

Galt Joint Union Elementary School District Board of Education Minutes

Regular Board Meeting
January 26, 2022

Teleconference via Zoom
Webinar ID: 854 6264 2251

Board Members Present

Thomas Silva
Wesley Cagle
Traci Skinner
Grace Malson
Casey Raboy

Administrators Present

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Lois Yount | Nicole Lorenz |
| Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano | Donna Mayo-Whitlock |
| Ron Rammer | Donna Gill |
| Jennifer Porter | Judi Hayes |
| Kuljeet Nijjar | Laura Papineau |
| David Nelson | Stephanie Simonich |
| | Tina Homdus |

THIS MEETING WAS HELD PURSUANT TO ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO DIRECTING ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS IN THE COUNTY TO OCCUR VIRTUALLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE AND ENCOURAGING WORKPLACES TO CONDUCT MEETINGS REMOTELY AS BUSINESS NEEDS PERMIT

DATE OF ORDER: January 6, 2022

6:00 p.m. – Closed Session Location: Video Teleconference

Closed session was called to order at 6:21 p.m. by Thomas Silva.

Present for the closed session: Thomas Silva, Grace Malson, Traci Skinner, Wesley Cagle, Casey Raboy, Lois Yount, Nicole Lorenz, Claudia Del Toro-Anguinao, Donna Mayo-Whitlock, and from the office of Dannis Woliver Kelley, Chris Keiner and William Tunick, Attorneys at Law

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Gov. Code, §54956.9, subd. (d)[(2) or (3)]:
 - One matter
2. STUDENT MATTER, Education Code §48918
 - Stipulated Expulsion #21/22-1
3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR, Government Code §54957.6
Agency Negotiator: Lois Yount, Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano, Donna Mayo-Whitlock, Nicole Lorenz
 - Employee Agency: (GEFA) Galt Elementary Faculty Association
 - Employee Agency: (CSEA) California School Employee Association
 - Non-Represented Employees

Closed Session adjourned at 7:22 p.m. The open meeting was called to order at 7:26 p.m., followed by the flag salute. Thomas Silva announced no action was taken in closed session.

Board Meeting Protocol

Lois Yount shared the Board Meeting Protocol and stated 2 written public comments were received and posted to the District website.

Reports

Superintendent Report

- 1. COVID-19 Pandemic Status and Implications for Schools, Staff, and Operations

Lois Yount reported local COVID-19 case rates in Sacramento County are trending downwards. She emphasized that positive cases in the GJUESD are significantly lower now than a week ago. Ms. Yount shared difficulties the District has faced during this omicron outbreak, including 22 percent of students absent in the past week and 15 percent of staff. Additionally, multiple preschool classrooms and two special education classrooms have had to close. Large assemblies have been canceled, and most meetings occur via zoom. COVID-19 testing kits and N95 masks have been made available to all district staff, and a message has been sent to all middle school families that the District is providing voluntary N95 masks to middle school students. KN95 masks for elementary students are on order. Ms. Yount said, "things are getting better." She thanked the District staff for their hard work to keep schools open and parents for continuing to follow health guidelines. She stated there had been three revisions to the Decision Forest from Sacramento County Health Department in a month and a public health order regarding public meetings occurring virtually until further notice.

Tom Silva stated his appreciation to everyone. He asked how transportation recruitment and services were going?

Lois Yount stated recruitment is going well. A transportation committee meeting was held yesterday, January 25, 2022, to discuss strategy. Some ideas include signing bonuses and looking at what surrounding Districts are doing for incentives. The Governor's budget proposal would devote funds to support school transportation efforts.

LCAP GOAL 1

Engaging learners in PreK-8 through a focus on equity, access and academic rigor with inclusive practices in a variety of learning environments.

- 1. Lois Yount reported the Kids Discover Educator of the Month for October 2021 as Kathy Lucchesi, teacher.

Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano, Curriculum Director, recognized Kathy Lucchesi's effective program implementation with her students. Congratulations to her.

