

# Galt Joint Union Elementary School District Board of Education Minutes

**Regular Board Meeting**  
**March 15, 2023**

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

**Zoom Teleconference**  
Webinar ID: 895 2578 9741

## **Board Members**

Wesley Cagle  
Traci Skinner  
Casey Raboy  
Annette Kunze  
Katherine Harper

Lois Yount  
Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano  
Donna Mayo-Whitlock  
Nicole Lorenz  
Kuljeet Nijjar

## **Administrators**

Tina Homdus  
David Nelson  
Stephanie Simonich  
Carlos Castillo  
Laura Papineau

- 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, and Chris Keiner, Attorney, Dannis Woliver Kelley
- B. Closed Session was called to order at 6:06 p.m.** by Wesley Cagle to discuss the following items:
1. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE, Government Code §54957
  2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR, Government Code §54957.6  
Agency Negotiator: Wesley Cagle, Traci Skinner, Casey Raboy, Annette Kunze, Katherine Harper
    - Superintendent
- C. Closed Session adjourned at 6:52 p.m.** Wesley Cagle announced that no action was taken in closed session.
- D. The 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/Recognitions**
1. The Valley Oaks Elementary Band and Choir performed for the Board of Education.

The Board thanked the students for their fantastic performance and their parents/guardians for attending the meeting.

2. Robert L. McCaffrey Student Leadership Team members Jordan Gold, Kimberly Gonzalez Razo and Brooklynn Woods shared information about activities and events that the leadership team coordinates and/or supports.
3. School Administrators shared event(s) from their School Calendars.

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

**F. Public Comments** for topics not on the agenda

1. Gayleen Gomez, Kim Lizama, Amy Mangili and Tammy Partridge addressed the Board regarding combination classes.

**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. Special Education

Kuljeet Nijjar, Coordinator of Prevention and Intervention, and Stephanie Gutierrez, Program Specialist, provided an overview of the Special Education department and supporting students with exceptional needs. Ms. Nijjar and Ms. Gutierrez highlighted the following:

- School site teams: Resource Specialists, Special Day Class Teachers, Speech Therapists, School Psychologists, Adaptive PE Specialist, Registered Behavior Technicians and Instructional Assistants.
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): A law that makes available a free appropriate public education to eligible children with disabilities and ensures special education and related services to those children in the least restrictive environment to the maximum extent possible.
  - Ms. Gutierrez emphasized Child Find—a legal requirement for schools to identify children who have disabilities and need services.
- Continuum of Services
- Current 2023 Data
- Disability Types
- Identification Process
- MTSS Systems of Support
- District Programs
- Related Services

Nicole Lorenz, Chief Financial Official, provided an overview of the 2022-23 budget for special education.

7:50 p.m. The Board members took a break at this time.

7:56 p.m. The Board meeting resumed. Online connectivity was lost.

2. Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

Lois Yount, Superintendent, reported that the District is approaching the third year of a three-year LCAP cycle. The two goals remain the same. However, the actions will be refined based on local and state data and stakeholder feedback. She reviewed the goals.

Goal 1: Engaging learners in PreK-8 through a focus on equity, access, and academic rigor with inclusive practices in various learning environments.

Goal 2: Promoting PreK-8 whole learner development through social and emotional learning opportunities in a variety of environments.

Ms. Yount shared a timeline for next steps:

1. February-May Feedback from Stakeholders
2. By June 2, 2023, Public Posting for Feedback
3. June 20, 2023, Board Meeting for Public Hearing
4. June 21, 2023, Board Consideration to Approve the LCAP and Budget

Ms. Yount reported that the District is identified for Differentiated Assistance (DA). A district is identified when a student group falls "Very Low" or, in some cases, "Very High" in two or more areas. GJUESD is identified for DA in the following two areas:

1. Students with Disabilities (SWD): Academics, Chronic Absenteeism
2. Homeless: Academics, Chronic Absenteeism

Donna Whitlock, Educational Services Director, stated that the COVID pandemic, Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) guidelines, and availability of COVID test kits may have affected the absenteeism rates for the 2021-22 school year. She indicated that most of the District's school sites are sending staff members to the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) for support meetings to generate ideas for improvement.

