

Galt Joint Union Elementary School District Board of Education Minutes

**Regular Board Meeting
April 19, 2023**

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

**Zoom Webinar ID:
86863075465**

- A. 6:00 p.m. – Closed Session Location:** Galt City Hall Conference Room
Present for the closed session: Wesley Cagle, Traci Skinner, Casey Raboy, Annette Kunze, Katherine Harper, Lois Yount, Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano, Donna Mayo-Whitlock, Nicole Lorenz, P. Addison Covert, Parker & Covert LLP Attorney At Law
- B. Closed Session was called to order at 6:04 p.m.** by Wesley Cagle to discuss the following items:
1. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS Pursuant to Government Code, §54956.8
Property: 320 W Elm Avenue [APN 148-0140-057-0000]
Agency Negotiator(s): P. Addison Covert, Parker & Covert LLP Attorney At Law
Negotiating Parties: Galt Joint Union Elementary School District, City of Galt and Galt Youth Baseball
Under Negotiation: Purchase, sale, exchange, or lease of real property
 2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION –
Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Government Code Section §54956.9(b); 1 case
 3. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE, Pursuant to Government Code, §54957
- C. Closed Session Adjourned at 7:02 p.m.** The open session was called to order at 7:10 p.m. Wesley Cagle announced that no action was taken in closed session.
- D. Board Meeting Protocol** was moved to after item E., Presentations and Recognitions, due to a significant student presence prepared to perform for the Board.
- E. Presentation/Recognition**
1. Greer Elementary Choir moved up on the agenda to the first presentation.

Stephanie Simonich, Principal, introduced Catherine Baker, Substitute Music Teacher. Ms. Baker said that while exploring the music room at Greer Elementary, she came across a collection of handbells.

She indicated her students have only been playing the handbells since January and she is so proud of them. The students played two songs for the Board and then thanked Ms. Baker.

2. Wilderness Inquiry Staff

John Durand, Environmental Education Coordinator, introduced Wilderness Inquiry staff. He indicated they traveled from where they are based in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Canoemobile is in Galt from April 10 – April 21. All GJUESD 6th grade classes, the Home Learning Academy and the McCaffrey Middle School Environmental Club participated in Canoemobile this year. Mr. Durand said the program included multiple learning opportunities.

The Wilderness Inquiry staff introduced themselves. They described their mission to connect people of all ages, backgrounds, identities, and abilities through shared outdoor adventures so that they can equitably experience the benefits of time spent in nature. The staff led the Board and district staff in a song and invited district staff to go out to the Consumnes River Preserve to participate in a Canoemobile experience.

3. Galt Character Coalition

The Galt Character Coalition presented an Integrity Award to Lake Canyon Elementary School. Ms. Mari Martinez shared the nomination letter written by Todd and Julie Jennings.

Ms. Judi Hayes, Principal, thanked the coalition for their recognition.

4. [A Day in the Life of a Teacher Video with Christina Lawrie](#) was shared. The Board thanked Ms. Lawrie.

5. Lake Canyon Elementary Video

Judi Hayes, Principal, addressed the Board to give them a glimpse into Lake Canyon culture. She invited four students to present on behalf of the school while a school video played in the background. Each student spoke about a component or an aspect of Lake Canyon culture, including the House system. Ms. Hayes emphasized one word from her school's mission statement; opportunities. She indicated Lake Canyon's mission is to personalize every student's learning by providing a quality and meaningful educational experience built upon access to unique and varied opportunities that students may typically not have access to due to socioeconomic status or limited English skills, or disability.

Cody Robinson, student, addressed the Board. He said the Lake Canyon House system allows students to learn and practice important character traits and life lessons in a fun setting. During House meetings, students practice citizenship values and lift each other up. At House rallies, the entire school celebrates accomplishments that build the school community. Last week's meeting theme was around the House of Molari, the House of Visionaries. Activities included student groups creating clouds and citing their dreams of what their community could look like in 10 years.

Olive Gorelick, student, addressed the Board. She said she is a proud member of the House of Lokahi, the House of Compassion. Through after-school cougar clubs, the students can participate in and explore their areas of interest. Every trimester the school offers around 10 to 12 different clubs. Committed community partners usually lead these clubs. The clubs have many focus areas, such as culinary cooking, culture clubs, science and engineering, community service, team building and friendship, art, sports, and academic competition clubs. Ms. Gorelick said she participated in the Chess Club and was on the girls' basketball team. She has happy memories of winning with the girls' basketball team and interacting with friends on the basketball court and the chess club.

