

Galt Joint Union Elementary School District Board of Education Minutes

**Regular Meeting
January 17, 2024**

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

Zoom Webinar ID
87107581580

Board members

Traci Skinner
Casey Raboy
Katherine Harper
Annette Kunze
Wesley Cagle

Lois Yount
Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano
Kuljeet Nijjar
Alejandra Garibay

Administrators Present

Tina Homdus
Stephanie Simonich
Carlos Castillo
Laura Papineau
David Nelson
Judi Hayes

A. 6:00 p.m. – Closed Session Location: Galt City Hall Conference Room

B. Traci Skinner called the Closed Session to order at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the following items:

1. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION, Government Code §54957
 - Superintendent

Present for closed session item 1: Traci Skinner, Casey Raboy, Katherine Harper, Annette Kunze, Wesley Cagle, Lois Yount

2. STUDENT EXPULSION, Education Code §48912
 - Case Number: 22/23-04

Present for closed session item 2: Traci Skinner, Casey Raboy, Katherine Harper, Annette Kunze, Wesley Cagle, Lois Yount, Kuljeet Nijjar

3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR, Government Code §54957.6
Agency Negotiator: Lois Yount, Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano, Kuljeet Nijjar, Alejandra Garibay
 - Employee Agency: (GEFA) Galt Elementary Faculty Association
 - Employee Agency: (CSEA) California School Employee Association
 - Non-Represented Employees

Present for closed session item 3: Traci Skinner, Casey Raboy, Katherine Harper, Annette Kunze, Wesley Cagle, Lois Yount, Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano, Kuljeet Nijjar, Alejandra Garibay

C. Closed Session adjourned at 7:00 p.m. Open Session began at 7:05 p.m. Traci Skinner announced no action was taken in closed session, followed by the flag salute.

D. Presentations/Recognitions

1. Lake Canyon Elementary Students

Judith Hayes, the Principal of Lake Canyon Elementary, gave an introduction to the GATE program at Lake Canyon. She emphasized the importance of being responsive to student interests.

Christina Ceccarelli, Teacher On Special Assignment (TOSA), shared additional information on the District GATE program including GATE trimester activities, resources and partnerships.

Sofia Beacher, Ava Kafka, Miles Delacy, and Avery McAllister, GATE students, shared their perspectives and activities, including banners they created indicating what college they would like to attend.

Ms. Ceccarelli thanked the Board for their time and support and invited them to visit a GATE session anytime.

2. Cal-Waste Recognition for Food Waste Recycling

Leesa Klotz, Education Coordinator, Cal-Waste, presented each school with a certificate for recycling efforts. She indicated her visits to classrooms are enthusiastic and all schools are doing a great job recycling food waste.

E. Public Comments for topics not on the agenda

1. Matthew Ward, Kristi Ward, Veronica Kaufman, Emily Sanders, and Travis Sanders addressed the Board regarding menstrual products in the boy's bathroom at Lake Canyon Elementary School.

F. Lois Yount, Superintendent shared the Board Meeting Protocol.

G. Reports

Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Update

Kuljeet Nijjar, Educational Services Director, reported this is the third year of a three-year LCAP cycle. The District will develop a new LCAP for board consideration and approval in June. She shared the two GJUESD LCAP Goals:

1. Engaging Learners in PreK-8 through a focus on equity, access, and academic rigor with inclusive practices in various learning environments.
2. Promoting PreK-8 whole learner development through social and emotional learning opportunities in a variety of safe and supportive environments.

Ms. Nijjar shared the metrics and mid-year outcome data. She indicated the District is still waiting for some data. For example, the winter assessments will be administered at the end of January or the beginning of February and will be reported at the annual update. Ms. Nijjar highlighted a couple of the metrics including:

- English learner enrollment in pre-kindergarten would increase by 5% each year.
- PreK dual language learners meeting Kindergarten Readiness benchmarks will increase by 10% or greater each year.
- The participation rate of 3rd- 8th grade students on IEPs taking the Math & English Language Arts California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) will meet or exceed 95%.

Ms. Nijjar identified the data that is used to determine if the District has made progress toward the goal. She described action items that describe what the district is implementing to meet the goal and how much is budgeted for each action.

Ms. Nijjar said Goal 2 focuses on whole learner development through social and emotional learning opportunities in a variety of safe and supportive environments. She highlighted some of the metrics including:

- Overall daily District attendance will be maintained at 96% or greater.
- Safety and School Connectedness: The percentage of parents responding Strongly Agree on the annual CalSCHLS survey will increase by at least 5% in areas that are below 50%.
- Facilities Inspection Tool (FIT) ratings will be increased and maintained at “GOOD” for all sites.

Ms. Nijjar identified the data that is used to determine if the District has made progress on the goal. She described action items that the district is implementing to meet the goal and how much is budgeted for each action.