Wesley Cagle, Board President, asked what additional steps the District is taking to address chronic absenteeism.

Lois Yount said schools are working to motivate and engage students by reaching out to families. They are also holding School Attendance Review Team (SART) meetings to create action steps to help students get to school and spread the message about the importance of attending every day.

**Public Comment: Public comment regarding the special education report was allowed at this time.**

1) Sheetal Pal addressed the Board regarding the physical capacity of a classroom as it relates to combination classes and Special Day Class (SDC) students.

3. District Vision/Mission Statement

Lois Yount reported that the District is working on a Vision and Mission statement and shared samples. She indicated she had received feedback from staff, administrators, the District Advisory Committee (DAC), and District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC).

Annette Kunze, Board Member, indicated she struggles with the word "equitable" as she cannot "visualize" the meaning of it. A mission statement describes an organization's long-term goals, and she is not sure the word equitable will stand the test of time.

Lois Yount defined equity in education. She stated, "each child has access to relevant and challenging academic experiences and educational resources necessary for success across race, gender, ethnicity, language, disability, family background, and/or income. Ms. Yount described an example of equity in the classroom while teaching students multiplication.

Ms. Kunze said that information is helpful and wants everyone to have the necessary resources. She added that she wants anyone outside of education to be able to understand the mission statement, and maybe the District could consider using words that better describe what we mean versus communicating something that is not directly expressed.

Katherine Harper stated that the District had emphasized personalized learning through strengths, and maybe we could include this in a vision statement.

Ms. Yount will continue to collect feedback and return this item to a future meeting.

## LCAP GOAL 2

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

### 1. Canoemobile

John Durand reported Canoemobile travels around the country so that a diverse array of students have an outdoor experience. Canoemobile will bring 10-person canoes to learn about science, history, geography, and culture. The experience is enriched with land-based learning activities developed and facilitated by organizations such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, and hundreds of other government and nonprofit agencies.

Mr. Durand stated that GJUESD would have ten days of programming. All 6<sup>th</sup> grade- classes, the Home Learning Academy, and the McCaffrey Middle School Environmental Club are participating. Programming includes navigating the compass and orienteering course, studying aquatic invertebrates and entomology, and learning to cast a fly rod.

Mr. Durand said the Cosumnes River Preserve is nationally recognized for its multi-agency partnerships. The program is a huge collaborative effort. It includes:

- Grant funding by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.
- Cosumnes River Preserve provides housing for the Wilderness Inquiry staff.
- GJUESD coordinates all aspects of the scheduling, land-based programs, and grant funding from The Nature Conservancy for field trip transportation.

Mr. Durand said the Canoemobile program is at no cost to the District. He invited Board members and staff to join a class for a Canoemobile experience.

Claudia Del Toro-Anguiano, Curriculum Director, stated that GJUESD is the only school district that partners with the Cosumnes River Preserve (CRP) to set goals for cooperative management of the CRP.

John Durand said the CRP is nationally recognized for its multi-agency partnership.

Ms. Del Toro-Anguiano stated that John Durand's vision made the partnership with CRP possible.

**OTHER REPORTS**

**1. Cybersecurity**

Lois Yount reported the third phishing campaign for GJUESD began on November 28, 2022, and concluded on December 22, 2022. This campaign aimed to compare click rate results with the District's baseline established in September 2021 and their second campaign, which concluded in June 2022. She indicated the desired outcome is a decrease in phishing email click rate.

Ms. Yount said security awareness training and respective phishing simulation continue to drive positive results as GJUESD reduced its phish click rate by 3.7% from the previous campaign. This is an 81% decrease in click rate. An area for improvement is the "Starbucks Best Teacher Ever Gift Certificate" simulation. It had the highest click rate. It is an indication that work is still needed to reduce risk.

Ms. Yount shared recommendations that include ongoing training.

**H. Routine Matters/New Business**

**212.428** Lois Yount recognized the following retirees: Lorraine Archuletta, Kirsten Patrick, Cheryl Mason, and Donna Mayo-Whitlock.