Wesley Cagle, Board Member, said his son loved Ms. Lucchesi's class. She is an amazing teacher.

Thomas Silva and Traci Skinner concurred.

Lois Yount stated that Ms. Lucchesi is currently the home learning academy teacher and is doing a great job.

2. 2022-2023 School Registration

Lois Yount reported registration opened on Tuesday, January 18. New this year, parents can register online. The link is on the GJUESD website. Parents can also download applications for print or pick up packets at any District school. Additionally, the enrollment dates for Transitional Kindergarten (TK) expanded. More students will be eligible to attend TK this year.

3. Dual Language Immersion Program

Donna Whitlock, Educational Services Director, reported. She indicated the District is working with a California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) consultant. The rollout is dependent on parent participation. Dual Language Immersion (DLI) information nights are scheduled for February 1 in English and February 3 in Spanish. Additionally, the District will call every family that indicated they are interested in the program through the feasibility survey. We will also contact all Transitional Kindergarten (TK) families registered for the next school year. Laura Marquez, Assistant Principal, and Kuljeet Nijjar, Prevention and Intervention Coordinator, are spearheading the information nights. The meetings will be recorded and placed on the District website with an interest form for families.

LCAP GOAL 2

Promoting PreK-8 whole learner development through social and emotional learning opportunities in a variety of environments

1. Food and Nutrition Services

Nick Svobodo, Food & Nutrition Services Supervisor, reported. He shared the number of meals served throughout the District this school year. Meals Included lunch buddies for students who bring limited non-nutritious snacks for lunch.

Mr. Svobodo stated that product availability had been a challenge. However, fresh produce is readily available. Other challenges include staffing due to retirees, open positions and sub availability. He gave a "shout out" to the food and nutrition staff. They are creative with menu items and find ways to make students smile by decorating kitchens and making special treats.

Mr. Svobodo provided information on Galt Grub Grab. These are shelf-stable grocery boxes donated by the Sacramento Food Bank and are available for community members based on delivery availability and a rotating schedule posted on the District website.

Wesley Cagle and Thomas Silva thanked Mr. Svobodo for his fantastic work reflected in long-serving retirees.

OTHER REPORTS

1. School Services of California Governor's Budget Workshop for 2022-23

Nicole Lorenz, Chief Business Officer, provided a bulleted overview of the state budget and the state economy.

- Robust state revenues provide the state General Fund with a surplus of \$45.7 billion for the 2022-23 fiscal year
- Significant increases projected for Personal Income Tax and Sales and Use Tax, two of the Big Three taxes
- The Governor's Budget reflects significant reserves, including the Budget Stabilization Account (Rainy Day Fund), the Public School System Stabilization Account, and the general operations reserve
- While there are many positive economic indicators, there is still a level of economic uncertainty due to the unpredictability of COVID-19
- Inflation has become a major concern as the cost of everyday goods and services continue to rise to levels not seen since 1982
- The Federal Reserve's response to inflation, including interest rate hikes, could impact the stock market

Capital Advisors advises school districts could see significant changes to the May revision.

Ms. Lorenz reported the COLA is higher likely due to inflation costs. The Governor proposes an average ADA formula to help mitigate the ADA budget cliff most districts face. Special Education is getting another COLA as the Governor continues to invest in special education, and there is ongoing funding for expanded learning. Ms. Lorenz indicated additional Proposition 98 money to provide meals to all students and funding for school kitchen improvements.

Ms. Lorenz said there is grant money for electric school buses described by Kerri Gardner, Transportation Supervisor, at the last regular Board meeting. Additionally, the Governor proposes general fund money to fund school facility investments for current applications.

Ms. Lorenz said CalPERS and CalSTRS rates are increasing. The Governor is not proposing any relief.

Thomas Silva stated, "the more categorical we have, the less local control we have."

Lois Yount commented, "will the COLA even cover the CalSTRS and CalPERS increases."

