



Eureka City Schools | Board of Education
District Office - 2100 J Street - Eureka, CA 95501
Frances H. Taplin Board Room

Regular Meeting
6:30 PM
March 9, 2023
MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER OF STUDY SESSION (Room 118)

President Duncan called the open session to order at 1:33 p.m.

Members Present: Duncan, Johnson, Ollivier, Pardoe, Rebholtz

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Van Vleck, Ziegler, Storts, Will, Claussen, Harris

B. STUDY SESSION

- (1) Sexual Harassment Prevention Training and Brown Act Training | Presented by Thomas Gauthier, Esq. - LozanoSmith
Referred to the Board by:
Fred Van Vleck, Ed.D., Superintendent

The Board received Sexual Harassment Prevention Training and Brown Act Training presented by Thomas Gauthier, Esq. – LozanoSmith.

Management employees Storts, Ziegler, Will, and Claussen, attended the Sexual Harassment Training to fulfill the mandatory training requirement. Van Vleck and Harris attended both of the trainings.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Clerk Johnson reported that on Closed Session Item (7), the Board will be discussing the potential adoption of developer fees and potential litigation involving Academy of the Redwoods.

No public comment on closed session items.

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

President Duncan moved the meeting to closed session to discuss closed session items.

- (2) Public Employment (Gov. Code §54957) - See Personnel Action Report Consent Agenda Item No. K(13)
- (3) Public Employee Appointment (Gov. Code §54957) - See Personnel Action Report Consent Agenda Item No. K(13)
- (4) Public Employee Discipline, Dismissal, Release, Complaint, Accept the Resignation of a Public Employee (GC § 54957)
- (5) 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)
- (6) Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Gov. Code §54957) Title: Superintendent
- (7) Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation, Two Cases (GC § 54956.9) - Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Gov. Code §54956.9(d)(2)
- (8) Consideration of Student Expulsion (EC Sec 48918(c) or 760030) [Student #22-23-415; Resolution #22-23-011]

E. RECONVENING OF OPEN SESSION (Board Room)

President Duncan reconvened the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Members Present: Duncan, Johnson, Ollivier, Pardoe, Rebholtz

Members Absent: Smith

Staff Present: Van Vleck, Ziegler, Storts, Will, Claussen, Harris

F. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

In closed session, the Board took action to non-reelect 2.0 FTE Teachers.

Board members Pardoe, Rebholtz, Duncan, Ollivier, and Johnson, voted yes.

No Board members voted no.

Pursuant to Education Code section 44954, subdivisions (a) and (b), during the previous closed session, the Board acted to authorize the District Superintendent, or designee, to notify 8 temporary certificated employees (Teachers), that they will not be reemployed for the 2023-2024 school year. Trustees Rebholtz, Duncan, Ollivier, Johnson, and Pardoe, voted yes. No Trustees voted no.

No other reportable action.

G. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – Lafayette Elementary School

Students from the 4th grade class at Lafayette Elementary School led the Board in the pledge of allegiance.

H. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

(9) Approval of the Agenda

Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, notes Discussion/Action Items L(39), L(40), and L(41), need to be removed from the agenda. The County has not been able to reconcile past years books and until that is done the auditors are not able to finish the audit. This will come back to the Board at a future meeting.

It was M/S by Johnson/Ollivier to approve the Agenda, removing Items L(39), L(40), and L(41). Student Board Representative: yes 0, no 0, absent 1 (Smith). Governing Board: yes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

I. INFORMATION

(10) Student Reports

Roger Jones, a student at Zane Middle School, provided a student report to the Board. He notes recent activities in all grade levels including social events, sporting events, and future events. Students are practicing for upcoming STEAM performances. Leadership and ASB are working on a sexual assault prevention class in April. Some students participated in State History Day and behavior/bullying prevention at Zane. He notes ASB is concerned that ECS is cutting positions and believes there should be more staff on campus.

(11) Superintendent's Report – Van Vleck introduced Sierra Speer Dillon as the District's new Marketing and Communications Coordinator. She will be providing staff with updates on Board meetings and improving internal and external communications. The Equity Report will be reported out tonight, which is exciting. The Board will come together to reprioritize the strategic plan priority areas at a special board meeting next week.

(12) Board Members' Reports

Pardoe notes she attended MIG with Trustee Rebholtz. Rebholtz also attended lunch at Alice Birney and did a presentation at the hospital. Johnson read to students at Washington.

J. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Sonny Tripp, an Indigenous Education Advocate with the Northern California Indian Development Council, addressed the Board. His goals are to help bring positive

outcomes to students in the school districts. He has been in most schools throughout Humboldt and Del Norte and feels like ECS is the District that best represents Humboldt County as a society. There are many positive things occurring with ECS and Tripp thanked Assistant Superintendent Gary Storts for his partnership. They meet once a month to discuss issues that are affecting students and families. He is excited to see Indian issues and Indian people on the agenda. Humboldt County has a strong representation of Indian families and this is important.