Lois Yount recognized the donation.

Annette Kunze made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Casey Raboy. The motion carried by a vote of 4 Ayes by Annette Kunze, Casey Raboy, Traci Skinner and Katherine Harper. Wesley Cagle abstained.

- a. Approval of the Agenda
- b. Minutes
  - February 15, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
- c. Payment of Warrants
  - Vendor Warrants: 23395748-23395819; 23397278-23397327; 23398536-23398599; 23399329-23399374; 23401059-23401134
  - Payroll Warrants: 2/10/23, 2/28/23

**Consent Calendar**

**d. Personnel**

Resignations/Retirees			
Name	Position	Effective Date	Site

Archuletta, Lorraine (Retirement, 9 Years)	Preschool Teacher	6/1/23	Fairsite Preschool
Crisp, Kayla	Yard Supervisor	3/3/23	McCaffrey Middle
Delgado, Stefanie	School Nurse	6/9/2023	District Office
Garibaldi, Katey	Teacher	6/1/2023	River Oaks
Gutierrez, Erica	School Counselor	6/1/2023	McCaffrey Middle
Jenkins, Richard	Teacher	6/1/2023	McCaffrey Middle
Justice, Zachery	Instructional Assistant, Special Education	3/7/23	Fairsite Preschool
Klotz, Andrew	Teacher	6/1/23	McCaffrey Middle
Luna Garcia, Raquel	School Counselor	6/1/23	McCaffrey Middle
Patrick, Kirsten (Retirement, 23 Years)	Teacher	7/1/23	Valley Oaks
Mason, Cheryl (Retirement, 18 Years)	Food & Nutrition Lead	6/1/2023	River Oaks
Mayo-Whitlock, Donna (Retirement, 30 Years)	Director of Educational Services	6/30/2023	District Office
Vanderheiden, Andea	Speech and Language Pathologist	6/1/2023	McCaffrey Middle

<b>Leave of Absence Requests</b>			
Name	Position	Effective Date	Site
Hurtado, Maria	Bilingual Office Assistant	3/8/23	District Office
Paige, Alexis	Teacher, Special Education	2/1/23	River Oaks
Powers, Elliot	Instructional Assistant, Special Education	2/13/23	River Oaks

<b>New Hires/Reclassifications/Status Changes</b>		
Name	Position	Site
Casillas, Evangelina	Classified Substitute	N/A
Crandell, Janet	Certificated Substitute	N/A
Dozier, Shanda	Classified Substitute	N/A
Garcia, Bianca	Classified Substitute	N/A
Harmon, Rylee	Yard Supervisor	Vernon E. Greer
Haught, Sarah	Classified Substitute	N/A
Hernandez Villalobos, Yanet	Yard Supervisor	Marengo Ranch
Lopez, Angie	Short Term Instructional Assistant, Bilingual	Marengo Ranch
Lopez, Jamin	Classified Substitute	N/A
Madrigal, Guadalupe	Classified Substitute	N/A
Ocampo, Danielle	Classified Substitute	N/A
Postlewait, Alexander	Certificated Substitute	N/A

Rhea, Emily	Certificated Substitute	N/A
Rodriguez Martinez, Miriam	Classified Substitute	N/A
Sanchez, Analy	Food & Nutrition Assistant 2	Vernon E. Greer
Sanchez, Lucero	Instructional Assistant, Special Education	Vernon E. Greer
Thornton, Nina	Certificated Substitute	N/A
Trujillo, Stephania	Instructional Assistant	Fairsite
White, Wendy	Bus Driver Trainee-Temporary	Transportation

- e. Donations
- f. Nonpublic, Non-Sectarian School/Agency Services (NPS) Master Contract for Sierra School of San Joaquin
- g. Terracon Proposal No. PNA221315 for Materials Testing & Special Inspection Services for GJUESD Valley Oaks New Classroom Building
- h. Terracon Proposal No. PNA221316 for Materials Testing & Special Inspection Services for GJUESD Transportation Yard Building Addition
- i. ACCO Engineered Systems Proposal for GJUESD – HVAC Replacement Project Various Locations

