

Galt Joint Union Elementary School District BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

This meeting is held pursuant to Executive Order N-26-20 issued by California Governor Gavin Newsom on March 12, 2020.

Regular Board Meeting

Zoom Teleconference

February 24, 2021

Webinar Meeting ID: 844 7923 8409

Board Members Present

Thomas Silva
Wesley Cagle
Traci Skinner
Grace Malson
Casey Raboy

Administrators Present

Karen Schauer	Stephanie Simonich
Lois Yount	David Nelson
Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano	Jennifer Porter
Donna Mayo-Whitlock	Judith Hayes
Donna Gill	Kuljeet Nijjar
Leah Wheeler	Ron Rammer

1. Thomas Silva announced items to be discussed in Closed Session.
2. Closed Session was called to order at 6:02 p.m. to discuss the following items:
 1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR, Government Code §54957.6
Agency Negotiator: Karen Schauer, Lois Yount, Donna Mayo-Whitlock, Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano
 - Employee Agency: (GEFA) Galt Elementary Faculty Association
 - Employee Agency: (CSEA) California School Employee Association
 - Non-Represented Employees
 2. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE, Government Code §54957
3. Closed Session Adjourned at 7:08 p.m. The open meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Thomas Silva. He announced the following action in closed session:

Upon Wesley Cagle's motion, seconded by Thomas Silva by a vote of 5 to 0, up to nine (9) temporary and intern teachers to be released no later than at the end of 2020-21.
4. Flag salute.
5. Karen Schauer shared the Teleconference Board Meeting Protocol.

6. Reports

❖ LCAP GOAL 1

[Develop and implement a personalized learning and strengths-based growth plan for every learner that articulates and transitions to high school learning pathways while closing the achievement gap.]

1. Reach for the Upside Initiative: GJUESD Selected as one of 8 Northern California School Districts

Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano reported GJUESD is one of 8 Northern California School Districts selected to participate in the Reach for the Upside program. She indicated the focus of the program is to advance innovative and impactful education projects in the community. The District will engage in teamwork over two months to design opportunities to advance student-centered learning, equity, and the well-being of students, teachers, and families during a pandemic. She quoted Henry Ford, "if I had asked people what they wanted, they would have said faster."

❖ LCAP GOAL 2

[Implement California State Standards in classrooms and other learning spaces through a variety of blended learning environments.]

1. Reopening Schools Updates and Discussion

Karen Schauer, Superintendent, shared information regarding a COVID-19 vaccination event held in Galt today. She shared pictures from the event, highlighting Dr. Mackey, Medical Director for the Sacramento Regional Fire Services, efforts and vision to make this event possible for Galt. She reported physicians, paramedics, firefighters, school district nurses, and volunteers worked together to make this happen.

Donna Whitlock, Educational Services Director, described the logistics of the event. She noted the volunteerism of district staff.

Karen Schauer recognized the efforts of the City of Galt, Nick Svobada, GJUESD Food Services Supervisor, Galt High School District, and Don Nottoli, Sacramento County Supervisor. She indicated this is another step to help reopen schools.

Donna Whitlock stated the criteria for reopening schools were updated by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) on January 14, 2021. The new requirements replace the Elementary Education Waiver. It does require districts to have a COVID-19 Safety Plan for in-person instruction. The plan consists of two parts: (1) the Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP) and (2) the COVID-19 School Guidance Checklist.

Karen Schauer stated the plan is posted on the school district website. She recognized Dr. Kasiyre for her efforts, support, and leadership. She indicated the Sacramento region demonstrates improving pandemic conditions, and GJUESD is implementing prescreening measures and testing for students and staff.

Donna Whitlock reported the District must offer to test to all staff once every two weeks. She indicated the District is working with the city of Galt to expand testing at the Chabolla Center. It will be provided at no cost and is voluntary. However, the requirement is that we have the capacity to test everyone.

Donna Whitlock reported that staff completed the commitment to safety form and are completing daily health screenings. School offices are preparing letters to parents/guardians to inform them of the one-time COVID-19 Student Safety Commitment form and the daily health screening requirement.

Karen Schauer stated the District has 40 cohorts serving high-needs students, allowing the District to practice safety protocols.

Karen Schauer projects the 2nd vaccine event will be held on March 24, 2021. The GJUESD Transitional Reopening Schools Model shows that we can reopen schools in the Red Tier. The District worked with labor unions to do this. Since developing the Model, State and County health guidance has changed over time. On January 14, 2021, we received updated state guidance with adjusted case rates established. The new guidance keeps the middle school in the Red Tier for five days before reopening. It involves Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) review of a GJUESD Safety Plan.

Karen Schauer recommends reopening schools before spring break aligned with the adjusted state guidance for COVID-19 case rates. If the District does not transition to the Red Tier, the District will reopen PreK-6, and middle school would continue in distance learning. She indicated agreements with labor unions include language regarding changes to guidance that require renegotiation. She is recommending the District reopen schools on March 15, 2021. The Board may need to have a special board meeting to consider an addendum Memorandum of Understanding between GJUESD and GEFA to start with a blended model if the region does not move into the Red Tier.

