



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 14, 2024
MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER OF OPEN SESSION

President Johnson called the open session to order at 5:00 p.m.

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Storts, Ziegler, Johnson, Will, Claussen, Harris

B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Thomas Stewart provided public comment to the Board. He referenced pictures that were emailed to the Board and notes different locations in the community that could provide parking and/or housing. He provided information on fortress fences that are becoming common place in the community. He shared via email a photo of the street view of Jacobs and is concerned with the site not having been secured. He reviewed other concerning aspects of the Jacobs campus, including noise concerns, and information about the City of Eureka parking lots.

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

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

- (1) Public Employment (Gov. Code §54957) - See Personnel Action Report Consent Agenda Item No. J(10)
- (2) Public Employee Discipline, Dismissal, Release, Complaint, Accept the Resignation of a Public Employee (GC § 54957)

- (3) Conference with Labor Negotiator Superintendent Storts 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 Real Property Negotiator Superintendent Storts Regarding Jacobs Building and 3553 I Street Properties Concerning Price and/or Terms of Payment (GC § 54956.8) (Negotiating Party: AMG Communities-Jacobs, LLC)
- (5) Consideration of Stipulated Expulsion with Suspended Enforcement [EC Sec 48915] [Student #23-24-7003; Resolution #23-24-027]

D. RECONVENING OF OPEN SESSION (Board Room)

President Johnson reconvened the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Storts, Ziegler, Johnson, Will, Claussen, Harris

E. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

On Closed Session Item C(5), the Board took action to approve **Resolution 23-24-027**, the Stipulated Expulsion with Suspended Enforcement for Student #23-24-7003 pursuant to Education Code Section 48915. On this item, Board members Ollivier, Duncan, Rebholtz, Pardoe, and Johnson, voted yes. No trustees were absent.

Pursuant to Education Code section 44954, subdivisions (a) and (b), during the previous closed session, the Board adopted **Resolution 23-24-029** to authorize the District Superintendent, or designee, to notify 16 temporary certificated employees (Teachers), that they will not be reemployed for the 2024-2025 school year. **Trustees Duncan, Rebholtz, Pardoe, Johnson, and Ollivier, voted in favor of the release.**

In closed session the Board adopted **Resolution 23-24-030** and took action to non-reelect 3.0 FTE Teachers. **Board members Rebholtz, Pardoe, Johnson, Ollivier, and Duncan, voted yes.**

During the previous closed session, the Board adopted **Resolution 23-24-035** and acted to authorize the District Superintendent, or designee, to notify an administrator, pursuant to Education Code section 44951, that he or she will be released from his or her position, 1.0 FTE, for the 2024-2025 school year. **The vote was unanimously in favor.**

F. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – Winzler Children’s Center

Students from Winzler Children’s Center led the Board in the pledge of allegiance.

G. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

- (6) Approval of the Agenda

Superintendent Storts requests Consent Item J(21) be pulled from the Consent Calendar. The Board will not be taking action on this item.

It was M/S by Duncan/Olliver to approve the Agenda, removing Item J(21). Student Board Representative: yes 1, no 0, absent 0. Governing Board: yes 5, no 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

H. INFORMATION

(7) Student Reports – No student reports.

(8) Superintendent's Report

- Storts asked the Board who will attend the upcoming student Board member interviewed and confirmed the two trustees will be Trustee Rebholtz and Trustee Ollivier.
- A Special Meeting was scheduled for April 2nd at 4:00 p.m. to review Governance Handbook. This will be rescheduled due to Board member availability.
- The next regular meeting is April 4, 2024, and all Board members will be present with the exception of Trustee Duncan.
- Over President's Break, Storts attended the Dual Enrollment Conference in Long Beach, CA. This was a productive conference included collaborative time with staff from College of the Redwoods.
- Staff members from the Northern California Indian Development Council (NCIDC) and ACLU were at the District today and spoke about the process of working with indigenous learners since the Failing Grade Report came out a few years ago. The NCIDC/ACLU will be doing a short documentary on the work being done at ECS.
- The District will be hosting the first ever Tribal Meaningful Consultation Summit, which will be an exciting event. This gathering will bring all the tribes together at the end of May to discuss how to best serve all students.
- Storts attended the True North Conference at HCOE.
- Storts provided an update to the Board on the ongoing March listening sessions, which are going very well. One of the takeaways at this point is to ensure the information is relevant and meaningful. Students also show a common desire to see students be kind to each other.
- Tomorrow is the a full day of professional development for District staff.

