Galt Joint Union Elementary School District
Board of Education Minutes

Regular Board Meeting
May 25, 2022

Galt City Hall Chamber
380 Civic Drive, Galt, CA 95632

Remote Via Zoom
Webinar ID: 893 6709 7463

Board Members Present		**Administrators Present**
Thomas Silva	Lois Yount	Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano
Grace Malson	Nicole Lorenz	Donna Mayo-Whitlock
Traci Skinner	Kuljeet Nijjar	Ron Rammer
Wesley Cagle	Jennifer Porter	Stephanie Simonich
Casey Raboy	Donna Gill	Judi Hayes

A. **6:00 pm – Closed Session Location:** Galt City Hall Conference Room
Present for the closed session: Lois Yount, Nicole Lorenz, Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano, Donna Mayo-Whitlock, Thomas Silva, Grace Malson, Traci Skinner, Wesley Cagle, Casey Raboy

B. **Closed Session called to order at** 6:05 pm by Thomas Silva to discuss the following items:

1. STUDENT MATTER, Education Code §48918
    - Stipulated Expulsion No. 21/22-05

2. 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

C. **Closed Session Adjourned at** 7:06 pm. The open meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm, followed by the flag salute. Thomas Silva announced no action was taken in closed session.

At this time, Lois Yount, Superintendent, acknowledged the shooting tragedy at an elementary school in Ulvade, Texas. She recognized district staff efforts during this time.

D. Lois Yount shared the **Board Meeting Protocol.**

E. **Recognition**

1. The Board recognized Haley Smith, McCaffrey Middle School 8th grade student, for receiving the SEVA Educational Video Award of Merit. Haley submitted five educational videos to the annual SEVA Educational Video Contest, and three of her videos made it to the finalist level.

   Haley Smith addressed the Board. She said she strives to make videos to win and make her school proud. Her other finalist videos were "How to Make a Fishtail Rainbow Loom Bracelet" and "Physical Importance." She said the films were fun and that she had created other videos, including a competition video for the Galt Teen Center and a personal video about her brother and his athletic success.

2. The Board recognized Ron Rammer, Principal, Robert L. McCaffrey Middle School. Lois Yount said Mr. Rammer had been a middle school administrator in the District for 30 years, and he has been at McCaffrey since 2003, when he opened that school, a huge accomplishment. Ms. Yount said Mr. Rammer loves the staff and middle school-age children. He nurtures and supports them. Mr. Rammer served as an assistant principal at Greer when it was a middle school and a principal at Marengo Ranch Elementary. He has had an amazing career, and I want to thank Ron for his support and leadership when she served as a principal. Ms. Yount wished him the best in his retirement.

3. The Board recognized Donna Gill, Principal, River Oaks Elementary School. Ms. Yount said Donna Gill has been with the District for 15 years and has been an assistant principal at River Oaks and Robert L. McCaffrey. She has also been a special education teacher. Ms. Yount said she had the privilege of working with Mrs. Gill when she served as an assistant principal at River Oaks while she was principal. Ms. Yount said she was honored when Ms. Gill became principal.

   The Board thanked Mr. Rammer and Mrs. Gill on behalf of staff and parents for their many years of dedicated service.

F. Communication

1. Lois Yount shared a communication from the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE): 2021-2022 Second Period Interim Report. She stated the District received a positive certification with comments, including that the District is projecting a decrease of 462 ADA in 2021-2022, an increase of 309 ADA in 2022-2023, and a decrease of 97 ADA 2023-2024. She noted the decrease of 462 ADA in 2021-2022 is attributed to the COVID pandemic.

G. Reports

<u>Superintendent</u>

1. 2022-23 Enrollment Update

   Lois Yount reported transitional kindergarten and kindergarten current enrollment is 382. For 2022-2023 the District has received 292 completed registration packets.

   That is average for this time of year. She noted the District had reduced the number of kindergarten classes at Marengo Ranch elementary school from three to two.

2. Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Update

Lois Yount reported the District is actively updating the LCAP as the District approaches the second year of a three-year LCAP cycle. Some of the actions and services have been refined as feedback is received from various stakeholders.

The next steps include posting the LCAP for feedback by June 3, 2022, and bringing it to a special Board meeting on June 15 for a public hearing along with the budget.

LCAP GOAL 1
Ms. Yount provided a summary of actions and services for Goal 1. She indicated an Expanded Learning summer program this summer at Valley Oaks and an after-school program starting in the fall at every school site. She highlighted LCAP Action No. 15; Professional Learning will guide staff work with content standards, English language acquisition, student engagement, and equitable classroom practices. Outside consultants from CORE Learning, Eureka, and College Preparatory Mathematics will be used. Through a partnership with SCOE and Yale University, school-based teams will receive coaching and participate in a systemic approach to implementing the principles of emotional intelligence that inform how leaders lead, teachers teach, students learn, and families support students. Outside consultants will also be used to strengthen administrative leadership capacities. District and site administration will work within a leadership framework designed to build relationships and actions to increase student and staff learning and well-being.

Ms. Yount added some professional learning activities for the next school year with CORE to refine reading and literacy in Benchmark and SIPPS. Additionally, the Board took action to support professional learning for our administrative team through a contract with Al Rogers, Leadership Partners.

Ms. Yount stated Action No. 16 indicates the District will continue the Home Learning Academy next year, although it is not required. Currently, 20 students are enrolled.

LCAP GOAL 2
Donna Whitlock, Educational Services Director, summarized chronic absenteeism and suspension rates. She said, besides quarantining, there are many different reasons students don't come to school, such as engagement, mental health, social-emotional, and safety. She indicated the chronic absenteeism rate was quite high this year comparatively. Chronic absenteeism is when a student is absent 10% of the days in a school year. Ms. Whitlock reported the suspension rate is at 2% of the student population. She indicated these are the two indicators of the social-emotional health of students.

Grace Malson, Board Member, asked if absenteeism could be because students are sick with a cold and then ill with COVID. Is there a pattern to why kids are absent?

Ms. Whitlock spoke to the students taken to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB). She said these students had had quite a few quarantine days, but they have

another 25 or 30 days of unexcused absences on top of the quarantine. She stated that even excused absences count towards chronic absenteeism.

Lois Yount highlighted the District's Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). She said a Teacher On Special Assignment (TOSA) would provide additional support for site MTSS teams and standardize district practices. Additionally, the District recently purchased a software program to maintain all the documents related to MTSS referrals and 504 plans.

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. 2022 May Revision Budget

Nicole Lorenz, Chief Business Officer, reported on significant themes of the Governor's budget. She indicated the Governor's focus was to provide relief from rising inflation, ensure public safety, address homelessness, transform public education, and combat climate change.

Educational Highlights of the May Revision:

- **Prop 98 Guarantee for 2022-23** – Projected to be $110.3 billion, about $8.3 billion above estimates in January and roughly $16.6 billion above the Prop 98 Guarantee in the 2021 Budget Act
- **COLA** - 6.56%, compared to 5.33% estimated in January
- **LCFF Base increase above COLA** - Proposes an additional $2.1 billion beyond the 6.56% COLA
- **Current-year ADA protections** - Proposes to allow classroom-based LEAs to be funded at the greater of their current year ADA or their current year enrollment adjusted for pre-COVID-19 absence rates
- **Declining Enrollment** - Retains three-year rolling average proposal from January to address declining enrollment
- **Discretionary Block Grant** - Proposes $8 billion one-time funding for a discretionary block grant to LEAs distributed on a per-pupil basis (depending on adjustments, it should be about $1,360 per ADA)
- **Expanded Learning** - Proposes an additional $403 million for the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (brings total proposed ongoing program funding for ELOP to $4.8 billion)
- **Universal Transitional Kindergarten (TK)** - Reduces Prop 98 re-bench for TK expansion from January by about $25 million to $614 million in May Revision, and no proposal related to impact of TK expansion on basic aid school districts
- **Universal Meals** - Proposes an additional $611.8 million in ongoing funding to augment the state meal reimbursement rate
- **Facilities** - Proposes using a one-time General Fund to support School Facility Program projects, including $2.2 billion in 2021-22, $1.2 billion in 2023-24, and $625 million in 2024-25. It also proposes approximately $1.8 billion in one-time Prop 98 funding for schools to address outstanding