2. Williams Uniform Complaint Process (UCP) Quarter 2 Report
Lois Yount reported no complaints.

Routine Matters/New Business

212.264 Grace Malson made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar, second by Wesley Cagle and unanimously carried.

**Consent
Calendar**

- a. Approval of the Agenda
- b. Minutes
 - December 13, 2021, Annual Organizational Meeting

- c. Payment of Warrants
- Vendor Warrant Numbers: 22323067-22323104; 22323648-22323667; 22324422-22324467; 22325144-22325161; 22326796-22326889; 22328170-22328221
 - Certificated/Classified Payrolls Dated: 12/10/21, 01/01/22, 01/10/22, 01/14/22

d. Personnel

| Resignations/Retirees | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Name | Position | Effective Date | Site |
| Bandy, Jo Ellen (Retirement, 29 years) | Food Service Lead | 2/4/22 | River Oaks |
| Garcia, Donna | Instructional Assistant | 1/2/22 | Vernon E. Greer |
| Gill, Donna (Retirement, 15 years) | Principal | 6/28/22 | River Oaks |
| Munoz, Janet (Retirement, 23 years) | ASES Coordinator | 12/30/21 | Vernon E. Greer |
| Quist, Christina | Food Service Worker | 12/17/21 | Vernon E. Greer |
| Rammer, Ron (Retirement, 30 years) | Principal | 6/28/22 | McCaffrey Middle |
| Rodriguez, Antonio | Instructional Assistant, ASES | 12/17/21 | McCaffrey Middle |

| Leave of Absence Requests | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Name | Position | Effective Date | Site |
| Hopper, Joyce | Bus Driver | 12/7/21 | Transportation |
| Jones, Lori | District Clerk II | 1/10/22 | District Office |
| Muniz, Celeste | ASES Coordinator | 1/10/22 | Valley Oaks |
| Odell, Yvette | Secretary | 1/10/22 | Fairsite |
| Pierre, Anya | Teacher | 3/11/22 | River Oaks |

| New Hires/Status Change | | |
|---------------------------------|--|------------------|
| Name | Position | Site |
| Arrieta, Yolanda | Yard Supervisor | McCaffrey Middle |
| Ceja, Lorena | Instructional Assistant, ASES | Valley Oaks |
| Gomez, Maribel (Status Change) | Food Service Worker | Marengo Ranch |
| Harkness, Taryn | Instructional Assistant, Special Education | Fairsite |
| Leon, Janett | Yard Supervisor | Vernon E. Greer |
| Lopez, Shalise | Instructional Assistant, Special Education | Vernon E. Greer |
| Luna Garcia, Raquel | Counselor | McCaffrey Middle |
| Macias, Beatriz (Status Change) | Instructional Assistant, Bilingual | Fairsite |
| Martinez-Garcia, Cassandra | Instructional Assistant, Special Education | Lake Canyon |
| Mendoza, Francisco | Classified Substitute | N/A |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------------|
| Mejia Posas, Jose | Classified Substitute | N/A |
| Moore, Selena | Classified Substitute | N/A |
| Najera, Kelly | Yard Supervisor | Marengo Ranch |
| Prieto Chase, Lydia (Status Change) | Food Service Worker | Lake Canyon |
| Rivera Flores, Mayra | Yard Supervisor | McCaffrey Middle |
| Smith, Dania | Classified Substitute | N/A |
| Solomon, Benjamin | Certificated Substitute | N/A |
| Valencia, Eileen (Status Change) | Instructional Assistant, Special Education | Marengo Ranch |

e. Donations

f. Master Contract for Non-Public Schools and Agencies: The Stepping Stones Group

212.265 Consent Calendar (Continued) – Items Removed for Later Consideration
There were no items removed. **CC Items Removed**

212.266 Thomas Silva made a motion to approve Stipulated Expulsion Case #21/22-1 Recommendation, seconded by Traci Skinner and unanimously carried. **Stipulated Expulsion**

212.267 Thomas Silva, Board President, referenced Senator Richard Pan's proposal, Keep Schools Open and Safe Act, to close the personal belief exemption loophole for COVID-19 school vaccinations. Mr. Silva indicated this is not a choice but an ultimatum and not the kind of leadership constituents deserve from Sacramento. COVID-19 is not the existential threat to children that other diseases are. **Res 9 Personal Belief Exemption**

Casey Raboy, Board Member, stated that how legislators legislate is not up to us. We didn't have a say in how the other diseases were mandated. It's a law. She stated that unvaccinated people are dying.

