yes
Chuck Rogge – Yes
Chris Wenzel – Yes

10.2 2019-2020 Unaudited Actual Financial Reports

Ms. Teresa Fiscus, Director of Fiscal Services, presented the 2019-2020 Unaudited Actual Financial Reports, for Board approval.

Public Comment: none

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **Anne White** Moved, Clerk **Chuck Rogge** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'To Approve the 2019-2020 Unaudited Actual Financial Reports ' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was Aye: 5 Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 5 - 0.

Craig Bueno – Yes
Anne White – Yes
Emily Prusso – Yes
Chuck Rogge – Yes
Chris Wenzel – Yes

10.3 CSBA Call for Nominations for Directors-at-Large

President Bueno opened the discussion among fellow Board members regarding a Call for Nominations for Directors-at-Large, Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic. After discussion, the Board decided to not take any action on this optional item.

11.0 CONSENT ITEMS - MOTIONS

- 11.1 Approval of Consent Items – Motions
- 11.2 Approval of Employment of Personnel
- 11.3 Confirmation of Resignations/Retirements
- 11.4 Approval of Leave of Absence
- 11.5 Approval of Employment of Extracurricular Coaches, 2020/2021
- 11.6 Approval of Gifts to District
- 11.7 Approval of the Purchase Order Summary Report for August
- 11.8 Approval of Revised Salary Schedules
- 11.9 Approval of the September 1, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Public Comment: None

ORIGINAL – Motion

Clerk **Chuck Rogge** Moved, Member **Chris Wenzel** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Approve Consent Items – Motions 11.2 - 11.9' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 5 - 0.

Craig Bueno – Yes
Anne White – Yes
Emily Prusso – Yes
Chuck Rogge – Yes

Chris Wenzel – Yes

12.0 RESOLUTIONS

12.1 Approval of Consent Items – Resolutions

12.2 Resolution No. 007-20/21, Establishing Gann Appropriation Limitations for 2019-20 and 2020-21

12.3 Resolution No. 008-20/21, Acceptance of the Fire Alarm Upgrades at Leo R. Croce Elementary School - Notice of Completion

12.4 Resolution No. 009-20/21, Acceptance of the Exterior Painting Project at Christensen Middle School - Notice of Completion

12.5 Resolution No. 110-20/21, Acceptance of the Livermore High School Agricultural Area Landscaping Project - Notice of Completion

Removed for separate discussion and vote, as noted in the minutes:

12.6 Resolution No. 111-20/21, Resolution in Support of Proposition 15: California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2020

Public Comment: None

ORIGINAL– Motion

Clerk **Chuck Rogge** Moved, Member **Chris Wenzel** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Approve Resolution Items – Resolution No. 007-20/21 through Resolution No. 110-20/21' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Yes: 5 Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 5 - 0.

Craig Bueno – Yes

Anne White – Yes

Emily Prusso – Yes

Chuck Rogge – Yes

Chris Wenzel – Yes

13.0 CONSENT ITEMS – MOTIONS REMOVED FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION/VOTE

13.1 Consent Items Removed for Separate Discussion/Vote

13.2 (Consent Resolution 12.6) Resolution No. 111-20/21, Resolution in Support of Proposition 15: California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2020

Public Comment: Asa Strout, community member, urged the Board to support Resolution No. 111-20/21, Support of Proposition 15: California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2020.

Teresa Fiscus, Director of Fiscal Services, was available to answer any questions. She noted that she received information from School Services of California, known as the State's experts in California school finance, regarding the initial preliminary allocations for our District at full implementation, if Proposition 15 passed. Ms. Fiscus shared that based on School Services projections our District would receive \$4,444,479.00 based on a low estimate and a high estimate of \$7,863,308.00.

ORIGINAL– Motion

Clerk **Chuck Rogge** Moved, Member **Emily Prusso** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Approve Resolution No. 111-20/21, Resolution in Support of Proposition 15: California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2020' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Yes: 5
Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 5 - 0.

