

Meeting Minutes

A. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Walters called the Regular meeting of the Governing Board to order at 6:03 PM.

B. ROLL CALL

1. **Donna Rose, Ernesto Smith, Suzan Solomon, Isaiah Talley, Brian Walters**
All Board Members were present.
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 6:03 PM.

1. **Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957: Public Employee- Possible Employment/Discipline/Dismissal/Release of an Employee**

E. RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

Board members returned to Public Session at 7:11 PM.

F. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Board President Walters announced that the Board took no action in Closed Session.

G. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Member Sue Solomon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

H. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Agenda approved.

M/S/C- (Solomon/Rose)

Vote: 5-0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Consideration of Approving the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 14, 2021**
Minutes approved.
M/S/C- (Rose/Talley)
Vote: 5-0
Roll call vote:
Rose - Aye
Smith - Aye
Solomon - Aye
Talley - Aye
Walters - Aye

J. GOVERNING BOARD AND EXECUTIVE CABINET ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The SCV Trustees Association held a meeting last night where Kevin Gordon from Capitol Advisors updated members on legislation and the pandemic's impact on school districts. A request was made to have the City Manager's office attend a meeting to update members on the changing demographics in the community over the last 10 years. Members also discussed the advantages of district's working together on initiatives and purchases;
- Board Member Solomon visited Stevenson Ranch Elementary and shared what a joy it was to see children enjoying being in school and teachers doing what they do best;
- Board Members Rose and Solomon sat in on an initial meeting with our new architect firm (LPA) to discuss the school design for the new elementary school in the FivePoint development;
- Superintendent Pelzel is proud of the reading instruction he has encountered during site visits. It's great to see Learning Support teachers and WIN teachers engaging in the work;
- Superintendent Pelzel continues to engage in the Superintendent Collaborative with a focus on the issue of morale. The group is planning on creating a survey for all District staff to gather feedback on actionable steps and strategies to improve morale;
- The District received an AB 1200 letter from LACOE approving the District's one-time off salary schedule payment of 1.5% for active employees in paid status as of June 11, 2021;
- Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Amanda Montemayor reminded everyone of fall break on Friday, October 1st - Monday, October 4th and wished staff a very restful and enjoyable weekend with family.

K. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Board President Walters clarified the District's public comment process for members of the public that attend meetings virtually.

Board Member Solomon shared that she misses the open dialogue with the public during meetings as a result of the shift to broadcasting the Board meetings and public comments being read by staff. Board Member Smith agreed.

There were no public comments.

L. PUBLIC INTEREST**1. Social Emotional Learning: CASEL and Second Step Overview**

Libby Carson, NSD Lead Counselor shared an overview on social-emotional learning and how the CASEL and Second Step programs align together to support instruction. Samples of lesson instructions were also shared with the Board.

In response to Board member questions, Ms. Carson shared that plans for a parenting series in October are being developed to extend lessons to parents at home. Resources will be available on the District's website in the future for parents to reference. In addition, teaching staff have access to login and reference curriculum they can tie into their lesson plans. As students get older and matriculate, the unit lessons address issues children face (i.e. changing bodies).

Board members commended Ms. Carson for the work that address the social-emotional component of learning and expressed their eagerness to continue to promote this concept to more parents in the community.

M. CONSENT CALENDAR**1. Removal of Items From the Consent Calendar**

No items removed.

2. Consideration of Approving Items on the Consent Calendar

Consent Calendar approved.

M/S/C- (Solomon/Smith)

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 #21/22-4**
4. **Consent Calendar- Human Resources**
 - i. **Consideration of Approving Personnel Report #21/22-05**
5. **Consent Calendar - Curriculum/Instructional Services**
 - i. **Consideration of Approving 2021/22 Community Arts Partnership Agreement with California Institute of the Arts and the Newhall School District – Program Site: Newhall Elementary School**

N. STAFF REPORTS

1. **Staff Reports- Human Resources**
 - i. **Consideration of Approving the 2020/2021 Tentative Agreement Between Newhall School District (NSD) and Newhall Employee Professionals Association (NESP)**
 Board and Executive Cabinet members appreciate the efforts of staff involved in reaching these conclusions.

 Item approved.
 M/S/C- (Rose/Talley)
 Vote: 5 - 0
 Roll call vote:
 Rose - Aye
 Smith - Aye
 Solomon - Aye
 Talley - Aye
 Walters - Aye
 - ii. **Consideration of Approving the 2020/2021 Tentative Agreement Between Newhall School District (NSD) and Newhall Teachers Association (NTA)**
 Board and Executive Cabinet members appreciate the efforts of staff involved in reaching these conclusions.

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

iii. **Consideration of Approving the Contract for the Executive Director of Student Support Service Contract , Gina Ramallo**

Item approved with amendments specified.

