

Eureka City Schools | Board of Education

District Office - 2100 J Street - Eureka, CA 95501
(Room 116)

Regular Meeting

6:30 PM

October 7, 2021

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER OF STUDY SESSION

President Ollivier called the open session to order at 3:36 p.m.

Members Present: Duncan, Johnson, Ollivier, Taplin, Fernandez

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Van Vleck, Harris

B. STUDY SESSION

- (1) Brown Act Training with School & College Legal Services of California
(Erin Stagg)

Referred to the Board by:

Fred Van Vleck, Ed.D., Superintendent

Attorney Erin Stagg, School and College Legal Services, presented a Brown Act training to the Board and reviewed legal requirements and applicable Board policies.

**C. Location | Eureka High School Auditorium - 1915 J Street, Eureka, CA
(Approx. 5:30 p.m.)**

D. RECONVENING OF OPEN SESSION (Eureka High School Auditorium)

President Ollivier reconvened the meeting at 5:30 pm

Members Present: Duncan, Johnson, Ollivier, Taplin, Fernandez

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Van Vleck, Ziegler, Will, Leonard, Harris

E. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Kayla Rodgers provided public comment to the Board and requested some of the requirements relating to PE Teachers be removed from the proposed contract. She described coaching duties at both the middle school and high school level and notes concerns with the amount of time dedicated to coaching and what is required to run a successful program. ECS is full of committed teams but asking coaches to commit time outside of their hours is demeaning. She believes the athletes will suffer if the coaches are not committed.

John Moor addressed the Board and states the teachers have negotiated in good faith. He does not feel like the District administration have been negotiating in good faith and is bringing these concerns to the Board. Teachers are the ones doing the hard work directly with the students. Admin have all the resources they need but the teachers in the classrooms are working all day long with the students. The demands are not fair, such as demanding teachers move from site-to-site at the District's will, and forcing teachers to coach. He is concerned with compensation and notes it is far less than what the Superintendent has received. He requests the Board ask the District to compromise on negotiations so it is fair.

Jorey McComas has been a teacher for 21 years and notes his concern with having to ask for fair compensation, as he may face retaliation. He is advocating for a fair contract for both himself and the students. He does not believe the Board would accept an involuntary transfer in their contract. He states this would be uncomfortable in trusted hands and is unconscionable in the District's hands. He believes involuntary transfer has been used for retaliation in the past and it could happen again. Involuntary transfers disrupt teams and progress.

Jennifer Dean Marvinski started working at ECS 25 years ago. She notes she is dedicated but tired of waiting to be appreciated and respected in contract negotiations. ECS proposed a punitive and insulting contract. ECS can become a destination District by offering competitive wages – the teachers deserve the best teachers who stay year-after-year and invest in the community. She urged the Board to drop the involuntary transfer contract clause. She would like the District to work within the provisions the District has already agreed to. The teachers want to focus their energy on students. Stop forcing teachers to coach. Change the culture of ECS.

Ashlynn Cox teaches at EHS. She shared concerns with teachers being required to coach. Coaching goes above and beyond what the contract details. Successful coaching programs including training in the off-season, summer leagues, and preparing students for the next level. If a coach is not passionate about the sport, that teacher will only put in the bare minimum. She notes the skill sets needs for specific sports are not transferable. Asking staff members to take on something they do not truly believe it would be a disservice to the student athletes.

Jamie Bush has been a coach for 31 years and will not coach at ECS due to the stipends. She has been involuntarily transferred several times and was not trained or given the opportunity to adjust. She was transferred five years in a row, to different sites, to teach five different subject areas. Teachers need time and a choice; that is when teachers do the best job. Moving back to the coaching, the stipends need to be raised, and coaches need to be trained to better coaching skills. Teachers should not be forced to coach. She proposed the Board take on the coaching roles.

It was M/S by Taplin/Fernandez to extend the time for public comment on closed session items to allow for the last public comment. Governing Board: yes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

Mauro Staiano addressed the Board regarding concerns with teachers taking on additional duties/support systems, which were previously handled by other positions. He notes differences between how the District used to be run and how it is run now. Today, teachers struggle to divert attention away from other things. Teachers need their social-emotional needs met as well. Good teachers routinely stay around and teaching positions regularly received many applicants but that is not the case anymore. In the time of critical teacher shortage, the District is asking teachers to take on additional jobs and duties they did not apply for. The District is ignoring the social and emotional needs of staff.