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. Math Curriculum Pilot and Adoption Update

Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano, Curriculum Director, reported that in partnership with the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE), the district has begun the process of adopting new mathematics materials. She indicated Mr. David Chun, Director of K-12 Mathematics, SCOE, is providing support and guidance during the adoption process.

Mr. David Chun addressed the Board. He provided an update on the adoption process. He indicated the adoption committee is reviewing the process for adoption, standards, needs and tools/resources. He commended teachers on the committee for their efforts to really understand and get on the same page with both the content standards and the practice standards, and then identifying the needs of students.

Mr. Chun provided links to resources the teachers have reviewed and encouraged the Board to review them also. He indicated next steps will generate a list of programs for review (January 2024), review of materials (February – April 2024), pilot (fall 2024), and recommendation (spring 2025).

Mr. Chun said a call to action would be for the Board to share programs that they feel the committee should review?

Ms. Del Toro-Anguiano added the importance of having a facilitator that can provide the District with a lens to look through to ensure the recommendation meets the needs of the District. He poses excellent questions that focuses the committee. She thanked Mr. Chun and the committee of teachers.

Lois Yount, also thanked Mr. Chun. She indicated an update will be brought back to the board by the beginning of next year.

2. Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) Program Update

Laura Papineau, Assistant Principal, reported. She indicated that the district continues to expand the GATE program strategically. The District’s goal is to design a GATE program that meets the

unique needs of students who demonstrate exceptional abilities and talents. Various activities and support are taking place at all schools. Ms. Papineau shared activities that school sites have completed based on student interest surveys. They include:

- Art project and poetry
- Autobiography and goal-setting
- Learning about their personal learning styles
- STEM projects

Ms. Papineau said testing was scheduled earlier this year in collaboration with Teachers On Special Assignment (TOSAs) and third-grade teachers. She then shared the upcoming second-trimester activities and said that third-trimester activities are in development.

Ms. Papineau highlighted the upcoming January Takeaway Tuesday, which includes a session on supporting GATE students in their general education classroom, presented by Heather Wetzel, TOSA.

Goals for the new year include:

- Continued development of the program.
- Invitation to current 3rd-grade students who qualify for GATE to join current groups in the 3rd trimester.

Ms. Papineau said that GATE leaders will continue to work together to create challenging and exciting opportunities for GATE students to grow academically, socially, and emotionally.

LCAP GOAL 2

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

1. Food and Nutrition Services

Nick Svoboda, Food and Nutrition Supervisor, reported. He began by acknowledging the GJUESD child nutrition professionals for their exceptional work to set students up for a good learning environment. Mr. Svoboda said California implements the Universal Meals program for school-age children, so all children are fed meals regardless of income. He shared a comparison of the number of meals served between August and December. He indicated an increase due to more menu choices. He then shared some innovations at the school sites for 2023-24:

- Increased staffing
- Increased scratch items, salad bars
- Menu options that are site-specific
- Offering a cheese stick with all breakfast muffins

Mr. Svoboda stated that for National School Lunch Week and other times in the school year, the schools promote many fun food themes that students look forward to.

Other items he shared include:

- The milk carton shortage of 2023-2024
- Water bottle washing Wednesday
- Sacramento Food Bank pantry partner
- New Ford transit van
- Trainings

Additionally, Mr. Svoboda said looking forward, LINQ Nutrition will be replacing MealsPlus and the summer meal program will be implemented at each site.

Mr. Svoboda then shared his vision for the program at elementary sites and the middle school.

2. **Galt Horse-Assisted Learning and Enrichment Program (GALEP)**

Lois Yount reported that the GALEP program has been on hold since the pandemic. The District is looking to restart the program with the help of some new and veteran volunteers and new funding sources. The program would start with the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) students. Funding comes from the ELOP and donation money left in the GALEP account. Volunteers include Karen Schauer, Retired GJUESD Superintendent and Donna Whitlock, Retired GJUESD Educational Services Director. These volunteers are in the process of becoming certified trainers. Ms. Yount said repairs are being completed at the arena and a draft flyer in the Board packet is being updated.

3. **Marengo Ranch Elementary Running Track**

Lois Yount reported that GJUESD has a longstanding partnership with S&B James Construction. The company is donating 100% of the cost of a track with a long jump in the middle at Marengo Ranch Elementary. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$250,000. S&B James Construction partners on the project are highlighted in the donations. They include Derivi Castellanos Architects, CenterPoint Engineering, Inc., McGuire Hester, Reliable Onsite Services and Urata & Sons Concrete LLC.

OTHER REPORTS

1. **Williams Uniform Complaint Process (UCP) Quarter 2 Report**

Lois Yount reported no complaints.

2. **2024-25 School Registration**

Lois Yount reported registration begins on January 22, 2024. She indicated that the Transitional Kindergarten (TK) enrollment window expands an additional two months to June 2, 2025. TK for all students will be at Fairsite Elementary and Early Learning Center.

