

# Regular Board Meeting Agenda via Zoom Teleconference 11/17/2020 06:00 PM

Newhall School District 25375 Orchard Village Rd., #200 Valencia, CA 91355

## A. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular meeting of the Governing Board was called to order at 6:01 P.M. by Board President Solomon.

## B. ROLL CALL

 Donna Rose, Ernesto Smith, Suzan Solomon, Isaiah Talley, Brian Walters Board Members Rose, Smith, Solomon and Talley were present. Board Member Walters was not 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 6:02 P.M.

- 1. Superintendent's Employment Contract: Government Code section 54957.6 Superintendent's Contract and Compensation Discussion
- 2. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957: Public Employee- Possible Employment/Discipline/Dismissal/Release of an Employee
- 3. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6: Labor Negotiations Negotiator for the District Amanda Montemayor, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

## E. RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

Board members returned to Public Session at 7:01 P.M.

## F. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Board President Solomon announced that no action was taken in Closed Session.

# G. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Superintendent Pelzel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

# H. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Agenda approved.

M/S/C- (Rose/Talley)

Vote: 4 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Not present for the vote

#### I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Consideration of approving the amended Minutes of the Regular Board meeting of November 3, 2020

Amended minutes approved.

M/S/C- (Talley/Smith)

Vote: 4 - 0 Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Not present for the vote

#### J. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Board members Rose, Smith and Solomon, and Superintendent Pelzel completed the CSBA Masters in Governance training. Members shared that the program helps understand the foundations of Board member roles and that the training allowed them to learn together
- Board member Rose attended the SCV Trustee Association meeting on Monday, November
   16th along with other Board members and Superintendent Pelzel
- Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Amanda Montemayor introduced Daria Ramirez as the new Principal for Old Orchard Elementary and Kat Stroh as the new Assistant Principal for Digital Learning Academy 2
- Wiley Canyon Elementary opened in-person learning for its SDC cohorts last Thursday, November 12th. Remaining SDC cohorts are scheduled to re-open for in-person learning in the coming weeks
- Superintendent Pelzel, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Dee Jamison and Principal Boone will be presenting the work accomplished in the District at a National Superintendent's Academy on Wednesday November 18, 2020
- Board President Solomon attended McGrath Elementary's District Support Team meeting which provided the opportunity to look at the in-depth work accomplished throughout the District
- Board President Solomon dedicated today's Board meeting to the memory of Dominic Blackwell and Gracie Muelberger, the two victims of the Saugus High School shooting a year ago

#### K. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

#### L. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

### M. PUBLIC INTEREST

 Trauma Informed Practices (TIPS) Presentation by Dr. Lakeah Dickerson, LACOE Homeless Foster Youth Services Division

Coordinator of Student Support Services Lisa Seeley and Dr. Lakeah Dickerson of the LACOE Homeless Foster Youth Services Division shared an overview on the District's trauma-informed practices and how staff is helping students with social-emotional needs.

Dr. Dickerson invited all staff members to attend a self-care, trauma-informed practice

training via LACOE on December 1, 2020.

Board members commended Dr. Dickerson and the Student Support Services staff for the supports provided to students. They look forward to seeing how this will influence student learning.

## N. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Removal of Items From the Consent Calendar None.

# 2. Consideration of Approving Items on the Consent Calendar

Consent items approved with amendment to item N.4.i - Personnel Report #20/21-10. Classified Employee Christy Polio's work hours should reflect 6 hours per day rather than 8 hours per day.

M/S/C- (Talley/Smith)

Vote: 4 - 0 Roll call vote: Rose - Aye Smith - Aye Solomon - Aye Talley - Aye

Walters - Not present for the vote.