(9) Board Members' Reports

Salas provided an update on site activities including Zane, Lafayette, Washington, Winship, Grant, and EHS. She also shared information on the 2nd Annual Multicultural Night, which will take place on the gym on Sunday, April 7th from 5:00-8:00 p.m., and information on a basketball camp she has scheduled for local youth during Spring Break.

Ollivier attended the FFA State Awards dinner at the Ferndale Fairgrounds to see 21 students receive their State FFA degree. It was a great event and over 200 students received state degrees at the regional meeting.

Duncan went to watch the girls play at NCS but the event was sold out.

Rebholtz notes she continues to volunteer and just finished placing a spirit wear at Grant. She also spent some time at Winzler and it was great. She is looking forward to attending some of the future listening sessions.

Pardoe enjoyed reading to students at Read Across American and attending the listening session at Zane.

Johnson attended the listening session at Winship, which she enjoyed.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Azalea Trinity, a senior at Zoe Barnum student, provided information on the impact Jennifer Johnston, a teacher at Zoe has had on her. She notes she received many skills relating to culinary events, serving, and also attended a “No Tobacco” protest in Sacramento. She notes Johnson also helped her get a good job and has had an impact on her journey into adulthood. She has been a push of motivation on attending college. Johnson is generous person, who truly wants her students to succeed. She wants to see Jennifer continue to provide these services and supports to other students.

Ray Williams recently starting subbing at ECS and notes concerns with some of the safety process. He would like to be consistent expectations at each school. He is noticing a lot of safety issues and would like to have aides get certified to help handle some of the serious situations. He would like students to get access to resources sooner. A lot of people are looking for a safe environment and a safe place to go after school. Students are being subjected to difficult situations and he is concerned they may feel unsafe.

Thomas Stewart notes he met the previous superintendent about five years ago and, when asked, he claims that superintendent didn’t know if the District taught finance or not. He notes the importance of knowing finance and believes it impacts all areas of a student’s life. He believes 80% of students in the United States have no finance training. He is upset Government leaders are also clueless when it comes to finance. He provided information on crypto currency.

Shelly addressed the Board and notes she is a parent at Washington School. She sent the Board an email earlier and is concerned about student safety in her daughter’s classroom. There have been have seven evacuations in her daughter’s class due to one student. This type of behavior halts the learning for all students. The student involved disregards the safety of others and has claimed he will bring a knife to school and potentially kill himself. Students cannot be expected to continue learning when this is occurring. This behavior is impacting all students. What she is being told by the District is occurring is not what is occurring. There needs to be consistency.

Alex Quezada is also a parent of a student at Washington. His son is in the same class and being impacted by the behavior of one student. Parents are not being notified and are therefore not finding out about things until 2-3 weeks after events have occurred. The students are being treated like criminals because of the actions of one. The student needs additional support but should not be allowed in the classroom when the student is out of control.

Crystal Johanson addressed the Board with the same concerns. She notes she has a student experiencing many of the same behaviors. She is changing her student's school because of the behavior of one student, which does not seem fair. It feels like there is an inequality with behaviors.

J. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- (10) Approval of Personnel Action Report No. 11
Referred to the Board by:
Renaë Will, Executive Director of Personnel Services and Public Affairs
- (11) Approval of Minutes from the Special Meeting on February 13, 2024 and the Regular Meeting on February 15, 2024
Referred to the Board by:
Gary Storts, Superintendent
- (12) Approval of Grant Intent to Apply for Eureka High School: Connect to Coast
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (13) Approval of February 2024 Warrants
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (14) Approval of Adoption of the 2023-2024 Transportation Services Plan
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (15) Intent to Apply for the Professional Services Agreement By and Between County of Humboldt and Eureka City Schools for Fiscal Years 2024-2025 to 2025-2026
Referred to the Board by:
Lisa Claussen, Director of Student Services
- (16) Approval of Extension of Memorandum of Understanding Between Eureka City Schools and Taffy Stockton, MBA
Referred to the Board by:
Lisa Claussen, Director of Student Services