Ali Schmidt, student, said she is a proud member of the House of Sebeta. It is the House of Courage. She loves and appreciates her caring teachers and staff. She looks forward to going to Lake Canyon every day and loves starting her day as a member of the school spirit team that leads the opening ceremony every morning on the outdoor stage, beginning at 7 30 a.m. The school plays fun music as kids and their parents arrive and play together. When the morning bell sounds, the entire school lines up in the yard and shouts out to the House that has their flag flying that day because they're in the lead with task points, and we say the pledge of allegiance.

Ruby Gorelick, student, said she is a proud member of the House of Adabu. It is the House of Integrity. She appreciates her opportunities to work with so many incredible community partners. For example, Coach Tony comes to campus every Tuesday and Thursday to lead the chess clubs. He is caring and always encourages us to do our best and never give up. Also, Coach John comes to campus and leads a lunchtime sports program. The school also has several dads on duty, like Mr. Ward, who comes to Lake Canyon almost daily to play basketball, throw a football, or play soccer with us. Mr. Stockman and his golden retriever, Bentley, also visit Lake Canyon weekly to practice reading with younger students. Other partners include Lisa Klotts from Cal Waste, the Galt Police community service officers, the Science Alliance, and a group of Spanish-speaking parents who lead a fun Culinary Cultural club on our campus.

Ms. Hayes said so many amazing things are happening at Lake Canyon. She invited board members to take a tour.

6. School Administrators shared event(s) from their School Calendars.

D. Lois Yount shared the Board Meeting Protocol.

F. Public Comments for topics not on the agenda
There were no public comments.

G. Reports

LCAP GOAL 1

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

1. District Reading Assessments (DRA)

Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano reported the district reading assessment measure foundational reading skills. It allows the District to monitor how well students are moving toward becoming independent readers. The DRA is administered to all kindergarten through third-grade students three times a year. The District LCAP goal is for each student cohort to grow 10% from winter to

winter. She indicated that the 10% target pushes the District closer to reaching at least 80% of students reading at grade level by the end of third grade. Ms. Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano reviewed the data. She highlighted that 3rd grade at every school shows growth and reflects how hard teachers work. It's also a reflection of the leadership at the schools.

2. Combination Classes

Lois Yount reported that combination classes are formed based on enrollment. She indicated the District implements class size reduction in grades TK-3 with a goal of 20:1. Teachers are paid a monthly stipend if their class size is larger. Currently, in grades 4-6, class sizes range from 27-33 students. Taking into consideration the district budget and declining enrollment, or sometimes it's increased enrollment, combination classes are created.

Ms. Yount provided a historical chart of combination classes in the District. She said this year, the District has 4 Combo classes and it's mainly due to declining enrollment. The District has dropped by approximately 200 students since the 2018-19 school year. Ms. Yount provided a history of enrollment trends for the District. She added that combination teachers receive a yearly stipend for teaching a combination class.

Public Comment: Kim Lizama addressed the Board regarding combination classes.

Casey Raboy, Board Member, stated that combination class teachers did a phenomenal job when her children were in a combination class. The biggest challenge was recess participation.

LCAP GOAL 2

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

OTHER REPORTS

1. Overview of Funding School Facilities

Government Financial Strategies Joint Powers Authority, Lori Raineri, CEO

Lori Raineri reported. She began by saying GJUESD meetings are always very inspiring, from bell ringers to young people singing about a worm to students discussing "Houses" at their school representing values and ethics. She always enjoys coming and feels honored to be a part of our team. She thanked the superintendent for joining Government Financial Services Joint Powers Authority as an early member.