## 3. Consent Calendar- Business Services

- i. Consideration of Approving Purchase Orders, B Warrants and Payroll Warrants
- ii. Consideration of Approving Gift Report #20/21-9
- iii. Consideration of Approving Notice of Completion for Rey Crest Roofing & Waterproofing Co., Inc. for Peachland Elementary
- iv. Consideration of Approving Notice of Completion for USA Shade & Fabric Structures for Valencia Valley and McGrath Elementary
- Consent Calendar- Human Resources
  - i. Consideration of Approving Personnel Report #20/21-10
- 5. Consent Calendar- Student Support Services
  - i. Consideration of Approving NSD Community Advisory Committee Member Change

Board Member Walters arrived at 7:37 P.M. and congratulated Board Members Rose, Smith and Solomon for completing the CSBA Masters in Governance training.

#### O. STAFF REPORTS

- 1. Staff Reports- Business Services
  - i. Consideration of Approving Kroll License and Service Agreement

Kroll representatives Greg Brown and Zac Bolden provided an overview of the services utilized during the District's recent ransomware incident and cyber investigation. Services included in the agreement presented tonight will help prevent future cyber-

attacks and detect further breaches by analyzing suspicious or malicious activity through a detection engine 24-7.

Board members were in favor of moving forward with the 3-year service option after considering the increasing need to protect the District's systems and data.

The Board gave Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Sheri Staszewski direction to research whether CARES Act funds can be applied for these service costs in the first year of the agreement.

3-year service agreement option approved.

M/S/C- (Walters/Smith)

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

## ii. Facilities Project Presentation/Discussion

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Sheri Staszewski and Director of Facilities Fred Palmer presented on overview of the projects the department is focusing on now through summer and shared their recommendations on prioritized future projects. Discussions also included funding sources.

Board members were asked for direction on moving forward with installing four hydration stations at all sites, providing students an option to refill water bottles rather than using drinking fountains. Board members were in favor of piloting a station at Newhall Elementary and requested a detailed proposal and cost-analysis once the station is installed.

Of the top five prioritized projects, Ms. Staszewski's recommends upgrading the District's phone system first. Board members were in favor of addressing this need first. Additionally, Ms. Staszewski recommended replacing the HVAC system at the DO.

Ms. Staszewski also recommended maintaining \$10M in fund 40 to borrow, leaving about \$2.5M to put towards projects. In the next six months, the District will have a better idea on funding options.

# iii. Consideration of Approving the Tier I Annex Seismic Evaluation

The District would like to utilize the Annex located next to the Newhall Family Theatre for classroom or practice use. The Tier 1 Annex Seismic Evaluation is the first step in moving towards DSA approval for such use.

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

## 2. Staff Reports- Curriculum/Instructional Services

## i. Arts Master Plan Update and Discussion

Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Dee Jamison, Administrator of Professional Development Kate Peattie and Coordinator of Special Programs Sarah Johnson shared an update on the goals included in the District's 2017-2022 Strategic Arts Plan and the status of the efforts to meet these goals. Future plans include virtual hip-hop and literacy/theater residencies.

Board members appreciated the in-depth overview and expressed the importance of continuing programs where students can express themselves. The Instructional Services Department was directed to begin discussions with the Raising the Curtain Foundation as a non-profit partner for future programs.

# Public Hearing and Verification of Closure of Early Learning and Childcare Programs on a Local Education Agency Campus

Board President Solomon opened a public hearing regarding the verification of closure of early learning and childcare programs on a Local Education Agency campus at 9:32 P.M.

Board President Solomon closed a public hearing regarding the verification of closure of early learning and childcare programs on a Local Education Agency campus at 9:33 P.M.

In order for the State Preschool Program to be held harmless for enrollment, the District is required to approve a Verification of Closure for the programs at Newhall, McGrath and Peachland schools.

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

Preschool Coordinator Kelly Ferko requested the Board provide direction on the reopening of State preschools. Due to current facilities upgrades, staff is unable to access classrooms until December 6th. Board members directed Ms. Ferko to reopen programs at the three sites as soon as reasonably possible.

