

**GALT JOINT UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
*“Building a Bright Future for All Learners”*

**Special Board Meeting  
Zoom Teleconference**

**Tuesday, September 15, 2020  
Webinar/Meeting ID: 848 3580 2398  
Telephone: 669-900-6833**

**Board Members Present**

Grace Malson  
Thomas Silva  
Wesley Cagle  
Matthew Felix  
John Gordon

**Administrators Present**

Karen Schauer      Claudia Del Toro-Anguino  
Lois Yount          Donna Mayo-Whitlock  
Kuljeet Nijjar

# MINUTES

This meeting is being held pursuant to Executive Order N-25-20 issued by  
California Governor Gavin Newsom on March 12, 2020

**A. Open Session was called to order at 6:00 p.m., followed by the flag salute.**

**B. Karen Schauer shared the Teleconference Board Meeting Protocols.**

**C. New Business**

202.114    Public Hearing of 2020-21 Local Continuity and Attendance Plan

Karen Schauer, Superintendent, reviewed the session agenda. She reported the Local Continuity and Attendance Plan has multiple sections related to the schools reopening plan and how it is the District would transition from distance learning to on-campus learning when conditions permit. The District could also proceed with an Elementary Waiver.

Dr. Schauer shared a fall learning and services progression chart. The chart reflects the following:

September/October

1. Finalize employee testing and tracing
2. Conduct 1-to-1 English Learner & Special Education assessment

October/November

1. Implement small cohort group services for special education and high needs learners with employee union consultation or agreements
2. Total group services generally not exceeding 25% of school enrollment
3. Consider childcare arrangements, prioritizing essential school workers

November/December

1. Finalize decisions for on-campus & distance learning for trimester two

2. Continue with distance learning and small group on-campus supports and/or
3. Return to on-campus with safety modifications

Dr. Schauer stated that school districts can now provide small cohort services for special education and high needs learners without an elementary waiver. The percentage of children that can be served is generally 25% of school enrollment. She indicated the District is also looking at childcare options, prioritizing essential school workers. She shared examples of small group targeted support that includes TK-8 Special Day Class services and providing on campus TK-2 literacy and English Language Development.

Dr. Schauer reported the District is also considering a survey that would involve parents, teachers, and possibly students to help determine the desire for transitioning to campus learning, continued distance learning and cohort group services. if distance learning with small cohorts continues in trimester 2.

Donna Whitlock, Educational Services Director, reported that 66 total survey responses were received regarding the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan. The feedback fell into four categories:

1. 7 or 10% Satisfied with current district phase-in plan
2. 5 or 8% Stated concern
3. 17 or 26% Prefer to remain online at home
4. 37 or 56% Back to school, 3-5 days a week.

Wesley Cagle, Board Member, asked what the status is of an elementary waiver for GJUESD.

Dr. Schauer reported the District is already addressing different areas that would be required to open through an elementary waiver. Testing and tracing is the main area that is not completed, yet. The District would also consider surveying parents, employees as part of the application process. In addition work with labor unions and county public health is a requirement. Many of the required elements of the waiver application are included in the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan.

Tom Silva, Board Member, indicated his interest in small group cohorts and what they could look like before implementation. He would like to see plan changes included in the District's transitional model.

Dr. Schauer stated that school administrators were asked to provide the District with the percentage of students at each school site that fit into the high needs category and determine if there are patterns across the District. She is also working with certificated and classified union representatives. She indicated the state does provide guidance to support cohort group services on campus, but it is not a requirement. As the district is looking at special education and high needs cohorts, the District may also consider a focus on TK-3 cohorts due to early reading and language challenges children are experiencing in a distance learning environment. A survey could provide information for teachers and staff who want to support on-campus learning in small groups.

Dr. Schauer stated that the teacher union has been responsive and collaborative as the District continues to share new information, working together to determine how to best approach this.

Dr. Schauer added that small cohorts, up to generally 25% of students, include middle school, unlike an Elementary Waiver.

Tom Silva emphasized the need to get input from all stakeholders, especially parents, to be sure the District addresses their needs.

John Gordon requested information on pupil learning loss since last March that marked the beginning of school closure and distance learning efforts.

Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano, Curriculum Director, stated that the District is administering student reading assessment in grades TK-3 and comparing results to last spring. In grades 4-8, the District is assessing AR tests, Lexia, Khan, and soon Gooru to determine the best placement in reading groups. She indicated she will have more information at a future board meeting.

John Gordon appreciates the work that is put into the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan. He asked, "to what degree do we understand and modify what the learning expectation is?" He would like a future report, maybe come October, on what it looks like, with our yard supervisors and other classified staff offering different supports.

Dr. Schauer shared the next steps. She indicated adjustments to the transitional schools reopening plan based on feedback would take place and brought to the board. This would involve preparing another survey for parents, employees, and possibly students to get a pulse for on-campus learning for small cohorts and Elementary Waiver decisions. Additionally, continued work with labor unions to problem solve safe learning and services efforts while communicating with other superintendents for implementation ideas.

John Gordon commended district leadership and their work with the labor unions.

Grace Malson commended teachers for all their hard work and dedication.

Lois Yount reported that a survey is being administered by food services staff to determine the best meal service schedule for families. She indicated the District demand for meals is down by approximately half, and hopefully, this feedback will help guide the District.

Wesley Cagle stated that parents do not know what the meal pick up schedule is based on social media posts.

#### **D. Pending Agenda Items**

1. School District Properties

2. Low Performing Block Grant: Mathematics
3. CSBA Social Media & Training for School Boards

**E. Adjournment** 7:04 p.m.

Board Approved: September 23, 2020