M/S/C- (Smith/Talley)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

2. **Staff Reports- Business Services**

i. **Consideration of Approving Resolution 21/22-07 and Agreement for the Retirement Incentive for Eligible Certificated Non-Management Employees**

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Sheri Staszewski shared background on the District exploring a retiring incentive for certificated non-management employees.

The goal of the program is to generate savings, or at a minimum, no cost to the District by increasing the number of retirements in the 2021-22 school year. The District has opted to offer the retirement incentive to this group first as they provide the most cost savings. Based on the results, the plan is to offer it to other employee groups in the District as well if cost savings will occur.

Dennis Yu, Executive Vice President for PARS shared how PARS will conduct all ongoing administration of the program.

Item approved.

M/S/C- (Solomon/Rose)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

ii. **Consideration of Approving the 2021-2022 Comprehensive School Safety Plans for Meadows, Newhall, Old Orchard, Pico Canyon, Stevenson Ranch, and Wiley Canyon Elementary Schools**

Plans approved.

M/S/C- (Smith/Talley)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

iii. **Consideration of Approving the Disclosure of Collective Bargaining Agreements with Newhall School District (NSD), Newhall Teachers Association (NTA), Newhall Educational Support Professionals (NESP) and Unrepresented Groups**

Item approved.

M/S/C- (Solomon/Rose)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye
 Smith - Aye
 Solomon - Aye
 Talley - Aye
 Walters - Aye

iv. Consideration of Approving Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Services by Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clarita for ASES Program at Wiley Canyon Elementary School

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

v. Consideration of Approving Contract with COVID Testing Appointments, LLC

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Sheri Staszewski shared that effective October 15, 2021 California School Districts must ensure that all non-vaccinated employees participate in weekly COVID-19 testing. Services provided by the proposed vendor help keep the process as confidential as possible and eliminates the need for establishing testing sites. The contract also includes the option to purchase various tests to have on hand as needed.

Superintendent Pelzel shared background information addressing concerns with funding, reliability, and the integrity of the process. The District has a low number of staff that will be engaging in this protocol and proposed procedures meet the needs to protect our students.

District parents Julee Brooks and Naela Sarras submitted comments addressing the Board on concerns with at-home kits versus testing at a facility with professionally trained staff.

In response to questions from the Board, vendor representatives explained that:

- Viability for tests is 5 days;
- The testing lab is located in Redwood, CA and the lab processes samples immediately upon receipt; results are typically provided within 24 hours;
- Vendor works closely with District to ensure all reporting requirements and follow-up protocols are completed.

Board members shared they feel strongly they can trust staff to administer their own tests and the process presented is absolutely in keeping with the County's requirements.

Item approved with modifications recommended.

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

3. Staff Reports- Curriculum/Instructional Services

i. Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Update

Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Dee Jamison shared an overview on the progress made in the listed LCAP actions to date, including efforts for parent and community understanding of the plan and its purpose.

The new LCAP Advisory Council will provide ongoing opportunities for parents and community members to serve and receive updates on the Districts goals via quarterly meetings. Communication will go out via ParentSquare requesting two representatives from each site serving TK-2nd grades and 3rd – 6th grades.

The District created a community communication resource for its website that parents can utilize as reference tool for the LCAP.

Board members commended staff for the work accomplished at this stage of the school year.

The LCAP update was shared with PTA/PTO presidents' the day before and feedbacks was overwhelmingly positive.

ii. Consideration of Declaring Board Policy 6157(a): Distance Learning Obsolete

Policy declared obsolete.

M/S/C- (Solomon/Talley)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

4. Staff Reports-Administrative Services

i. Consideration of Approving Resolution #21/22-08 Declaring October 10-16, 2021 as "Week of the School Administrator"

Cabinet and Board members commended site administrators for their time and efforts, especially in the last 18 months. The dedication to their students is very much appreciated.

Item approved.

M/S/C- (Solomon/Smith)

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

- Board Member Solomon asked about protocols for in-person Board meetings moving forward:
 - Board members encourage those who feel ill to attend meetings via Zoom teleconference.
 - All attending in person must wear a mask during the meeting

- Please visit the District's website for information on procedures for addressing the Board in person versus virtually
- Trustee area adjustments based on census data
- HVAC updates

P. ADJOURN TO CONTINUATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Board members resumed Closed Session at 9:19 PM to discuss previously stated closed session items.

Q. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

Board Members returned to Public Session at 10:30 P.M.

R. REPORT OUT OF SECOND CLOSED SESSION

Board President Walters announced that the Board took no further in Closed Session.

S. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Walters adjourned the meeting at 10:30 PM.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2021. Closed Session begins at 6:00 PM. Open Session begins at 7:00 PM.



Board Clerk



Secretary