Craig Bueno – Yes
Anne White – Yes
Emily Prusso – Yes
Chuck Rogge – Yes
Chris Wenzel – Yes

14.0 BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND REQUESTS

Trustee Anne White shared that she planned to attend a virtual District policy meeting on September 17th, as well as a Region 7 California School Boards Association (CSBA) meeting. She noted that she also attended an informative Alameda County School Boards Association (ACSBA) session regarding childcare. Mrs. White asked for additional information on staff followup regarding the Board correspondence from Ms. Rosenberg.

Trustee Emily Prusso mentioned that she believes the Wellness Center at Livermore High School will be a great addition to our District. She thanked Ms. Nebo, Vice Principal at LHS, and Mr. Zack Radecke, LHS Counselor, and the student forum, for their support and hard work. Mrs. Prusso noted that she liked the idea that students are the stakeholders and are involved with peer counseling. She gave a “shout-out” to all the parents and our community regarding distance learning and dealing with its challenges. Mrs. Prusso thanked everyone for their patience and support.

Clerk Chuck Rogge shared an interesting fact from the journals of Lewis and Clark of 1803 when Lewis noted “the orange smoky skies” from the wildfires in the northwest, is relative to our current orange smoky skies lately. Clerk Rogge shared his deep concern regarding a movie filmed outside the United States and currently released by Netflix titled “Cuties.” He encouraged all parents who are outraged to contact Netflix to voice their concerns.

Trustee Chris Wenzel shared his concern with Clerk Rogge regarding Netflix’s decision to televise the “Cuties” movie. He thanked the firefighters who are risking their lives fighting the fires on the west coast, and shared a statistic that 1,000 acres have burned every 30 seconds. Mr. Wenzel asked everyone to take a moment and say a prayer for the firefighters and those who have lost their homes. Mr. Wenzel noted that he heard that the Secretary for California Health Services is trying to figure out how to celebrate Halloween safely this year, in light of the current pandemic restrictions. He suggested that our District look for ways to educate and support our students regarding safe Halloween practices.

President Craig Bueno thanked our parents for their participation and support with distance learning. He stated that in the midst of poor air quality, COVID-19, fire season, power outages, etc., there are a lot of risk factors and a lot of stress. President Bueno noted that as a community and as Americans

it's time to come together as one. He stated that this is a time when we need to take care of each other and look out for our neighbors. He reminded us that we are here for one reason - the children.

15.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Bowers commented that she had the enjoyable opportunity to virtually sign-in to a kindergarten class at Croce Elementary School as Leo the Cheetah; the school mascot. Via a Boosterthon, "Leo" danced to the song "Happy", and had the pleasure of joining virtual classrooms and greeting the students.

On Sunday, September 13th, Dr. Bowers had the pleasure of serving as a virtual keynote speaker for the National Charity League's kickoff, with over 130 young women and their mothers attending. The focus was on leadership, particularly young women in leadership roles.

Dr. Bowers shared that Dr. Maisha Beasley and her team have kicked off the 21-Day Challenge, All Employees as Educators, focused on wellness and cultural competence. She noted that nearly 200 have already participated on the first day and that it is open to everyone.

She announced the good news that our District has received a check for \$100,000 from LAM Research to support student and teacher technology and current distance learning needs.

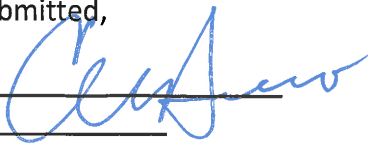
Dr. Bowers also mentioned that she was asked to give the Thought-for-the Day to her noon Rotary Club. Her focus was on taking time to pause and self-care. Dr. Bowers read the following for everyone:

Whatever your plans today, or how busy you may be,
take a little time, to simply stop.... and breathe.
Close your eyes and listen, till you find a place of peace,
take a little time, to simply stop and be.
Slow down and walk, instead of run, you're missing precious things,
take a little time, to simply stop and see.
Amidst the must dos
and must get dones,
there are moments to be found,
gather them and cherish them,
they're scattered all around.
Scoop them up and hold them,
do with them what you will,
and when you stop to use them,
just remember to be still.
And you will feel whole at the end of the day.
Find and use those moments, they are what you need,
in this difficult time, take a little time, to simply stop ... and breathe.

16.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, President Bueno adjourned the Meeting at 10:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Board President



Board Clerk

Approved and entered into the proceedings of this Board this 6th day of October 2020.