F. Location | Eureka City Schools District Office for Closed Session - 2100 J Street, Eureka, CA (Approx. 6:00 p.m.)

G. CLOSED SESSION (Closed to Public) (Room 118)

President Ollivier moved the meeting to closed session to discuss closed session Items.

- (2) Employee Discipline, Dismissal, Release, Appoint, Accept the Resignation or Otherwise Affect the Employment Status of a Public Employee (GC § 54957)
- (3) Conference with Labor Negotiator Superintendent Van Vleck Regarding Eureka Teachers Association, Classified White and Blue Collar Units, and/or Unrepresented Employees (Confidential and Classified and Certificated Management) (GC § 54957.6)
- (4) Conference with Superintendent – Pending Litigation, Two Cases (GC § 54956.9)
- (5) Consideration of Student Retention (Student #28140)

H. RECONVENING OF OPEN SESSION (Room 116)

President Ollivier reconvened the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Members Present: Johnson, Ollivier, Fernandez, Duncan, Taplin

Members Absent: Watson

Staff Present: Van Vleck, Ziegler, Will, Leonard, Harris

I. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

There was no action to report on closed session Items G(2), G(3), G(4), or G(5).

J. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – Eureka High School

Students from Eureka High School led the Board in the pledge of allegiance. EHS ASB students provided a presentation on Student Government to the Board.

K. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

- (6) Approval of the Agenda

No adjustments to the Agenda.

It was M/S by Johnson/Taplin to approve the Agenda. Student Board Representative: yes 0, no 0, absent 1 (Watson). Governing Board: yes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

L. INFORMATION

- (7) Student Reports – No student report.
- (8) Superintendent's Report – Van Vleck provided information to the Board on the Governor's press conference regarding a vaccine mandate. The District supports steps keeping students learning in-person. However, there are concerns with staff resigning and the independent study being overloaded. The District has to comply with the vaccinate or test requirements by October 15th. He met with the Classified and Parent/Community Stakeholders groups and looks forward to meeting with Certificated group. The Board would like to attend the AEC Annual Meeting in-person, if at all possible. Legal Training coming up with Ellie Austin on December 9th. On January 6th, the Board has a Governance Meeting to discuss protocols. At a subsequent meeting, the Board will review the strategic plan.

(9) Board Members' Reports

Taplin notes her grandson is one of the candidates for King at EHS.

Fernandez may be out of town for the 2/2 meeting at the City. Johnson may be able to attend, if Fernandez cannot attend virtually.

Duncan asked for a moment of silence for the students stuck in Afghanistan.

Ollivier notes her son has been busy preparing for the wrestling season. She hopes people will come support the student athletes.

M. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Joel Mitchell provided public comments to the Board on behalf of multiple Winship teachers. He notes the biggest impact on the school right now relates to safety. Creating a safe place for all students is important for growth. Overall acts of student aggression towards teachers and other students happens daily. Inside the classroom, acts are occurring that impact learning. There is a standard of safety on the campus that is not being met. Staff lean heavily on the one administrator, and that administrator faces many additional duties due to staff shortages and covid testing. The overextension leaves a significant amount of things not being monitored. Winship desperately needs an additional administrator. The letter was submitted by Joel Mitchell, Steven Couch, Lisa Jouaneh,

Tara Hutcheon, Alicia Smith, Bobby de Santos, Teal Cody, Emily Lancaster, Darren Allen, and Martin Goddi.

Lisa Jouaneh addressed the Board relating to concerns over incidences occurring at Winship. Winship has 48 less students than Zane and yet Winship has significantly less administrative support. This issue can be remedied by the addition of an Assistant Principal. Jouaneh provided an overview of practices that are inadequate in the face of this year's challenges. She requests additional administrative support such as an assistant principal or CARE coach. Many students need mental health services. The significant shift in climate at Winship this year has led to unprecedented levels of Tier 3 behaviors. On a daily basis, teachers and staff are overwhelmed by increasing student behaviors. The level of chaos makes teaching and learning nearly impossible.