Ms. Raineri introduced her service dog, Millie, and her assistant Celestial Thomas. She then provided an overview of funding school facilities. The summary included the following:

- Review of District Bond Measures
- Review of Community Facilities District (CFD) No. 1
- How to Raise Additional Funds For Facilities
- District's Current Debt Summary
- G.O. Bond Tax Rates
- Assessed Value Growth Update
- Measure W Tax Levies
- Measure K Tax Levies

- Outstanding Bonds Below Capacity
- Overview of Bond Measure Options
- Historical G.O. Bond Measures Statewide
- G.O. Bond Measures in Sacramento County
- G.O. Bond Measure Taxes in Sacramento County

In conclusion, Ms. Raineri said the most recent GJUESD Facilities Master Plan (FMP) was completed in 2015. It identified over \$150 million of facilities needs. Some work has since been funded by Measure K, state funding, developer fees and additional resources. She indicated an update to the FMP can confirm what prior needs have been completed and what new needs have arisen.

The Board thanked Ms. Raineri for her presentation and services.

2. Williams Uniform Complaint Process (UCP) Quarter 3 Report

Lois Yount reported no complaints during the Williams UCP Quarter 3 report period.

H. Routine Matters/New Business

212.440 Consent Calendar

Consent
Calendar

Lois Yount informed the Board that item e. has a typo. It should read "Overhaul Construction Inc. for Exterior Portables Renovation, not B.T. Mancini Co. Inc. She indicated all the backup documentation is correct.

Ms. Yount also announced the retirement of Tammy Wool, Secretary II., after 34 years of service.

Katherine Harper made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Annette Kunze and unanimously carried.

- a. Approval of the Agenda
- b. Minutes
 - March 15, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
- c. Payment of Warrants
 - Vendor Warrants: 23401859-23401868; 23402326-23402383; 23403947-23404018; 23405356-23405421; 23406912-23406953; 23407692-23407755
 - Payroll Warrants: 4/10/23; 3/31/23; 3/17/23
- d. Personnel
- e. Overhaul Construction Inc. Bid Proposal for Exterior Portables Renovation at Fairsite Elementary and School Readiness Center
- f. Primal Paint, Inc. Bid Proposal for Exterior Painting at Robert L. McCaffrey Middle School

212.441	Consent Calendar (Continued) – Items Removed for Later Consideration There were no items removed from the consent calendar.	CC Items Removed
212.442	Michael D. Ash, CPA, presented the GJUESD Audit Report by Christy White Associates for the Year Ended June 30, 2022. He reported no findings or recommendations were determined as a result of the audit. Traci Skinner made a motion to approve GJUESD Audit Report by Christy White Associates for the Year Ended June 30, 2022, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried.	Audit
212.443	Michael D. Ash, CPA, presented the Measure K Bond Audit Report by Christy White Associates for the Year Ended June 30, 2022. He reported no findings or recommendations were determined as a result of the audit. Annette Kunze made a motion to approve the Measure K Bond Audit Report by Christy White Associates for the Year Ended June 30, 2022, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried. Wesley Cagle thanked the oversight committee for their service.	Measure K Audit
212.444	Board Consideration of Approval of GJUESD Vision and Mission Statement. Lois Yount reported at last month's Board meeting that she shared three Vision and Mission Statement drafts with the Board. The Board confirmed their support of the Mission Statement "The mission of our school district is to promote growth and achievement through innovative educational programs that integrate personal strengths, social, emotional, and academic learning for all children." The Board discussed the Vision Statement "Our schools create safe learning environments that provide equitable access to engaging opportunities for all children. We foster learning environments for collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking to ensure children are successful in school and in their future." Katherine Harper expressed her appreciation to the people who provided input on the Vision Statement. She added that she thinks the students of this District have a unique advantage when it comes to strengths coaching that emphasizes and values each student's individual strengths. Ms. Harper continued. The word "equitable" gives her concern. She indicated this is a popular word in education right now and wants to be sure it is being used in the best interest of students. She shared examples where the quest for equity caused the removal of advanced and honors classes in the name of equity. She has also seen forced enrollment of students in advanced placement classes to change the make-up of classes. She emphasized she does not feel ill	Vision and Mission Statement

intent with the Vision Statement and is thrilled that Ms. Yount said a GATE program would be offered in the District. At the same time, she acknowledges that there will not be equitable access to that program because kids who don't meet the criteria will not be allowed to enroll.

Annette Kunze expressed her concern that the word equitable could be used to eliminate programs in the future. She indicated that decisions may be made by other people in the future. She does not want to open the door for it to be misused later. Ms. Kunze suggested eliminating the word equitable or finding a good alternative that communicates what the District is trying to do; to meet learners where they are, evidenced by our strengths-based approach.

