

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.

Special Board Meeting

Zoom Teleconference

March 4, 2021

Webinar Meeting ID: 853 9737 3108

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
Laura Papineau	Laura Marquez
	Tina Homdus

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
3. Closed Session Adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The open meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Thomas Silva. He announced no action taken in closed session.
4. Flag salute.
5. Karen Schauer shared the Teleconference Board Meeting Protocol.
6. New Business
 - 202.175 Board Consideration of Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Galt Elementary Faculty Association (GEFA) and GJUESD Regarding the First Addendum to the November 16, 2020 Agreement to Reopen Schools through In-Person, On-Campus Blended Instruction

GEFA MOU

Karen Schauer, Superintendent, reflected to the last regular board meeting. She indicated pandemic conditions were improving, and progress was being made on the COVID-19 Safety Plan. The recommendation was to reopen the week of March 15 and to work with labor unions to address employee needs. She indicated that leadership worked with the California Schools Employee Association (CSEA) and Galt Elementary Faculty Association (GEFA) to reach tentative agreements. She stated that the staff had worked so hard. There have been 31 union meetings that resulted in 12 agreements. Both unions have been working with the District collaboratively throughout the pandemic. These agreements demonstrate a commitment to serve District students and employees.

Dr. Schauer announced that Mr. Chris Keiner, Attorney at Law, is joining by telephone this evening to clarify items if needed.

Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano, Curriculum Director, stated that she would like the Board to know that district management has a great relationship with the union leadership that consists of mutual respect and common interests.

Ms. Del Toro-Anguiano highlighted sections of the GEFA Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):

2.1 During the transition from Distance Learning to a Blended Model, March 11, 12, 15, 16, 17 are designated as on-site staff preparation days. During these planning days, administrators will hold a safety protocol and procedure staff meeting.

2.2 PreK-6 certificated employees will implement the transition to the in-person blended model beginning the week of March 15, 2021. March 18 and 19 will be orientation days. Students will have the opportunity to learn new school rules and procedures.

Monday, March 22, is the first day of blended instruction. At this time, the District does not have a reopening date for middle school. When state COVID-19 metrics allow MMS to open, teachers will have three days to transition to in-person learning.

Ms. Del Toro-Anguiano reported that administrators have been working on parent communications to keep parents informed.

Ms. Del Toro-Anguiano reported that additional planning time would be required beyond the planning days that have been provided, so the District is recognizing teacher efforts with a one-time \$750 stipend to welcome children back. She indicated classroom supplies would be ordered by the site administration as needed.

2.5. The District may transition from one instructional model to another due to any State/County/District order for emergency closure.

2.6 In-person instruction will not take place on the day the second vaccine is administered.

Traci Skinner thanked everyone for their hard work to get children back on campus. She indicated it had been a challenging time for everyone.

Wesley Cagle thanked everyone for working as a team. "Dreamwork makes the teamwork."

Grace Malson thanked leadership, teachers, everyone. It has not been easy.

Casey Raboy thanked the staff. She indicated she is appreciative of teachers and so excited for schools to reopen and move forward. She feels very comfortable with the safety protocols that have been put in place and is so glad to have the staff support to do this.

Karen Schauer recognized Chris Keiner's efforts during teacher negotiations.

Chris Keiner thanked everyone on the team for a fantastic job. He indicated districts that have an MOU are in a better position than those that don't. "Congratulations."

Thomas Silva stated that his focus is to do what is best for students, and tonight is a very important first step.

Public Comment: The following individuals addressed the Board regarding schools reopening: Heather Wetzell, Kim Lizama, Sunshine Umeda, Gayleen Gomez, Sara Murray, Amy Mangili, Tracy Watt, Elaine Trull, Emily Sanders, Tiffany Lourence, Barbara

Woods, Kristi Ward, Martha Vielma, Annie Ipson, Shana Gibbons, Brooklyn Lourence, Derek Nelson, Emily Ann Sheldon, Sean Duryee, Robert Seagraves, Robert Harper, Maria Vivanco, Abigail Abarca, Mrs. Garcia, Annette and Christine Hannah Traci Skinner asked if the District moves to the blended learning model and a parent chooses to have their child continue in distance learning, will the students remain with their current teacher.

Karen Schauer stated that the District does have families that have changed their minds between in-person learning and distance learning. The District is attempting to accommodate these families.

Donna Whitlock, Educational Services Director, stated that the District could honor all requests that were made before deadlines. She indicated nine more families on a waiting list, and the District should be able to accommodate those. This is an area that the District will need to relook at if there is an influx of requests before the start of in-person learning.

Grace Malson stated that some teachers have been rolling out a new camera system for teaching both in-person and distance learning students. She asked if it is more probable that students can continue with their teachers if they decide to stay home?

Donna Whitlock stated that over half of students enrolled in GLEE 2.0 would be served by their current teacher. She indicated it is voluntary for teachers as it does require additional technical training to teach in-person and distance learning concurrently.

Ms. Whitlock reported that over 85 cameras had been installed for teachers' use in classrooms. The District appreciates teachers that are participating.

Karen Schauer stated that leadership is meeting tomorrow to discuss these areas.

Grace Malson made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Galt Elementary Faculty Association (GEFA) and GJUESD Regarding the First Addendum to the November 16, 2020 Agreement to Reopen Schools through In-Person, On-Campus Blended Instructions, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously approved.

202.176 Board Consideration of Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between GJUESD and City of Galt for the Purpose of Developing and Operating a COVID-19 Testing Program at Chabolla Center in Galt, CA

Karen Schauer reported that the District is making progress towards a COVID-19 testing program. She indicated she received notification from the Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) department that the District COVID-19 safety plan is approved. It is another step forward.

Donna Whitlock reported the city of Galt provides the testing program at the Chabolla center. The new guidelines from SCPH on January 14 require the District to provide an opportunity for surveillance COVID-19 every two weeks for staff, parents, and students. She indicated there is not a requirement to monitor the system for compliance. The MOU will allow the District to expand current testing at the Chabolla center an additional 3 hours per day and enable additional testing days/sites if needed.

Ms. Whitlock reported testing samples would be sent to Valencia Branch Laboratories for results. The District's cost is \$21 for those with private health insurance and \$0 for those on Medi-Cal. COVID-19 emergency relief funds will be used. She emphasized that all surveillance testing is confidential.

Traci Skinner clarified that the District is providing testing, but it is optional for families and staff.

Traci Skinner made a motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between GJUESD and the City of Galt for the Purpose of Developing and Operating a COVID-19 Testing Program at Chabolla Center in Galt, CA, seconded by Wesley Cagle and unanimously carried.

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

Grace Malson suggested a reminder of Board protocols to the Board would be helpful. The rest of the Board concurred.

Thomas Silva stated that the Board should work to develop more effective ways of communicating with the public.

The Board directed the superintendent to factor these governance areas into the future Brown Act Study Session.

8. Pending Agenda Items
 1. School District Properties
 2. Low Performing Block Grant: Mathematics
 3. Brown Act Updates

9. Adjournment 8:53 p.m.

Board Approved: March 24, 2021