In response to a question from a Board member, Van Vleck provided a update to the Board on open positions and what the staffing ratios are. He reviewed open positions and the steps being taken.

N. CONSENT CALENDAR

It was M/S by Johnson/Taplin to approve the following Consent Calendar items:

- (10) Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County of Humboldt and Eureka City Schools for Measure Z Funding (School Resource Officer)
Referred to the Board by:
Fred Van Vleck, Ed.D., Superintendent
- (11) Approval of Revision of Warrant Distribution Authorization Form CS-1 and Certification Form CS-7 for 2021-2022
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (12) Approval of Minutes from the Regular Meeting on September 15, 2021
Referred to the Board by:
Fred Van Vleck, Ed.D., Superintendent
- (13) Approval of the Quarterly Report to the Governing Board as Mandated by the State, In Regards to the Williams Lawsuit
Referred to the Board by:
Michael Davies-Hughes, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services
- (14) Approval of Personnel Action Report No. 4
Referred to the Board by:
Rena Will, Director of Personnel Services and Public Affairs

- (15) Acceptance of the No-Cost Extension for the Arts Integration Project (Create Humboldt) Grant Award Notification
Referred to the Board by:
Michael Davies-Hughes, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services

Student Board Representative: yes 0, no 0, absent 1 (Watson). Governing Board: yes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

O. DISCUSSION/ACTION

- (16) Consideration of Student Retention (Student #28140)
Referred to the Board by:
John Leonard, Director of Student Services

It was M/S by Fernandez/Johnson to approve the Student Retention for Student #28140. Student Board Representative: yes 0, no 0, absent 1 (Watson). Governing Board: yes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

- (17) Consideration of Interdistrict Attendance Agreement for the 2022-2023 School Year
Referred to the Board by:
John Leonard, Director of Student Services

The Governing Board has requested a meeting with HCOE, which has been tentatively scheduled for mid-November. The date of the meeting has not been confirmed by HCOE. No action can be taken until there is a meeting with HCOE.

No action taken on this item.

- (18) New Classified White Collar Job Description - Covid Testing Support Aide
Referred to the Board by:
Rena Will, Director of Personnel Services and Public Affairs

Will notes the purpose of this position is to assist sites with testing responsibilities. CSEA has agreed to the job description and creation of the position. The position has been posted, interviews held, and offers are currently being made.

It was M/S by Taplin/Duncan to approve the New Classified White Collar Job Description - Covid Testing Support Aide. Student Board Representative: yes 0, no 0, absent 1 (Watson). Governing Board: yes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

P. DISCUSSION

- (19) Discuss Trustee Boundary/2020 Census Analysis Completed by SchoolWorks, Inc.

Referred to the Board by:
Fred Van Vleck, Ed.D., Superintendent

Van Vleck provided an overview to the Board on the District's requirements to complete a trustee boundary analysis, given the updated census data. Ken Reynolds, President of School Works, presented to the Board on the analysis. He reviewed the current trustee area boundary maps and provided the results of the analysis, which resulted in a peak deviation of 15.75%. Any District with a peak deviation over 10% must create new boundaries and a new map must be approved by February 2022.

Trustee Ollivier notes a preference to not have odd boundary lines and would like to see boundaries more aligned. Trustee Fernandez notes a preference, if possible, to have a school in each of the trustee areas.

Mr. Reynolds will go work on some models, and will bring this back to the Board with the trustee area options.

Q. CLOSED SESSION

Closed session continued on Item G(3).

R. RECONVENING OF OPEN SESSION

S. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

No reportable action on Item G(3).


T. INFORMATIONAL ONLY ITEMS

(20) Information Only: November 2021 - Review of CDE Calendar of Events

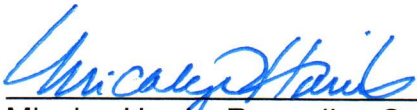
U. ADJOURNMENT

President Ollivier adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Fred Van Vleck, Ed.D.
Secretary of the Board of Education



Micalyn Harris, Recording Secretary