Traci Skinner, Board Member, said, "however, we can use our voices to express our concerns; we elect them."

Traci Skinner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 9 Supporting Personal Belief Exemptions Related to the COVID-19 School Vaccine Mandates, seconded by Wesley Cagle. A vote of four Ayes carried the motion from Thomas Silva, Traci Skinner, and Grace Malson's and a No vote from Casey Raboy.

212.268 Lois Yount reported a need to expand and centralize the Transitional Kindergarten program to serve students best. She shared facility improvements over the last five years at Fairsite and upgrades scheduled for 2022. Ms. Yount also shared facility index and scores comparing Fairsite results to other district schools. **FS Elem CDS Code**

Grace Malson shared that parents have indicated concern about their students attending different schools.

Ms. Yount responded that transportation would be provided to students, and there is the potential for a staggered start time. Additionally, the program will be a half-day program.

Wesley Cagle expressed concern that the District redrew school boundaries so students could attend their local schools. He is concerned about students having to take a bus across town.

Lois Yount said all students go to Fairsite for preschool. Students are still able to attend Kindergarten through 6th grade at their homeschool. She indicated that approximately 58 students currently attending Fairsite are eligible for Transitional Kindergarten (TK) next school year.

Donna Whitlock stated that the District is projecting 4 TK teachers for next year.

Wesley Cagle asked if Fairsite is changed to an elementary school, would it be possible to open it up to grades 1-6?

Lois Yount said yes, but the plan is to serve four-year-olds. The District does not have the facilities or playground space at every elementary school to serve this group of students.

Grace Malson asked if it is possible to have one school on the east side of Galt to serve TK?

Lois Yount indicated It is possible; however, we would still be transporting students and still would not have neighborhood schools for TK.

Tom Silva asked Ms. Yount to discuss the challenges of combining TK & Kindergarten students in one classroom.

Lois Yount stated that research shows that combination classrooms are challenging. The fundamental development of play for TK is oftentimes overlooked in a TK/K combo class. We hear from parents that TK students are really getting two years of Kindergarten. The District feels if we can have straight TK classrooms, we can serve both TK and K better.

Casey Raboy made a motion to approve Re-Opening Fairsite Elementary Due to the implementation of Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK) and the Establishment Of New County District School (CDS) Code, seconded by Thomas Silva. A vote of four Ayes carried the motion from Casey Raboy, Thomas Silva, Traci Skinner, and Grace Malson, and a No vote from Wesley Cagle.

212.269 Thomas Silva made a motion to approve Resolution No. 10 Accepting Final Completion of Contract for Greer Elementary HVAC Upgrades and Roof Replacement S&B James Construction Management Company, seconded by Grace Malson and unanimously carried.