school facility maintenance issues, with no school district receiving less than $100,000 (protecting small districts)

- **STRS and PERS** - No direct proposal to address increasing employer contribution rates, although Governor mentions these costs when discussing LCFF base increase and discretionary block grant

Thomas Silva, Board President, asked what increased costs is the District absorbing over the last couple of years?

Ms. Lorenz responded that lumber, gas and diesel, vehicle maintenance, utilities, and food and nutrition costs have increased. Additionally, the District is buying more custodial supplies due to COVID-19, costing more. She said with 8% inflation, the COLA of 6.56% doesn't cover cost increases.

Ms. Lorenz said if the Governor's budget is approved, the District will receive an additional $870,700. This increased funding is expected to be ongoing.

She indicated this would allow the District to hire more staff for the new Expanded Learning Program.

Lois Yount stated that the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program funding would allow the District to hire more classified and possibly credentialed staff.

Grace Malson asked if it is possible to offer extended learning in the morning before school to relieve congestion in dropping kids off?

Ms. Yount said it would depend on the District's ability to hire staff to cover the morning. She indicated it is something to consider.

Ms. Yount stated facilities funding could be used to add portables, especially at Lake Canyon Elementary, where it is needed most.

2. 2021-22 Fairsite State Preschool Program Self-Evaluation

Donna Whitlock, Educational Services Director, reported that Fairsite State Preschool Program self-evaluation is reported annually to certify that an annual plan has been developed and implemented.

Kuljeet Nijjar, Early Childhood Education/Special Education Administrator, addressed the Board. She indicated the self-evaluation informs how the program can be improved. At the beginning of the school year, she meets with staff to review components and the assessment tools that will be utilized as a part of the review process.

Ms. Nijjar shared the Fairsite Mission Statement. She said the Fairsite Preschool and School Readiness Center prepares students and families to be Kindergarten-ready. It focuses on academics, language, social, emotional, and physical readiness.

Ms. Nijjar reported the Fairsite Preschool is funded through various "braided" funding sources from California State Preschool Program, Migrant Education, JBMF, Raising quality Together, and Supplemental/Concentration funds. She shared staffing and student numbers.

Ms. Nijjar said the self-evaluation process is viewed through the lens of a continuous improvement cycle and part of the data sets that we look at are the Desired Results for Developmental Profile, environmental rating scales, preschool parent survey, and trimester benchmark assessments.

Ms. Nijjar shared celebrations and areas for growth. Celebrations include improved language and literacy, math, and phonological awareness. We've identified that we need to continue to strengthen social-emotional development, and some furniture, toys, and space are needed within the context of our classrooms. Those are two areas to focus on next year.

Ms. Nijjar said over the last two years, Fairsite has partnered with an organization called BGLAD to provide teacher training around guided language acquisition design to develop oral language skills. Last year, early literacy work with Gail Bruce targeted phonological awareness.

Areas for growth include students' social-emotional development at the lower end of development and space and furniture on the lower end of the scale. The Second Step curriculum is being implemented district-wide to address social-emotional development. Staff is also participating in RULER training.

