

Meeting Minutes

Regular Board Meeting Agenda via YouTube Live Stream 8/24/2021 06:00 PM Newhall School District 25375 Orchard Village Rd Valencia, CA 91355

A. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Walters called the Regular meeting of the Governing Board to order at 6:00 PM.

B. ROLL CALL

- Donna Rose, Ernesto Smith, Suzan Solomon, Isaiah Talley, Brian Walters Board Members Rose, Smith, Solomon and Walters were present. Board Member Talley was absent All Cabinet Members were present.
- C. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS There were no public comments.

D. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Adjourned to Closed Session at 6:01 PM.

Board Member Talley arrived at 6:03 PM.

- 1. Conference With Legal Counsel—Anticipated Litigation
- 2. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957: Public Employee- Possible Employment/Discipline/Dismissal/Release of an Employee
- 3. Superintendent Evaluation: First Review of 2021-2022 Goals

E. RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

Board members returned to Public Session at 7:09 PM.

F. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

In closed session, the Board approved a settlement agreement to resolve a potential special education due process filing, pursuant to which the District, without admission of fault, has agreed to provide to a student an independent educational assessment in consideration of a release of certain claims against the District. The roll call vote was as follows:

M/S/C- (Rose/Smith) Vote: 5-0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

G. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Executive Assistant Rosana Valadez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

H. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Agenda approved. M/S/C- (Solomon/Talley) Vote: 5-0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

 Consideration of Approving the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 10, 2021 Minutes approved.
 M/S/C- (Rose/Talley) Vote: 5-0

Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

- 2. Consideration of Approving the Minutes of the Special Meeting of August 17, 2021
 - Minutes approved. M/S/C- (Solomon/Talley) Vote: 5-0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye
- 3. Consideration of Approving the Amended Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of December 15, 2020

Minutes approved. M/S/C- (Rose/Smith) Vote: 5-0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Board member Smith shared how happy his children are to return to school in person;

- Board members shared how pleased they are to have students back in school and thanked staff for the level of compliance and cooperation thus far;
- Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Amanda Montemayor introduced McGrath Elementary's new Assistant Principal Juan Gomez;
- Superintendent Pelzel held the first Superintendent Collaborative of the school year. The group will continue to focus on finding ways to improve morale throughout the District;
- Superintendent Pelzel thanked NTA and NESP for their collaboration and willingness to discuss and problem-solve issues.

K. PUBLIC COMMENTS

District parent Irene Gonzales submitted a comment regarding the District's distancing guidelines. Ms. Gonzales inquired on why the District's school seating distancing is 3 feet and not 6 feet as the CDC guidelines suggest for schools.

L. CORRESPONDENCE

1. California Department of Public Health Response Letter

Board President Walters shared the CA Department of Public Health's response after the District submitted an inquiry on local school districts making their own decisions on COVID-19 mandates and protocols.

2. Discussion and Approval for the Newhall School District to Join the SCV PTA Partners Program Superintendent Pelzel and Board Member Solomon shared the District was invited to partner with the SCV PTA to support the work of PTA at Council level and in our local schools. Becoming a partner of SCV PTA positively impacts the lives of children and families in the District.

Partnership approved. M/S/C- (Smith/Rose) Vote: 4-1 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Abstain Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

M. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Removal of Items From the Consent Calendar

No items removed.

Board Member Solomon thanked District staff for the efforts involved in the LA County Arts & Culture grant. Mrs. Solomon also thanked the County for their consideration and approval.

2. Consideration of Approving Items on the Consent Calendar

Consent Calendar approved. M/S/C- (Solomon/Talley) Vote: 5-0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

- 3. Consent Calendar- Business Services
 - i. Consideration of Approving Purchase Orders, B Warrants and Payroll Warrants
 - ii. Consideration of Approving Gift Report #21/22-2
 - iii. Consideration of Approving Recurring Contracts
- 4. Consent Calendar- Human Resources
 - i. Consideration of Approving Personnel Report #21/22-03
- 5. Consent Calendar Curriculum/Instructional Services
 - i. Consideration of Approving Additional PPE Music Equipment From Nick Rail
 - ii. Consideration of Approving the LA County Arts Commission Advancement Grant
 - iii. Consideration of Approving Contract Extension for Ellevation Software
- 6. Consent Calendar Student Support Services
 - i. Consideration of Approving Amendment to the 2021-2022 Personal Services Contract with LA Speech Pathology Services, Inc.