Storts notes the District is considering an administrative-led immersive indigenous professional development opportunity for ECS Executive Council this summer.

Jocelyn Gibbons addressed the Board as a representative of the Grant PTA. The Grant PTA is hosting three parent events this year. The first parent event was last night and it went really well. Parents enjoyed dinner and breakout activities. There was a Spanish interpreter so all families could participate. The next family learning session is April 25th with dinner at 5:30 p.m. and presentations at 6:00 p.m. There are some great tips to maintain good mental health and tips on how to deal with issues families may be facing.

Terra Pennsy, a math teacher at Zane, addressed the Board regarding safety. It is her job to keep students safe but she does not feel safe at school. Students are assaulting teachers on a regular basis. Students are coming back to school after outbursts without the resources needed to be succeed. Violence prevention and safety are not being addressed at Zane. She provided examples of student outbursts and how cycles are repeating. She states she cannot offer the coping tools students need and has not received training to address these issues. She notes the ETA contract has sections about safety. She was recently attacked by a student and, upon notification, was told that the student had special circumstances. If students with special circumstances is allowed in the general school population, staff should be notified. She requested training for safety.

Chris Dudley addressed the Board regarding the District's priorities. He is concerned about the amount of administrative positions at the District Office. He believes talented educators are pulled out of the classroom and being replaced with new educators who need more and more support. All the new administrative positions are taking the talent within the classrooms and this impacts student learning. So much of the talent within ECS is sitting in positions that are not affecting student learning. When the Board considers funding, they need to remember those who affect student learning.

Will notes the District has hired classroom support staff around the District. There have been approximately 50 FTE in the past two years, including a few administrative positions. Both middle schools will likely get the community school grant next year, which will help.

Patricia Guerro addressed the Board regarding unsafe behaviors. This is the second time she has addressed the Board. She reviewed the classes she has taught at the middle school and high school level. Over the years, she has worked under eleven

different principals. There is an unhealthy culture and unsafe environment at Zane and low morale amongst staff and students. There have been many teachers who have left Zane in the last few years and many who wish to leave. The behavior from students is unsafe. She does not feel like teachers are listened to and it is a shame.

K. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- (13) Approval of Personnel Action Report No.10
Referred to the Board by:
Renaë Will, Executive Director of Personnel Services and Public Affairs
- (14) Approval of January 2023 Warrants
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (15) Approval of Fiscal Budget Services Agreement between School Services of California and Eureka City Schools
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (16) Approval of Change Order No. 4: EHS Science Building Project
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (17) Approval of Change Order No. 5: EHS Science Building Project
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (18) Approval of Declaration of Equipment as Surplus and Authorization to Sell
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (19) Approval and Receipt of Grant Award Notification: Education for Homeless Children and Youth
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (20) Approval of Minutes from the Regular Meeting on February 2, 2023
Referred to the Board by:
Fred Van Vleck, Ed.D., Superintendent
- (21) Approval of Eureka City Schools Comprehensive Site Safety Plans
Referred to the Board by:
Gary Storts, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

- (22) Approval of Intent to Apply for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) Funding
Referred to the Board by:
Gary Storts, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
- (23) Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between Eureka City Schools And Margaret Walkley, MSW, PPSC, IFECMH
Referred to the Board by:
Lisa Claussen, Director of Student Services
- (24) Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding Between Bridgeville Community Center And Marshall Family Resource Center
Referred to the Board by:
Lisa Claussen, Director of Student Services
- (25) Approval of the First Amendment Memorandum of Understanding By And Between County of Humboldt And Eureka City Schools District For Fiscal Years 2020-2021 Through 2023-2024
Referred to the Board by:
Lisa Claussen, Director of Student Services
- (26) Approval of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Collaborative Partnership Grant from Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services
Referred to the Board by:
Lisa Claussen, Director of Student Services
- (27) Approval of Grant Intent to Apply for Coast Central Credit Union Community Investment Program - Start/End Date: 2/28/23 - 8/31/23.
Referred to the Board by:
Lisa Claussen, Director of Student Services
- (28) Approval of Grant Award Notification (GAN): Career Technical Education Incentive Grant (CTEIG)
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (29) Approval for District Instructional Staff to to Travel Out-of-State and Attend the "Plain Talk About Literacy and Learning" Conference in March 2023
Referred to the Board by:
Gary Storts, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
- (30) Approval of Field Trip Requests: Various Field Trips - Eureka High School
Referred to the Board by:
Rena Will, Executive Director of Personnel Services and Public Affairs
- (31) Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between Eureka City Schools And Taffy Stockton, MBA