LCAP GOAL 2

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

1. CalSCHLS Survey Results

Lois Yount reported administering the Healthy Kids Surveys is a requirement for districts and is part of the LCAP process to get feedback from stakeholders. She indicated that almost double the number of fifth and sixth graders took the survey this year, fewer seventh and eighth-graders, and fewer staff and parents. The District will ask staff to take the survey on contract time to increase staff participation next year.

Ms. Yount highlighted District Strengths based on the student, staff, and parent survey data.

5th-6th Grade	7th-8th Grade
1. Academic motivation 2. High expectations- adults in school 3. Facilities upkeep 4. Parent involvement in schooling 5. Social and emotional learning supports 6. Anti-bullying climate 7. Feel safe at school	1. High expectations-adults in school 2. Clarity of rules 3. Growth mindset 4. Goal setting

8. Rule clarity 9. Students treated with respect	

District Strengths Based on the Staff Survey Data	District Strengths Based on the Parent Survey Data (Goal is 50%)
This school... – has high expectations for students – has caring adult relationships – has a positive student learning environment – has adequate counseling and support services – is a safe place for students and staff – provides opportunities for physical education – fosters youth development, resilience, or asset promotion	*This school...* – It is a safe place for my child. o Elementary: 40% o Middle: 23% – Has adults who really care about students o Elementary: 40% o Middle: 21% – Communicates with parents about school. o Elementary: 48% o Middle: 27% – Treats all students with respect. o Elementary: 40% o Middle: 28%

Ms. Yount stated that areas for improvement indicate half of the eighth-graders say school is boring. However, 45% of seventh, 56% of fifth, and 48% of sixth graders responded that academic motivation is really high and that caring adults in school are very high.

Donna Gill, Principal, addressed the Board. She said those specific grade levels returning to school after COVID-19 were masked until very late in the year. Many of the cooperative learning activities couldn't occur in the classroom because students were sitting away from each other, and they weren't sharing materials in science experiments or robotics, etc. That may be reflected in the scores.

Stephanie Simonich, Principal, addressed the Board. She indicated it is only in the last couple of months that schools were able to bring a lot of the things kids consider fun back to school, such as field trips or presenters on campus.

Grace Malson asked what the difference may be in the results of students having an adult who really cares about them between elementary and middle school.

Ron Rammer responded that elementary students have one teacher versus six different teachers. He indicated they appear to be making great connections, but they're only with each teacher for 52 minutes daily. Mr. Rammer said when he and Ms. Laurie came back from their Washington D.C. trip, students, Ms. Laurie's students expressed happiness when they saw her.

Grace Malson said the pandemic has been hard on students. She hears from high schoolers that teachers just don't care.

Ron Rammer spoke about the effect of face mask use. He indicated that 40% of students still wear masks because they like them. He suggested there may be something about not being able to connect to a student's face. He said he used to know all his students by their names, but now it is hard to identify them when using facemasks.

Grace Malson indicated it is like the new trend.

Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano, Curriculum Director, said it might take time to find solutions after masking children all day for a significant time.

H. Routine Matters/New Business

212.308 Wesley Cagle made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded to Casey Raboy, and unanimously carried.

a. Approval of the Agenda MOTION

b. Minutes
- April 27, 2022 Regular Board Meeting
- May 10, 2022 Special Board Meeting

c. Payment of Warrants
- Vendor Warrant Numbers: 22345349-22345388; 22346844-22346931; 22348263-22348354; 22349649-22349714
- Certificated/Classified Payrolls Dated: 3/18/22, 4/29/22, 5/10/22