- (17) Approval of Receipt of Grant Award Notification: After School Education and Safety Program
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (18) Approval of Grant Award Notification (GAN): Career Technical Education Incentive Grant (CTEIG)
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (19) Approval of Grant Intent to Apply for Humboldt Bridges to Success: Coast Central Credit Union Community Investment Program
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (20) Approval of Grant Intent to Apply for Eureka High School: Ports Blended Access
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- ~~(21) Approval of Partnership Between Humboldt County Office of Education and Eureka City Schools for the Golden State Pathways Grant
Referred to the Board by:
Jennifer Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
Removed From the Consent Calendar – No Action Taken~~
- (22) Approval of Grant Intent to Apply for Community Schools: Community Engagement Initiative (CEI)
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- (23) Approval of Field Trip Request - Indian Education College and Trade School Tour - April 15-18, 2024
Referred to the Board by:
Renaë Will, Executive Director of Personnel Services and Public Affairs

Student Board Representative: yes 1, no 0, absent 0. Governing Board: yes 5, no 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

K. DISCUSSION/ACTION

- (24) District to Adopt Initial District Proposal for the 2024-2027 Negotiations Between Eureka City Schools and the CSEA Redwood Chapter #88
Referred to the Board by:
Renaë Will, Executive Director of Personnel Services and Public Affairs

Will notes the sunshine proposal was shared at the last Board meeting.

Jacquie Hagans addressed the Board on current salary schedules and the inequity she felt from the previous salary schedule change. When the current salary schedule was adopted, she did receive a pay raise, but the step was lower. She believes this inequity really came to light when a replacement was hired, after she announced her retirement. When she started in the role, had extensive bookkeeping experience, and the person who replaced her did not have the same experience. The person that replaced her received \$2 more per hour. She urged the Board to recognize employees who should receive longevity to help balance out the inequity. When they leave, this increase would go away, but would be in investment for employees who choose to stay. She also encouraged the Board not to be put in the same position when minimum wage is increasing to get addressed ever year, as part of the plan, so this schedule does not collapse because of minimum wage increases.

It was M/S by Johnson/Duncan to Adopt Initial District Proposal for the 2024-2027 Negotiations Between Eureka City Schools and the CSEA Redwood Chapter #88. Student Board Representative: aye 1, no 0, absent 0. Governing Board: ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

- (25) District to Adopt Initial District Proposal for the 2024-2027 Negotiations Between Eureka City Schools and the Eureka Teachers Association/CTA/NEA Referred to the Board by:
Renae Will, Executive Director of Personnel Services and Public Affairs

Will notes the sunshine proposal was shared publicly at the last meeting --- now for adoption.

It was M/S by Ollivier/Duncan to Adopt Initial District Proposal for the 2024-2027 Negotiations Between Eureka City Schools and the Eureka Teachers Association/CTA/NEA Student Board Representative: aye 1, no 0, absent 0. Governing Board: ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

- (26) Consideration of Resolution 23-24-028 to Eliminate/Reduce Classified Positions
Referred to the Board by:
Renae Will, Executive Director of Personnel Services and Public Affairs

Will notes this is always a difficult time of year, as positions are sometimes impacted. Staff worked with the Executive team to try and make the best choices for the District. Many of the individuals who will be impacted by the positions being eliminated or reduced. The District also maintains a seniority list, so laid off employees have option for rehire. The District has many positions where there is a start/end date and funding out of various accounts.

It was M/S by Duncan/Ollivier to approve Resolution 23-24-028 to Eliminate/Reduce Classified Positions Student Board Representative: aye 1, no 0, absent 0. Governing Board: ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

- (27) Consideration of and Possible Action on Resolution 23-24-031 Regarding Certificated Reduction in Force (0.6 FTE Layoff)

Referred to the Board by:

Renae Will, Executive Director of Personnel Services and Public Affairs

Will notes the District has a particular kind of service (PSK) layoff, which reduced the sections of one teacher. This is the only PSK reduction.