N. STAFF REPORTS

1. Staff Reports- Business Services

i. Facilities & Technology Department Project Update Presentation

Director of Facilities Fred Palmer and I.T. Manager Ken McGaffee provided an overview of the District's maintenance and technology projects completed over the summer, as well as, ongoing projects at this time.

Board members inquired on the hydration stations installed at all sites over the summer. Currently, sites have 2 stations installed and an additional 2 stations are expected to be installed in the next few months, providing all sites with a total of 4 hydration stations.

2. Staff Reports-Administrative Services

i. 2020-2021 Santa Clarita Valley Public Safety Annual Security Report

Daniel Rodriguez, Owner of Santa Clarita Valley Public Safety provided a security report of the District for the 2020/2021 school year. The presentation included individual site maintenance/incident reports, service calls and trespassing/vehicle violations for the year.

Principals Gaudette, Tapia and Williamson shared how Mr. Rodriguez's services have vastly reduced site security incidents and violations throughout the year. They also acknowledged the wonderful partnership, professionalism and impressive response times at all times.

As a next step, Mr. Rodriguez will research the installation of cameras on all campuses as

an added safety measure. A formal assessment and presentation is expected to be discussed at a future Board meeting.

Board members thanked Mr. Rodriguez for his collaboration and accessibility at all sites.

ii. Consideration of Approving Contract with LA County Public Safety and Security Services, LLC for the 2021-2022 School Year

Item approved with the 12-month option. M/S/C- (Rose/Talley) Vote: 5-0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

iii. Results of the 2020-2021 School Effectiveness Survey Presentation and Discussion Superintendent Pelzel shared feedback from the 2020-2021 School Effectiveness survey. The data included an overview on how the District is doing at meeting the needs of students and families

Board members thanked parents for providing feedback during an extremely difficult year.

iv. Consideration of Approving Revised Board Bylaw 9322: Agenda/Meeting Materials- First Reading

Policy approved with optional, amended verbiage and waived additional readings. M/S/C- (Solomon/Talley) Vote: 5-0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

 v. Consideration of Approving of Board Bylaw 9323.2: Actions by the Board- First Reading Policy approved and waived additional readings. M/S/C- (Smith/Solomon)

Vote: 5-0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

vi. Discussion on Governing Board Protocol

Board members held discussions on protocols related to communication with any Cabinet member, and whether a courtesy copy to the Board President or Superintendent should be included, unless the communication is of a private nature.

In the interest of providing complete clarity, the Governing Board Handbook will include updated, specified protocols agreed upon by all current Board members. M/S/C- (Solomon/Rose) Vote: 5-0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

3. Staff Reports- Curriculum/Instructional Services

- Conduct Public Hearing Regarding Resolution #21/22-03
 Public hearing was opened at 9:07 P.M. by Board President Walters The Board did not receive any public comments.
 Public hearing was closed at 9:08 P.M. by Board President Walters
- Consideration of Adopting Resolution #21/22-03 Regarding Ed Code Section 60119 Concerning Sufficient Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Item approved. M/S/C- (Solomon/Talley) Vote: 5-0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

 iii. For Consideration of Approving Contract with Ellevation For Ellevation Math Platform Board members commended staff for the resourceful use of Title III funds. Item approved. M/S/C- (Rose/Talley) Vote: 5-0

Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

 iv. Consideration of Approving The Latino Family Literacy Project Program Item approved.
 M/S/C- (Talley/Smith) Vote: 5-0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

4. Staff Reports- Human Resources

i. Consideration of Approving Revised Classified Job Description - Instructional Assistant III -Special Education

Item approved. M/S/C- (Smith/Talley) Vote: 5-0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

ii. Consideration of Approving Revised Salary Schedule for Teacher Substitute Pay Assistant Superintendent Amanda Montemayor provided background information and explanation on the need to increase the substitute teacher salary schedule. Item approved.

M/S/C- (Smith/Talley) Vote: 5-0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye Walters - Aye

O. AGENDA ITEMS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

- School Site Safety Plans
- Discussions on State of the District or District Summit event

P. ADJOURN TO CONTINUATION OF CLOSED SESSION

There was no continuation of Closed Session.

Q. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Walters adjourned the meeting at 9:24 PM.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2021. Closed Session begins at 6:00 P.M. Open Session begins at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom teleconference.

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Board Clerk

Secretary