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|----------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| <b>212.429</b> | Consent Calendar (Continued) – Items Removed for Later Consideration<br>There were no items removed.   | CC Items<br>Removed               |
| <b>212.430</b> | Traci Skinner made a motion to approve the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Interim Budget Report For Fiscal Year 2022-23, seconded by Katherine Harper and unanimously carried.  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Interim<br>Budget |
| <b>212.431</b> | Casey Raboy made a motion to approve the 2022-23 GJUESD Transportation Plan, seconded by Annette Kunze and unanimously carried.  | Transportation<br>Plan            |
| <b>212.432</b> | Wesley Cagle made a motion to approve Resolution No. 11, Government Financial Strategies Joint Power Authority Agreement and Joining Government Financial Services Joint Powers Authority, seconded by Katherine Harper and unanimously carried. | Res 11<br>GFS JPA                 |
| <b>212.433</b> | Katherine Harper made a motion to approve the Addendum to the Superintendent's Employment Contract, seconded by Traci Skinner and unanimously carried.   | Supt<br>Contract                  |
| <b>212.434</b> | Annette Kunze made a motion to approve the Education Specialist Job Description, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried.  | Ed Specialist<br>Job Desc         |

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| <b>212.435</b> | Katherine Harper made a motion to approve the Preschool Teacher Job Description, seconded by Casey Raboy and unanimously carried.   | Preschool<br>Teacher Job Desc              |
| <b>212.436</b> | Casey Raboy made a motion to approve Expanded Learning Opportunities Coordinator Job Description, seconded by Annette Kunze and unanimously carried.  | Expanded<br>Learning Opp<br>Coord Job Desc |
| <b>212.437</b> | Annette Kunze made a motion to approve Resolution No. 12, Approving a Site Lease, a Sublease, and Construction Services Agreement Relating to the Valley Oaks Elementary School Classroom Building Project, seconded by Wesley Cagle and unanimously carried. | Res 12<br>V.O. Classroom<br>LLB            |
| <b>212.438</b> | A First Reading of the Following Board Policies, Administrative Regulations, Exhibit and Bylaws was held.   | FIRST<br>READING                           |

The Board asked the superintendent to provide additional information regarding Bylaw 9220: Governing Board Elections.

The Board will select an option for tie votes in Board member elections.  
Option 1: Tie Decided by Lot or Option 2: Tie Decided by Runoff Election

The Board would like to know the cost of holding a runoff election in the event of a tie.

The superintendent will provide additional information for consideration at the April 19, 2023 Board meeting.

The Board had no further comments.

Business Services

- 1) BP/AR/E 3260 – Fees and Charges
- 2) BP/AR 3460 – Financial Reports And Accountability
- 3) BP 3540 – Transportation  
Delete AR 3540 - Transportation

Educational Services

- 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

Superintendent

- 7) BP/AR 3515 Campus Security
- 8) BP/AR 5142 Safety
- 9) BB 9220 Governing Board Elections
- 10) BB 9223 Filling Vacancies



**212.439** Traci Skinner made a motion to approve the Appointment of Kuljeet Nijjar, Principal, Fairsite Elementary and Early Learning Center and Assistant Principal, McCaffrey Middle School, to Director of Educational Services, seconded by Katherine Harper and unanimously carried.

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

**J. Pending Agenda Items**

At this time, Annette Kunze informed the Board of two bills moving through the C.A. State Legislature:

1. AB 1078, as introduced, would require the state board to develop a policy for local educational agencies to follow before removing any instructional materials or ceasing to teach any curriculum.
2. AB 230, as introduced, extends the Menstrual Equity for All Act of 2021 to apply to public schools that maintain any combination of classes from grades 3 to 12. Current law requires maintaining any combination of classes from grades 6 to 12, inclusive, to stock the school's restrooms with an adequate supply of free menstrual products, as defined, available and accessible, free of cost, in all women's restrooms, all-gender restrooms, and at least one men's restroom, at all times.

Wesley Cagle thanked the students and families for performing and coming to the meeting.

**K. Adjournment** 10:00 p.m.

**Board Approved: April 19, 2023**