Referred to the Board by:
Lisa Claussen, Director of Student Services

- (32) Approval of Grant Intent to Apply: California Serves Grant Program for Eureka High School

Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

- (33) Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the Humboldt County Office of Education and Eureka City Schools regarding the Mental and Behavioral Health Careers Pathway Pilot Project

Referred to the Board by:
Rena Will, Executive Director of Personnel Services and Public Affairs

- (34) Agreement between Eureka City Schools (ECS) and Craven Construction Services for Inspection Services: Eureka High School Albee Stadium Project

Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

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

L. DISCUSSION/ACTION

- (35) Consideration of Student Expulsion (EC Sec 48918(c) or 760030).[Student #22-23-415; Resolution #22-23-011]

Referred to the Board by:
Lisa Claussen, Director of Student Services

It was M/S by Johnson/Ollivier to approve the Student Expulsion (EC Sec 48918(c) or 760030).[Student #22-23-415; Resolution #22-23-011]. Student Board Representative: aye 0, no 0, absent 1 (Smith). Governing Board: ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

- (36) Consideration of Resolution 22-23-014 to Eliminate/Reduce Classified Positions

Referred to the Board by:
Rena Will, Executive Director of Personnel Services and Public Affairs

Will addressed the Board regarding this item. The Board is asked to approve Resolution 22-23-014 to Eliminate/Reduce Classified positions. She consulted with CSEA in March regarding the impacted positions. These positions were initially posted as short-term positions, with an end date of June 30, 2023. The District is required to give notice to employees if they believe there will be a reduction, and this action is in compliance with that required timeline.

Jeff Bird, a PE teacher at Zane, addressed the Board. This is his first year at EHS. He knows there are reasons for the cuts and believes the District has good intentions. However, he is worried about positions that are being cut by 40%, such as a specific position at Zane. He notes the person in this position is skilled in deescalating situations, has coached multiple teams, helps other teachers, and collaborates on various events. Even during the off-season, this employee assists with events, even though he is not paid for the additional work. This person in the affected position is a big deal to students and a huge part of the Zane staff. He is concerned new positions are being created and filled at the District-level, while positions for staff who deal directly with students are being cut. He feels like the money and priority is not where it needs to be.

Julie Stewart, a teacher at Zane, urged the District not to decrease the hours of classified staff. She believes decreasing hours and position show a disconnect between the needs of the sites and the District/Board. The behaviors are a cry for help, which require more support. Retention has been a focus at ECS and if we build a District prioritizing safety and success, more families will come. If the District chips away at the foundation, the District will lose students families. Teachers are dealing with major issues due to dysregulated students. Staff are seeing an increase in dysregulated behaviors and there are issues with reentry. She notes some staff have left and she is concerned the District will lose quality staff who are supporting students.

Aaron Freeman addressed the Board regarding the District's Strategic Plan priority area regarding social emotional and mental health. He provided examples of how one of the staff who affected by the reduction is a valuable member of the Zane team and has fostered relationships with students and the school community as a whole. By cutting hours, the District is forcing employees to find other positions, which does not benefit students. He notes the District says it values the mental and social emotional health of students but talk is cheap and action is hard. Students deserve action. Teachers and staff are already stretched thin and staff are facing disruptive behaviors in the classroom.

Kayla Rodgers, a teacher at Zane, addressed the Board. This year, she notes students are actively trying to get away from other students. She is observing behaviors that she has never dealt with before. Students are negatively affecting the learning environment with their behavior. The classified staff are the first staff to deal with the difficult situations. Admin are tied-down with meetings and other staff are triaging students and providing support. The formula used to determine how many support staff are provided to each staff is inadequate. Rodgers believes the formula should take other factors into consideration. She is discouraged the District is cutting additional staff when more supervision support is needed. The loss of the counselor was felt tremendously. There is not enough support to help with the dysregulated kids.

Will notes decisions are made based on positions, not people, and the District is required to follow the legal timelines regarding notice to employees. Employees with seniority who are affected by the eliminations and reductions will have an option to bump back into a different position, and go through a specific process. The potential action tonight is based on a conservative approach and enrollment projections. The District is required to notify any employee if they will be laid off and the District can pullback a layoff notice if a projection changes.

A Trustee requested the District consider looking outside the formula for Zane, such as what was done previously when Winship faced difficult situations. Van Vleck notes this is possible but the Board will still need to take action on this item, due to the compliance timelines required by Ed Code. There are no easy solutions to the issues faced at any of the school sites and supports put in place do take time. Van Vleck reiterated this action is based on positions, not individual people. There are many tough decisions that the Board will have to make in the future, as funding is not guaranteed.