d. Personnel

Resignations/Retirees			
Name	**Position**	**Effective Date**	**Site**
Brown, Cassidy	Instructional Assistant	5/27/22	Lake Canyon
Garcia, Nicole	Teacher	6/9/22	Lake Canyon
Geach, Sienna	Instructional Assistant, Special Education	6/9/22	Vernon E. Greer
Gray, Shelby	Yard Supervisor	6/9/22	McCaffrey Middle
McFadyen, Meghan	Teacher	6/9/22	Lake Canyon
Molina, Daniel	Teacher	6/9/22	Marengo Ranch
Populis, Lily	Teacher	6/9/22	Marengo Ranch
Purcell, Jillian	Yard Supervisor	6/9/22	Valley Oaks
Robles-Estrada, Laura	Home Visitor	5/20/22	Fairsite
Sandoval Herrera, Andrea	Instructional Assistant, Bilingual	5/6/22	Fairsite
Stanley, Brenda (Retiring 17 Years)	Yard Supervisor	6/9/22	Marengo Ranch
Stetson, Sallie	Teacher	6/9/22	Lake Canyon

Leave of Absence Requests			
Name	**Position**	**Effective Date**	**Site**
Cruz, Susy	Instructional Assistant	4/25/22	Valley Oaks
Enriquez, Alicia	Instructional Assistant, Bilingual	5/10/22	Valley Oaks
Lopez, Ramona	Instructional Assistant, Special Education	4/25/22	Fairsite
Odell, Yvette	Secretary	5/6/22	Fairsite

New Hires/Status Change		
Name	**Position**	**Site**
Adame, Amanda	Yard Supervisor	Vernon E. Greer
Castillo, Carlos	Principal	McCaffrey Middle
Flores, Kathryn	Food & Nutrition District Clerk	District Office
Gray, Shelby	Yard Supervisor	McCaffrey Middle
Maldonado, Julie	Yard Supervisor	Vernon E. Greer
Powers, Elliot	Short Term Instructional Assistant, Special Education	Valley Oaks
Ramirez, Cynthia	Classified Substitute	N/A
Segovia, Nicole	Certificated Substitute	N/A

e. Donations

f. GJUESD Independent Contractor Services Agreement with Top Tier Transportation

g. Agreement Between GJUESD and Dannis Woliver Kelley, Attorney's At Law, for 2022-23 Professional Services

212.309 Consent Calendar (Continued) – Items Removed for Later Consideration MOTION
There were no items removed.

212.310 Grace Malson made a motion to approve Stipulated Expulsion No. 21/22-05, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried. MOTION

212.311 Grace Malson made a motion to approve the Universal Prekindergarten Planning and Implementation Grant Program, seconded by Traci Skinner and unanimously carried. MOTION

212.312 Casey Raboy made a motion to approve GJUESD Bus Driver in Trainee Agreement and Salary, seconded by Thomas Silva and unanimously carried. MOTION

212.313 Traci Skinner made a motion to approve Agreement Between the Galt Joint Union Elementary School District and Bobo Construction Inc. for Greer MOTION

Elementary Classroom Sinks Project, seconded by Wesley Cagle and unanimously carried.

212.314 Wesley Cagle made a motion to approve Resolution No. 16; Authorizing the Filing of Documents Under the State School Facility Program- Applications Received Beyond Bond Authority List, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried. MOTION

212.315 A First Reading of the following GJUESD Board (BP), Administrative Regulations (AR) and Board Bylaw (BB) were held. FIRST READING

Mr. Wesley Cagle asked how many homeless students are enrolled in the District?

Donna Whitlock will provide this information to the Board at the next meeting.

Business Services:
- **BP/AR 3230** Federal Grant Funds
- **BP/AR 4141.6/4241.6** Concerted Action/Work Stoppage

Educational Services:
- **BP/AR 5111** Admission
- **BP/AR/E 6173** Education for Homeless Children

Curriculum:
- **BP/AR 6143** Courses of Study

Superintendent:
- **BP 4030** Non-discrimination in Employment
- **BB 9322** Agenda/Meeting Materials

I. Public Comments for topics not on the agenda

Stevie Choate, a parent, addressed the Board regarding the discussion held during the CalSCHLS survey results on face masks and students being bored in school.

J. Pending Agenda Items

1. School District Properties

H. Adjournment 9:07 pm.

Board Approved: June 22, 2022