3. **School Calendars**

School Administrators shared an event from their February 2024 school calendars. Lois Yount shared the Fairsite Elementary calendar.

H. Routine Matters/New Business

232.457 Lois Yount highlighted the donors for the Marengo Ranch Elementary track.

**Consent
Calendar**

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

a. Approval of the Agenda

b. Minutes

▪ December 20, 2023

c. Payment of Warrants

▪ Vendor Warrants: 24455941-24456012; 24456826-24456868;
24457864-24457900

- Payroll Warrants: 01/02/24, 01/10/24

- d. Personnel
 - Resignations/Retirements
 - Leave of Absence Requests
 - New Hires/Reclassifications

- e. Donations

232.458	Consent Calendar (Continued) – Items Removed for Later Consideration No items were removed	CC Items Removed
232.459	Katherine Harper made a motion to approve Student Expulsion Case No. 22/23-04 recommendation, seconded by Casey Raboy. The motion carried unanimously.	Student Exp
232.460	Kyle Montgomery, CPA, Partner, Christy White Inc., presented a summary of the auditor's results for the year ended June 30, 2023. He indicated that the financial statements, federal awards, and state awards all received unmodified opinions, the most favorable opinion that can be provided. Annette Kunze made a motion to approve the GJUESD 2022-2023 District Audit Report by Christy White Associates, seconded by Casey Raboy. The motion carried unanimously.	Audit
232.461	Kuljeet Nijjar provided an overview of the annual School Accountability Report Cards. Principals then highlighted portions of their plan. David Nelson, Valley Oaks Principal, highlighted parental engagement efforts. Tina Homdus, River Oaks Principal, highlighted a decline in chronic absenteeism and parental engagement efforts. Carlos Castillo, Robert L. McCaffrey Principal, highlighted professional development for teachers and staff. Laura Papineau, Lake Canyon and Marengo Ranch Assistant Principal, highlighted the re-engagement of parents post-pandemic at both schools. Wesley Cagle asked when the Facility Inspection Tool (FIT) report was completed. Lois Yount stated it was completed in December 2023. She indicated all sites made progress towards good (90%). Two school sites are still “fair” but did make growth. Mr. Cagle asked who completes the inspections. Ms. Yount said a private outside source that is certified completes the inspections. Principals,	SARCs

maintenance and custodial staff have the reports and are working towards addressing the needs reflected in the reports.

Wesley Cagle made a motion to approve the 2023-24 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Fairsite Elementary, Lake Canyon Elementary, Marengo Ranch Elementary, River Oaks Elementary, Valley Oaks Elementary, Vernon E. Greer Elementary and McCaffrey Middle School, seconded by Annette Kunze. The motion carried unanimously.

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| 232.462 | Annette Kunze made a motion to approve 19six Architects' Proposal for Professional Architectural and Engineering Services for Vernon E. Greer Elementary's New Relocatable Classroom Buildings, seconded by Casey Raboy. The motion carried unanimously. | 19six
Proposal |
| 232.463 | Traci Skinner made a motion to approve the 2024-25 E-rate Service Providers, seconded by Katherine Harper. The motion carried unanimously. | E-rate |
| 232.464 | A First Reading of the following Board Policies (BP), Administrative Regulations (AR) and Bylaw (BB) was held. <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. BP 0460 Local Control Accountability Plan2. AR 0460 Local Control Accountability Plan3. BP 0500 – Accountability4. BP 0520 – Intervention in Underperforming Schools5. AR 1220 – Citizen Advisory Committees6. BP 1431 - Waivers7. BP 3400 – Management of District Assets/Accounts8. AR 3400 – Management of District Assets/Accounts9. BP 5116.2 Involuntary Student Transfers10. BP 5131.2 – Bullying11. AR 5131.2 – Bullying12. AR 5141.21 – Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions13. BP 5148.3 – Preschool/Early Childhood Education14. AR 5148.3 – Preschool/Early Childhood Education15. BP 6170.1 – Transitional Kindergarten16. BP 6142.8 Comprehensive Health Education17. AR 6142.8 Comprehensive Health Education<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Lois Yount highlighted the strike-out section of AR 6142.8, Students Excused from Health Instruction, indicating the GJUESD does not offer health education courses to middle school students.18. BP 9321 Closed Session19. E(1) 9321 Closed Session20. E(2) 9321 Closed Session21. BP 1325 Advertising And Promotion<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Lois Yount indicated the GJUESD does not have a formal process for distributing flyers or advertisements for outside organizations. She suggested a report be added to the next agenda with processes and procedures for distributing flyers or advertisements. The Board concurred to add the report. | FIRST
READING |

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

J. Pending Agenda Items

1. Acceleration Blocks
2. School Resource Officer (SRO) Report
3. BP 1325 Advertising and Promotion Process and Procedures

K. Adjournment 9:27 p.m.

Board Approved: February 21, 2024