**Res 10
GE NOC**

- 212.270** Grace Malson made a motion to approve Cooperative Agreement Between GJUESD and Turning Point Community Programs, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried. Turning Point Agreement
- 212.271** Donna Whitlock stated that by education code, the School Accountability Report Cards (SARC's) have to be updated annually by February 1. She highlighted the information in the SARC related to average class size and enrollment as incorrect, and the teacher credential information is missing. Ms. Whitlock indicated that the California Department of Education (CDE) would correct the data. She added Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) results are included in the SARCs since the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CASPP) was not administered due to the COVID-19 pandemic. SARCs
- Ms. Whitlock reported zero suspensions were reported in the SARCS. However, there was one suspension at Robert L. McCaffrey Middle School in the last week of the school year. This suspension will be reflected in next year's SARC.
- Thomas Silva noted FIT report trends that caught his attention. He indicated the Lake Canyon Elementary report indicated numerous water stains on ceiling tiles. Another trend included lots of comments about electrical issues at Greer. Reports indicate exhaust fans in restrooms that don't work throughout all schools. He said COVID prevention measures should include ensuring enough ventilation in restrooms. However, he understands as the report is generated, maintenance is already working on some of these issues.
- As soon as the reports are available, Lois Yount said the District reviews them with maintenance, and copies are given to custodians and principals. She will follow up on the mentioned areas.
- Donna Whitlock stated that the SARCS data would be corrected before posting on the district website. She thanked principals and assistant principals for their efforts.
- Wesley Cagle made a motion to approve 2021-2022 School Accountability Report Cards (SARCs) for Lake Canyon Elementary, Marengo Ranch Elementary, River Oaks Elementary, Valley Oaks Elementary, Vernon E. Greer Elementary, and McCaffrey Middle School, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried.
- 212.272** Grace Malson made a motion to approve Agreement Between GJUESD and Galt Elementary Faculty Association (GEFA) Regarding 2021-2022 Article XVIII Salary and Related Items, seconded by Traci Skinner and unanimously carried. GEFA TA
- 212.273** Thomas Silva made a motion to approve the following GJUESD Board Policies (BP) and Administrative Regulations (AR), seconded by Wesley Cagle and unanimously carried. Policies
1. BP 3516.5 Emergency Schedules
 2. BP4131 Staff Development
 3. BP 6120 Response to Instruction and Intervention

4. BP/AR 6164.4 Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education
5. BP/AR 6164.41 Children with Disabilities Enrolled by Their Parents in Private School
6. BP/AR 6164.5 Student Success Teams
7. BP/AR 4112.42 Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers

212.274 The Board of Trustees held a First Reading of GJUESD Board Policies (BP) and Administrative Regulations (AR).

1st Reading Policies

Thomas Silva would like staff to demonstrate how parents and the community can access board policies on the District webpage.

Donna Whitlock will add this request to the next regular meeting of the Board agenda.

1. BP/AR/E(1)(2) 1312.3 Uniform Complaint Procedures
2. BP/AR 4119.11 Sexual Harassment
3. AR/E 4119.12 Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
4. BP/AR 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment
5. BP/AR 5145.7 Sexual Harassment
6. AR/E 5145.71 Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures

212.275 Lois Yount stated the revision to the 2021-2022 calendar is needed to add the Juneteenth National Independence Day federal holiday.

Revised School Calendar 2021-22

Grace Malson made a motion to approve the Revised 2021-2022 School Calendar, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried.

212.276 Wesley Cagle made a motion to approve the 2022-2023 School Calendar, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried.

School Calendar 2022-23

Public Comments

1. Stevie Choate addressed the Board regarding:
 - support for the Dual Language Immersion program plan
 - support for Item 212.268; Re-Opening Fairsite due to the implementation of Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK)
 - support for virtual board meetings
 - support for staff and teachers
 - disappointment regarding the Board of Trustees' vote to pass Resolution 9, supporting personal belief exemptions related to the COVID-19 school vaccine mandate.
2. Martha Velma addressed the Board regarding her disappointment regarding the Board of Trustees' vote to pass Resolution 9, supporting personal belief exemptions related to the COVID-19 school vaccine mandate.

Two Public Comments were received via email:

1. On behalf of certificated members, Heather Wetzel addressed the Board with concerns related to item 212.268, Re-Opening Fairsite due to the implementation of Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK) and the Dual Language Immersion program plan.
2. Ashley Barrett addressed the Board urging a no vote regarding item 212.268 Re-Opening Fairsite due to the implementation of Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK).

Pending Agenda Items

1. School District Properties
2. District Communications

Adjournment 9:55 p.m.

Board Approved: February 23, 2022