Traci Skinner indicated her understanding is that District stakeholders provided feedback and selected this statement out of the three they reviewed for consideration. She added that the word equity is included in one of the District's LCAP goals. She feels that since stakeholders supported this statement and the word "equity" is used in one of the LCAP goals, she has difficulty voting against it.

Wesley Cagle said that for him, the word means children attending Valley Oaks school will have equal education opportunities as those attending school on the east side of Highway 99. He is concerned that stakeholders may be upset if the Board removes the word.

Mr. Cagle told the other board members that he appreciated their comments.

Ms. Kunze stated that we should be able to close our eyes, and everyone should get to the same place. I don't think equity or equitable access provides that same vision to everybody. She feels the word equitable could be removed from the statement.

Casey Raboy stated that she felt similar to Board member Skinner. She is uncomfortable taking it out due to stakeholder involvement in selecting the statement.

The Board considered reviewing the Vision Statement during the next LCAP cycle or at any other time a Board member would like to bring it forward.

Casey Raboy made a motion to approve the GJUESD Vision and Mission Statement, seconded by Traci Skinner. The motion was carried by a vote of 4 ayes by Wesley Cagle, Traci Skinner, Casey Raboy and Katherine Harper. Annette Kunze voted no.

212.445 Annette Kunze made a motion to approve the Environmental & Outdoor Education Coordinator Job Description, seconded by Traci Skinner and unanimously carried.

Job Desc
Env Out Ed
Coord

212.446	Traci Skinner made a motion to approve the Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) Between the California School Employees Association and its Galt Chapter #362 (CSEA) and the GJUESD Regarding the Creation of the Bilingual Community Outreach Assistant – Special Programs Position, seconded by Katherine Harper and unanimously carried.	MOU GJUESD & CSEA
212.447	Wesley Cagle made a motion to approve the Superintendent's Recommendation Regarding Implementing Board Resolution No. 9 (Adopted February 15, 2023), Reduction In Particular Kinds of Service, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried.	Res 9 Supt Recom RIF
212.448	Initial Public Notice from Galt Joint Union Elementary School District (GJUESD) to Galt Elementary Faculty Association (GEFA) [Public Notice / "Sunshine"] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Article V Hours ▪ Article VII Evaluation Procedures ▪ Article XII Leaves ▪ Article XVIII Salary ▪ Article XX Salary Schedule Procedures ▪ Article XXIII Preschool Permit Teacher 	PUBLIC NOTICE
212.449	Initial Public Notice from Galt Elementary Faculty Association (GEFA) [Public Notice / "Sunshine"] to Galt Joint Union Elementary School District (GJUESD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Article V Hours ▪ Article VI Workyear ▪ Article IX Reassignments and Article X Transfers ▪ Article XII Leaves ▪ Article XIII Class Size ▪ Article XVIII Salary and Related Appendices ▪ Article XXIII Preschool Permit Teacher ▪ Article XXIV Term/Living Contract 	PUBLIC NOTICE
212.450	Annette Kunze made a motion to approve the following Board Policies, Administrative Regulations, Exhibit and Bylaws: <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><u>Business Services</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) BP/AR/E 3260 – Fees and Charges 2) BP/AR 3460 – Financial Reports And Accountability 3) BP 3540 – Transportation <p style="margin-left: 80px;">Delete AR 3540 - Transportation</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><u>Educational Services</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4) BP/AR 0450 Comprehensive Safety Plan 5) BP/AR 0460 Local Control Accountability Plan 6) AR 6164.4 Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><u>Superintendent</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7) BP/AR 3515 Campus Security 8) BP/AR 5142 Safety 	Policies

- 9) BB 9220 Governing Board Elections
- 10) BB 9223 Filling Vacancies

Regarding BB9220 Governing Board Elections – specifically, the cost of holding a runoff election in the event of a tie vote. The Board selected Option 1: Tie Decided by Lot

I. Public Comments for topics not on the agenda

Public comment is limited to three minutes or less, pending Board President's approval.

J. Pending Agenda Items

Annette Kunze acknowledged the principals for hosting her visits to their schools.

K. Adjournment 9:52 p.m.

Board Approved: May 17, 2023