Lois Yount, Business Services Director, reported facilities are ready to begin serving more students at school.

Donna Whitlock reported the 40 cohorts have been so successful and have helped to prepare for reopening schools. She stated there had been no COVID-19 spread within cohorts.

Karen Schauer stated that Arcohe School District has reopened, serving K-8 students, and Folsom-Cordova School District has reopened at the elementary level. She indicated one of the challenges of reopening for school districts is staffing.

Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano reported that GJUESD shares substitute teachers with neighboring districts and does not control substitute staffing. It may become an issue as schools begin to reopen.

Karen Schauer repeated her recommendation to reopen on March 15, 2021.

Public Comment received via email read aloud: Matthew Ward, Marissa McCammant, Heather Allen, Emily Sanders, Veronica Herrera, Pamela Dean, Brianna White, Dr. Jason Roach, Katherine Harper

Public Comment heard via Zoom: Kristi Ward, Martha Vielma, Hyde Shala

Grace Malson thanked the administration and staff for their efforts. She believes the school district should offer more cohorts to middle school students. Her experience is that kids and teachers participating in current cohorts are happy and engaged. She recommends opening on March 15 or as soon as possible for elementary and look into expanding cohorts at the middle school.

Traci Skinner agreed it is important to reopen schools to get students back on campus. She indicated parents have expressed concerns about socialization needs more than academics. She is concerned that by using the am/pm Model. Students will not get the socialization they need and recess time.

Lois Yount stated that students would be able to go outside with their teacher (cohort). However, there will not be a fixed schedule for recess.

Wesley Cagle asked how much money the District has spent on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Lois Yount estimated \$75,000 for safety inspections, \$30,000 for plexiglass, janitorial supplies, and fogging machines.

Wesley Cagle stated that he has spoken to parents and staff concerned about the safety of using chemicals every day in the classroom.

Lois Yount stated that the chemicals used are approved for use in schools and have been proven not to trigger asthma. She indicated bus drivers and custodians had been trained on using and applying the disinfectant between cohorts.

Wesley Cagle stated that in August 2020, the Board made decisions based on information from the CDC at that time. Today the information has changed. He indicated that he supports the recommendation to reopen soon after SCPH approves the Safety Plan. He added, the vaccine is another line of defense.

Casey Raboy stated that she would like schools to reopen schools as soon as possible. She is concerned that the am/pm model will not allow for proper social distancing as required.

Thomas Silva stated the am/pm Model does follow the Safety Plan's guidance, and adjustments can be made as needed.

Traci Skinner asked what the end goal is for the District. She indicated getting students back on campus is a start. The schedule gives students 2.5 hours of instruction time, not enough time for recess. What is it going to take to go back five full days a week?

Karen Schauer stated that due to social distancing requirements, the District is limited to the number of students they can have on campus. She references McCaffrey Middle School as an example. If the middle school used their gym, multipurpose room, and the BFLC, they might accommodate all students. She said some districts are using an am/pm model or an a/b model. It depends on how much in-person learning is desired. For GJUESD, early reading instruction is essential. Two days a week is challenging to implement reading programs for younger students. The intent was to get in-person learning four days a week rather than 2.

Traci Skinner asked if the state says schools can reopen. Does the District still need to negotiate with the union, or is this something we can address in upcoming negotiations?

Karen Schauer stated that the District does need to follow county health guidelines and consider the change in working conditions. She indicated that we have to go back to the table during these historical times as

things change. These negotiations typically benefit both management and employees. She added that it is something to consider in terms of how we develop language.

Karen Schauer stated that she quantified the number of meetings that the District and labor unions have held during teacher workdays and beyond. They have tried hard to understand how to maneuver through things, and we've reached agreements where other districts have not. She indicated that the District wants employees to feel that they have been heard. Usually, this is how the best solutions are developed.

Karen Schauer addressed public comment regarding an elementary school waiver. The Board had directed her to inquire about a waiver, but then the pandemic conditions worsened. She indicated the best thing that can happen is pandemic conditions improve, and staff and community members get vaccinated. The District is in a really good position to reopen.

Wesley Cagle asked if every facility in the District has new air filters.

Lois Yount responded, yes, all facilities have air filters, and filters have all been changed recently.

Thomas Silva thanked all stakeholders. He said, "we are all in this together." Making this situation "us versus them" is not productive. The District sets March 15, 2021, as a reopening date for PreK-6 and possible middle school. He directed Dr. Schauer to continue conversations with labor unions.

Karen Schauer stated that she is meeting with labor unions this week. Also, the region may be in the Red Tier next week, at which point the middle school could open.

Grace Malson asked if more cohorts could be added at the middle school if they cannot reopen in March?

Karen Schauer stated that it is voluntary for certificated staff to conduct cohorts. The District would try.

Grace Malson suggested exploratory programs at middle schools, similar to offerings at the high schools or makers space.

