

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

**Special Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 14, 2020**

Webinar/Meeting ID: 862 6746 7363  
Closed Session Meeting ID: 832 9772 0196

**Board Members Present**

Grace Malson  
Thomas Silva  
Wesley Cagle- open session only  
Matthew Felix  
John Gordon

**Administrators Present**

Karen Schauer	Donna Mayo-Whitlock
Lois Yount	Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano
David Nelson	Laura Marquez
Judi Hayes	Stephanie Simonich
Donna Gill	Jennifer Porter
Leah Wheeler	Laura Papineau
Tina Homdus	Ron Rammer
	Kuljeet Nijjar

# MINUTES

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

**A. Grace Malson announced items to be discussed in Closed Session.**

**B. Closed Session** was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present for closed session: Karen Schauer, Lois Yount, Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano, Donna Mayo-Whitlock, Grace Malson, Thomas Silva, Matthew Felix, John Gordon

1. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS, Proposed School Site Within Simmerhorn Project and Related Projects, Government Code §54956.8
  - East Galt Infill Annexation/Simmerhorn Ranch Project
  - Summerfield at Twin Cities Project
  - Fairway Oaks Project District Project
2. 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

**C. Closed Session adjourned at 6:57 p.m.** The open meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Grace Malson. She announced no action taken in closed session, followed by the flag salute.

**D. Karen Schauer, Superintendent, shared the Teleconference Board Meeting Protocol**

- E. Karen Schauer reviewed the session goals regarding schools re-opening progress. She shared the GJUESD Transitional Reopening Schools Model and reported the District is currently in Distance Learning Level 1. Distance Learning level 1 started because Sacramento County was in the Purple Tier of the pandemic (CA Blueprint for a Safer Economy).

The District is looking to move from Distance Learning to 1:1 assessments for English Learners and children receiving special services. In addition, pending Galt Elementary Faculty Association (GEFA) ratification of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), small cohort group learning will be provided on campus next with teachers voluntarily participating. She indicated teachers would volunteer to begin offering on-campus services with a goal to move to the blended Level 2 model by mid-November. A blended model could reflect children attending school on-campus 2-4 days a week.

Dr. Schauer reported that she met with Galt parks and recreation and will survey parents to assess childcare needs. She indicated the re-opening of schools has looked different in other districts. Some have re-opened by grade spans or specific grade levels.

Dr. Schauer shared survey participation information, survey highlights, survey comment themes, and implications for actions.

Donna Mayo Whitlock, Educational Services Director, shared the safety compact her department is working to complete next week. She indicated the district nurse would provide live safety information meetings for parents, and recordings will be made available to parents and staff.

Lois Yount, Business Services Director, added that a prescreening form would be used daily by parents and staff to acknowledge they are safe to come to work or school. PBK consultants are working with the District to perform site safety assessments of each of our schools and other facilities. They have visited every school site and classroom to affirm or determine safety measures that need to be taken to ensure we are ready to begin on-campus services by mid-November.

Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano, Curriculum Director, stated communication measures are in place in various forms to receive feedback or clarify information.

Karen Schauer stated employee labor unions had shown their commitment to work with management to reopen schools safely and gradually. She indicated the District is meeting again with the teachers union on Monday and classified union on Tuesday. Everyone is committed to working hard.

Karen Schauer shared that there is an infographic in the board packet that the District is working on with a consultant to convey implementation of the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan. The graphic explains how the District will grow and learn together in new ways in a detailed infographic that could be used for communication purposes.

Public Comments: Kathy Loesch, Regina Gonzalez, Anne Wood, Sara Murray, Kim Lizama, Elaine Trull, Melissa Pruitt, Tiffany Lourence, Lisa Rhodes, Kirsten Patrick, Rebecca De La Cruz, Jared Moore, Emily Sanders, Darlene Watkins, Miguel Lourence, Mrs. Blake, Christina Lawrie addressed the Board regarding school re-opening.

John Gordon, Board Member, stated the governor's order restricted districts to Distance Learning. The hope is that people are conditioned to follow safety procedures when schools re-open. We need to ensure clarity on protocols and procedural safeguards. As a district, we need to protect people as much as possible. Mr. Gordon would like to hear more about student and staff access to water.

Grace Malson, Board Member, expressed her concern with a health self check honor system as some kids go to school sick.

Wesley Cagle, Board Member, shared that he has two children attending school in the District, and his wife is a teacher. He indicated that his children and his wife need to be in a classroom with their peers and their teachers, and they want to be back in school. He noted the protocols and procedures already in place.

Lois Yount addressed the water matter. She indicated communal drinking water faucets need to be turned off due to the pandemic. The District is considering bottled water.

Thomas Silva stated he is comfortable with conducting the next board meeting in person. Mr. Silva would like to know more about the middle school's schedule and would like more feedback from parents and teachers regarding an am/pm or A/B schedule. He would also like more information on transportation needs.

Grace Malson stated she is comfortable with conducting the next board meeting in person. She shared options for holding an in-person meeting.

John Gordon stated that the Board adopted a transitional re-opening model in the summer. He indicated the Board needs to set the example for labor unions to follow. There is no right answer to re-opening. The District has to look at phasing in soon.

John Gordon asked for clarification on the requirement for face coverings.

Donna Whitlock responded that preschool to second grade would be strongly encouraged to wear a mask. All others will be required to wear a mask or face shield with a drape. If students do not wear face masks, their parents will be contacted.

John Gordon asked if the District is staffed with enough custodians to meet cleaning requirements.

Lois Yount reported the District is in the process of hiring temporary custodians to work mid-day, 3 ½ hours per day. The District has also purchased disinfectant equipment to allow the District to disinfect a classroom in 5 minutes. If the District is not able to acquire enough custodians, janitorial services will be considered for support.

Karen Schauer reported that employees and children would have daily health screenings, in addition, a safety protocol commitment form will be required indicating an understanding to follow safety procedures. The District will also implement surveillance testing every two months for employees.

Karen Schauer shared that neighboring superintendents that re-opened schools in early September have experienced few or no cases of COVID-19. She indicated other school districts are using different scheduling models, and they all can work. GJUESD is already implementing 1:1 assessments with the hope of transitioning to serving small cohorts and then serving all children on campus.

Wesley Cagle stated he would like to meet in person for the next Board meeting.

Karen Schauer summarized the session. She will prepare a communication for parents and staff that will go out on Friday. The communication will outline a safe and gradual re-opening that builds from 1:1 assessments to possible small cohorts pending the GEFA MOU ratification. The goal is to re-open for all students at the start of the second trimester. The communications would also include a request for information from parents and staff regarding what type of services the District needs to prepare for. She added that the small cohort model demonstrates procedures on a smaller scale before taking it to a larger scale.

John Gordon asked if the District will accommodate parents who do not want their children to come back to campus?

Karen Schauer stated that parents would need to let the District know what learning program they prefer and provide contact information through the communication that will go out on October 16.

Karen Schauer stated that the next meeting of the Board of Trustees would be held at a school campus, possibly a classroom.

## **F. New Business**

**202.121** A motion was made by Thomas Silva to approve the Memorandum of Understanding Between Galt Elementary Faculty Association (GEFA) and GJUESD Regarding On-Campus Small Cohort Support, seconded by Wesley Cagle and unanimously carried.

**G. Pending Agenda Items**

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

**H. Adjournment 9:23 p.m.**

Board Approved: October 28, 2020