It was M/S by Johnson/Ollivier to approve Resolution 22-23-014 to Eliminate/Reduce Classified Positions. Student Board Representative: aye 0, no 0, absent 1 (Smith). Governing Board: ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

- (37) Board's Nomination for Election Ballot for the 2023 CSBA Delegate Assembly Election
Referred to the Board by:
Fred Van Vleck, Ed.D., Superintendent

It was M/S by Pardoe/Johnson to approve Lisa Ollivier as the Board's Nomination for Election Ballot for the 2023 CSBA Delegate Assembly Election Student Board Representative: aye 0, no 0, absent 1 (Smith). Governing Board: ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

- (38) Approval of 2022-2023 Second Interim Report
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

Ziegler provided a review to the Board on the 2nd Interim Report. He reviewed key considerations including revenue, reserves, economic outlook, expenditures, staffing levels, enrollment/ADA, and the 2023/2024 May Revision to the Governor's Budget. Ziegler reviewed the general fund operating assumptions, LCFF revenue projections, recap of one-time funding, etc.

It was M/S by Johnson/Pardoe to approve the 2022-2023 Second Interim Report with a positive certification. Representative: aye 0, no 0, absent 1 (Smith). Governing Board: ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

~~(39) — Receipt of the 2021-2022 Independent Audit Report~~

~~Referred to the Board by:~~

~~Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services~~

Note: Item removed from agenda, under "Adjustment to the Agenda."

~~(40) — Receipt of the Measure S 2021-2022 Bond Financial and Performance Audit Report~~

~~Referred to the Board by:~~

~~Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services~~

Note: Item removed from agenda, under "Adjustment to the Agenda."

~~(41) — Receipt of the Measure T 2021-2022 Bond Financial and Performance Audit Report~~

~~Referred to the Board by:~~

~~Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services~~

Note: Item removed from agenda, under "Adjustment to the Agenda."

M. DISCUSSION

(42) Eureka City Schools Special Education Annual Report

Referred to the Board by:

Lisa Claussen, Director of Student Services

Claussen provided the Board with the annual report on special education. She reviewed the support provided at each of the sites, data on students receiving services, special education teachers, information on students receiving speech services, psychology services, compliance monitoring, and future items.

(43) Local Control Accountability Plan Update

Referred to the Board by:

Gary Storts, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

Storts provided an LCAP update to the Board.

(44) Eureka City Schools Instructional Coaches Annual Report and Update

Referred to the Board by:

Gary Storts, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

Jennifer Johnson, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, provided an update to the Board on Instructional Coaches at ECS. She reviewed the members of the elementary and secondary teams, the value of instructional coaches throughout the District, the student-centered coaching model, types of coaching being offers (i.e. coaching cycles, curriculum and strategy support,

classroom management, peer observations, data days, classified coaching), and other duties.

- (45) Presentation, Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE)
Referred to the Board by:
Gary Storts, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

Storts provided an update to the Board on the PIQE programs through ECS. This program offers families an opportunity to build community, which is exciting. The program has boosted a higher level of engagement at the sites.

- (46) Report on the Eureka City Schools Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Audit
Referred to the Board by:
Gary Storts, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

Storts provided the Board with a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion audit. He provided the Board with copies of the audit and made additional copies available for members of the public. Storts reviewed the background and timelines related to the audit, the scope of work noted in the request for proposals, the Prismatic process (data analyzed, surveys, interviews), framework used to assess diversity, equity, and inclusion, etc. Prismatic provided findings which note opportunities for growth as well as areas the District is performing well in. Storts reviewed the commendations and recommendations with the Board.

Van Vleck notes this is the first time the Board has seen this report, as it was in draft form previously and not attached to the Board item. The Board would like this item be brought back after the District has put a committee together and they have had an opportunity to meet and review the audit.

- (47) Report on Technology Infrastructure
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

Marcel van Dissel, Director of Information Technology, provided the annual report to the Board. He reviewed department staff, challenges (including backorders), a summary of infrastructure, e-rate, 1:1 computer/student ratios based on the current chromebook distribution, software/platform adoptions and implementations, computers and peripherals, phone system, etc.

- (48) Policy Updates from CSBA - September 2022 (First Review)
Referred to the Board by:
Fred Van Vleck, Ed.D., Superintendent

This item will come back to the Board on Consent.

N. CLOSED SESSION

Closed session did not continue.

O. RECONVENING OF OPEN SESSION

Not applicable. Closed session did not continue.

P. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

Not applicable. Closed session did not continue.

Q. INFORMATIONAL ONLY ITEMS

(49) Information Only: April 2023 - Review of CDE Calendar of Events

(50) Information Only: Meaningful Board Report (Future Annual Items)

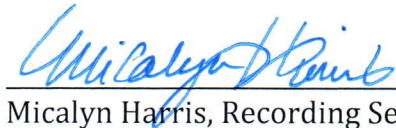
R. ADJOURNMENT

President Duncan adjourned the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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



Micalyn Harris, Recording Secretary