It was M/S by Duncan/Ollivier to approve Resolution 23-24-031 Regarding Certificated Reduction in Force (0.6 FTE Layoff). Student Board

Representative: aye 1, no 0, absent 0. Governing Board: ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

- (28) Approval of 2023-2024 Second Interim Report

Referred to the Board by:

Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

Ziegler provided an overview of the 2023-2024 second interim report. He reviewed the key considerations including the expiration of one-time funds, shifting fiscal outlook, updated COLA projections, declining enrollment and ADA, reserve levels, compensation and negotiations, facilities, site/special education supports, staffing levels, and deficit spending. He reviewed the LCFF revenue year-over-year comparison, LCFF revenue projections, special education costs, and unrestricted reserves components.

It was M/S by Duncan/Johnson to positively certify the 2023-2024 Second Interim Report. Student Board Representative: aye 1, no 0, absent 0. Governing Board: ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

- (29) Certification of the 2022-2023 Audit Findings Corrective Plans and Recommendations

Referred to the Board by:

Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

The District is required to update the Board on audit findings and the corrective plans and recommendations. Since the time of the certifications, the District and James Marta have mutually agreed to part ways, due to the amount of hours spent on the audit process. At the next Board meeting, the District will be recommending a different auditing firm for future years. Ziegler reviewed each of the findings and reviewed the corrective plans with the Board.

It was M/S by Rebholtz/Ollivier to approve the Certification of the 2022-2023 Audit Findings Corrective Plans and Recommendations. Student Board Representative: aye 1, no 0, absent 0. Governing Board: ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

- (30) Approval of Resolution No. 23-24-033: Committing Funds
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

This is a routine item but needs to occur on discussion/action. Ziegler reviewed the process of committing funds, which protects the funds from being spent on specific items and cannot be spend on items outside of that.

It was M/S by Johnson/Duncan to approve Resolution No. 23-24-033: Committing Funds. Student Board Representative: aye 1, no 0, absent 0. Governing Board: ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

- (31) Resolution #23-24-032: Resolution to Transfer from General Fund 01 Committed Fund Balance Reserves to Special Reserve Fund for Capital Outlay Projects 40
Referred to the Board by:
Paul Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

Ziegler notes the Board just approved Resolution 23-24-033 and is now being asked to move funds into Fund 40, to set that money aside to address funding issues relating to Albee Stadium. Ziegler is hopeful construction on Albee Stadium will start in May. General discussion on the Albee Stadium project.

It was M/S by Johnson/Rebholtz to approve Resolution #23-24-032: Resolution to Transfer from General Fund 01 Committed Fund Balance Reserves to Special Reserve Fund for Capital Outlay Projects 40. Student Board Representative: aye 1, no 0, absent 0. Governing Board: ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0. Motion carried.

L. DISCUSSION

- (32) Annual Special Education Update
Referred to the Board by:
Lisa Claussen, Director of Student Services

Claussen provided the annual Special Education Update to the Board. She reviewed data, EL and speech data, psychological services, compliance and continuous improvement monitoring (CIM), preschool, elementary, secondary, and future plans.

- (33) Proposition 28 - Arts and Music in Schools Update
Referred to the Board by:
Jennifer Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

Johnson provided an update to the Board on Visual and Performing Arts at

ECS. Johnson reviewed new items relating to visual and performing arts including updated guidelines, funding, planning for elementary, middle school, and high school VAPA (current and proposed plan).

- (34) Local Control Accountability Plan Update
Referred to the Board by:
Jennifer Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

Johnson provided an update to the Board on the LCAP participation survey and provided information on the questions asked, ratings, keyword themes, and other data obtained.

M. CLOSED SESSION

Closed session did not continue.

N. RECONVENING OF OPEN SESSION

Not applicable. Closed session did not continue.

O. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

Not applicable. Closed session did not continue.

P. INFORMATIONAL ONLY ITEMS

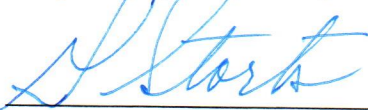
(35) Information Only: April 2024 - Review of CDE Calendar of Events

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

Q. ADJOURNMENT

President Johnson adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Gary Storts, Superintendent
Secretary of the Board of Education



Micalyn Harris, Recording Secretary