# iii. Consideration of Approving participation with Springboard Collaborative for Dr. Michael J McGrath Elementary

McGrath Principal Jennifer Boone shared the benefits of piloting this program for 30 families, including parents and teachers collaborating to set goals and integrate

learning strategies for the home environment. Two teachers will split the 30 families and act as mentors and coaches for parents.

Board members had several questions about supporting families who are not English speaking families or are not literate as well as which students they would be targeting for support.

Board members were in favor of moving forward with the program and requested an update at a future meeting.

Item approved.

M/S/C- (Walters/Smith)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

# 3. Staff Reports- Human Resources

# i. Lead School Psychologist: Bilingual

Item approved.

M/S/C- (Rose/Walters)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

## ii. Discussion and Approval of Superintendent Contract

Governing Board President Solomon shared that the Board and Superintendent Pelzel have mutually agreed to a contract. The new contract is effective through June 30, 2024 and includes Exhibits A and B. Superintendent Pelzel's salary will remain \$200,000 for the 2020-2021 school year.

Item approved.

M/S/C- (Rose/Smith)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

## 4. Staff Reports-Administrative Services

i. 2021 NSD Open House Discussion

At the recommendation of Superintendent Pelzel, Board members agreed to push the 2021 Open House to March 11, 2020 for what we hope will be an in-person event. The event will be hosted at Wiley Canyon Elementary. April 21, 2020 is the back-up date.

### ii. COVID-19 Update and Board Discussion

Superintendent Pelzel shared the latest information regarding Governor Newsom's decisions to move many surrounding areas back into Tier 1(Purple tier) based on rising numbers, shared changes in symptom screening, and provided updates on new quarantine requirements and procedures. Additionally, the District received notification from the LA County Department of Public Health that all ten of our schools have been granted the TK-2 waiver and can now open for in-person teaching and learning with our students.

Superintendent Pelzel made a recommendation to the Governing Board to hold off on reopening until students return from Winter Break on January 11th. By delaying the launch we will be able to share with families who have chosen the AM/PM blended learning model, their assigned time slot, and allow all staff to completely prepare for this full transition over the next seven weeks.

Several certificated staff, classified staff, and parents thanked Superintendent Pelzel for the consideration of re-opening for in-person learning until after the Winter Break to allow time to prepare for the transition.

Board member Walters shared his perspective on the advantages of starting inperson learning earlier than the Winter Break so that the District can gather critical feedback on its implementation model. The remaining Board members agreed that a January 11th start date would be more beneficial to ensure a smooth transition for staff and families, and directed Superintendent Pelzel to move forward as recommended.

# iii. Discussion and Consideration of Contractual Salary Incentive for Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services

The Board unanimously agrees that the 2019-2020 was a particularly extraordinary year and that Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Dee Jamison met every challenge brought forth with calm, resolute and integrity, and went beyond her performance expectations. The Board would like to recognize Ms. Jamison's outstanding efforts by approving the \$3,000 performance incentive included in her contract.

Performance incentive approved.

M/S/C- (Walters/Smith)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote: Rose - Aye

NOSC - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

iv. Consideration of Approving Board Bylaws 9323.2: Actions by the Board and Exhibits 1 and 2

Board Bylaws 9323.2 will be reviewed for second reading at the next Board meeting.

v. Consideration of Declaring Board Policies 6118 Weather-Related Schedules and BP 6140 Curriculum Obsolete

Declaration approved.

M/S/C- (Walters/Rose)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

## P. AGENDA ITEMS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

- Discussion and review of School Effectiveness Survey questions
- CSBA debrief

## Q. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Solomon adjourned the meeting at 11:25 P.M.

The next Regular and Annual Organizational Board Meetings are scheduled for December 15, 2020. The Organizational meeting begins at 6:00 P.M. Closed Session for the Regular meeting begins at 6:30 P.M. and Open Session begins at 7:00 P.M. Both meetings will be held via Zoom teleconference.

**Board Clerk** 

Secretary