7. Routine Matters/New Business

202.164 Grace Malson made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried.

Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of the Agenda
- b. Minutes
 - January 27, 2021, Regular Board Meeting
- c. Payment of Warrants
 - Vendor Warrant Numbers: 21386745-21386780, 21387263-21387286, 21388823-21388890, 21389843-21389898
 - Certificated/Classified Payrolls Dated: 1/29/21, 2/10/21
- d. Personnel

Name	Position	Effective Date	Site
Resignations/Retirements			
Mancebo, Cynthia	Instructional Assistant, Special Education	2/23/21	Fairsite
Leave of Absence Requests			
Brandon-Lopez, April	Teacher	5/20/21	Transportation
Escobedo, Alexandra	Bus Driver	2/16/21	Transportation
Hopper, Joyce	Bus Driver	1/26/21	Greer
LaQuay, Katherine	Teacher	4/5/21	Greer
Macias, Beatriz	Instructional Assistant	1/29/21	Greer
Paige, Alexis	Teacher	2/5/21	River Oaks
Villalpando, Maria	Bilingual Office Assistant	2/1/21	Fairsite
New Hires/Reassignment			
Bachmann, Brenda (reassignment)	Fiscal Services Supervisor		District Office
Castellanos, Juan	Custodian		McCaffrey
Chavez-Vasquez, Mariah	Food & Nutrition Clerk		District
Grunsky, Robert	Custodian		Greer
Kunz, Melissa	Yard Supervisor		Greer
McCullough, Morgan	Custodian		Lake Canyon
Sandoval, Patricia	Custodian		River Oaks

202.165 Consent Calendar (Continued) – Items Removed for Later Consideration

CC Items Removed

There were no items removed.

202.166 Lois Yount provided an overview of the 2nd-period interim budget. She highlighted the following changes since the 1st interim budget that was approved in December:

2nd Interim Budget

- Revenue increases
 - Title II and IV

- Early Childhood Education Math Carryover
- State Facility Funds (Hardship).

Revenue decreases

- Title 1
- Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)

Budget Assumptions

- Increases to STRS and PERS employer rates
- Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) at 3.84% in 2021-22
- Budget cliff of \$1.7 million in 2022-23 due to declining enrollment

Unrestricted Reserve Levels

- 2020-2021 | 10.33%
- 2021-2022 | 9.84%
- 2022-2023 | 3.39%

COVID-19 Relief Funds

- GJUESD expects to receive \$3.4 million in Education Stabilization Funds (ESSER II) with a timeline of September 30, 2023, to spend

Possible additional funds

- Learning Recovery Grant – projected \$2.3 million to be spent by September 30, 2022
- In-Person Learning Grant – to be spent by July 30, 2021

COVID-19 Funds Expenditures

- GLEE 2.0 Academy Teachers
- Additional compensation for Instructional Assistants working am/pm split schedules
- Supplies and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Technology and Hotspots
- Temporary Classified Positions
- GEFA Learning Continuity Professional Growth
- Bargaining with Labor Unions

Ms. Yount stated that the District is planning for a \$4 million TRAN to be released by April 2021 to meet cash flow needs due to State deferrals.

Thomas Silva made a motion to approve the 2nd Interim Budget Report For Fiscal Year 2020-2021, seconded by Traci Skinner and unanimously carried.

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| 202.167 | Wesley Cagle made a motion to approve 2020-21 Comprehensive School Safety Plans for 1) Lake Canyon Elementary 2) Marengo Ranch Elementary 3) River Oaks Elementary 4) Valley Oaks Elementary 5) Vernon E. Greer Elementary and 6) Robert L. McCaffrey Middle, seconded by Grace Malson and unanimously carried. | School Safety Plan |
| 202.168 | Grace Malson made a motion to approve Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Parent Application, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried. | CAC |
| 202.169 | Wesley Cagle made a motion to approve Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 6173: Education for Homeless Children, seconded by Traci Skinner and unanimously carried. | BP/AR 6173 |
| 202.170 | Thomas Silva made a motion to approve 2021-22 E-rate Service Provider, AMS, seconded by Wesley Cagle and unanimously carried. | E-rate |
| 202.171 | Grace Malson made a motion to approve the Lease-Leaseback Preconstruction Services Agreement with S+B James Construction California Inc. for Vernon E. Greer Elementary School, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried. | LLB Precon Greer |
| 202.172 | Traci Skinner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 10, Authorized Signatories for the GJUESD, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried. | Res 10 Auth Sig |
| 202.173 | Grace Malson made a motion to approve the Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) 2020-21 COVID Response between the California School Employees Association and its Galt Chapter #362 (CSEA) and the GJUESD Regarding Hybrid Schedule – Instructional Assistant Start/Stop Time Adjustments, seconded by Wesley Cagle and unanimously carried. | CSEA MOU |
| 202.174 | No action was taken on the 2021 Ballot for California Schools Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly due to lack of a motion. | CSBA Delegate Assembly |

8. Public Comments for topics not on the agenda – there were no additional public comments.

9. Pending Agenda Items

1. School District Properties
2. Low Performing Block Grant: Mathematics

Wesley Cagle requested to add updates to the Brown Act to pending agenda items.

10. Adjournment 9:31 p.m.

Board Approved: March 24, 2021