



Board Members Present: Mr. Gary Knackstedt, President; Dr. Rommel Bal, Vice-President; Mrs. Susan Macfarlane; Mr. Joe Nava; Mr. Courtney Porter; and Mr. Jeff Stroh

Board Member Absent: Ms. Sherry Alexander, Clerk

Administrative Staff: Mr. Neil Young, Superintendent; Dr. David Horton, Associate Superintendent; Mrs. Edith Holbert, Executive Director, Operations; and Mrs. April Juarez, Executive Director, Fiscal Services

Student Representatives: Ms. Katelyn Gauna, Lodi High School, and Mr. Raphael Aseron, Ronald McNair High School

Meeting Recorder: Mrs. Valerie McFee, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the James Areida Education Support Center, 1305 East Vine Street, Lodi, CA, and broadcast on YouTube.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

No comments were received prior to the Board adjourning to Closed Session.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting reconvened at 7:08 p.m. Attendance was recorded and President Knackstedt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

President Knackstedt reported the following action was taken in Closed Session:

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Mrs. Macfarlane motioned, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted to approve Case SPE2024-25-01, by the following vote:

Ayes:	Bal, Knackstedt, Macfarlane, Nava, Porter, and Stroh	
Noes:	none	
Abstain:	none	
Absent:	Alexander	Motion Carried

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Dr. Bal motioned, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted to approve Case OAH 2024050667, by the following vote:

Ayes:	Bal, Knackstedt, Macfarlane, Nava, Porter, and Stroh	
Noes:	none	
Abstain:	none	
Absent:	Alexander	Motion Carried

Conference with Agency Representative: District Representative: District Legal Counsel/Unrepresented Employee: Superintendent

President Knackstedt reported that the Board and the Superintendent reached tentative agreement on the terms of amendments to the Superintendent's employment contract which will be approved by the Board in open session later during this meeting, as required by law. He stated that printed copies of the amendment are available on the back table.

Moment of Silence

President Knackstedt conducted a moment of silence to acknowledge the passing of Christiesue Hoover, Cafeteria Supervisor II, Tokay High School. The Board extended condolences to her family, the staff of Tokay High School and the Nutrition Services Department.

Public Hearing

The public hearing "Sufficiency of Instructional Materials" was declared open.

Public Comments:

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, Lodi Education Association

The public hearing was declared closed.

Comments from Student Representatives

Mr. Raphael Aseron, Ronald McNair High School, and Ms. Katelyn Gauna, Lodi High School, presented reports from their respective schools.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Young shared that KCRA did an interview with Lupe Villalba, Account Technician, Transportation, spotlighting the California law that requires drivers to stop when a school bus has its red lights flashing and stop sign extended, indicating that children are getting on or off the bus. During the interview Ms. Villalba also shared how to apply to work as a bus driver for the district. Mr. Young shared information regarding a recent public service announcement the district created regarding the dangers of making online threats.

Mr. Young commented that he met today with the student government class at Bear Creek High School and thanked Jason Johnson for sharing his class today. Mr. Young noted that he will also be meeting with the student government classes at the other four high schools. Superintendent Young highlighted the upcoming Lodi High v. Tokay High football game happening on Friday evening and noted that August 27 is the date of the annual College and Career Night, this year being hosted at Ronald McNair High School.

Comments from Employee Representatives

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association, shared concern about the district adhering to contractual language for class sizes, additional certificated or classified assistance when over the class size limits, and the number of teachers working at 120 percent contracts. She described difficulties for high school teachers in severely handicapped classes having to forgo prep periods. She also spoke of the lack of school bus drivers impacting elementary school transportation.

Comments from the Public

Kelly Hansston, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary, spoke of concerns for students needing extra help and asked that we put our heads together for solutions. She noted that class size is always an issue and perhaps the district can find funding sources to do things different to get a different result.

Anne Swehla-Garcia, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary, provided an update on her school site; however, she noted that classroom materials are slow to arrive. She thanked Principal, Jeff Pappas and Director, Susan Petersen, for helping. She invited Board to visit the campus.

Caren Weber, Teacher/Parent, John Muir Elementary, voiced concern over the timelines and logistics for kindergarten students at her school site to obtain Chromebooks for the start of the new school year.

Public Comments on Consent Agenda A

Anne Swehla-Garcia, Representative, Lodi Education Association, commented on Item A-1, Contracts List and the contact for John Yarbrough to provide mental health services.

Paul Warren, Administrative Director, Student Services/SELPA, provided clarification.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

- Item A-1 Contracts List (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-2 Warrant Report (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-3 Changes to the Adopted Budget (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-4 Approval of Certificated and Classified Personnel Matters (Ms. Vetica)
- Item A-5 Notice of Completion for Public Works Projects under the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA) (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-6 Resolution 2024-81 Finding that Board Member Susan Macfarlane was Absent from the Regular Board Meeting of July 16, 2024 (Mr. Young)
- Item A-7 Resolution 2024-82 Finding that Board Member Sherry Alexander was Absent from the Regular Board Meeting of August 6, 2024 (Mr. Young)
- Item A-8 Resolution 2024-83 Authorizing Filing of the Notice of Completion for the Phase 1 Flooring Replacement at Multiple School Sites – Project No. 3213-4416-6 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-9 Resolution 2024-84 Authorizing Filing of the Notice of Completion for the Davis Elementary School Re-Roofing – Project No. 3213-4416-3 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-10 Resolution 2024-85 Authorizing Filing of the Notice of Completion for the Delta Sierra Middle School Paving Replacement – Project No. 8150-5830-7 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-11 Phase 1 Flooring Replacement at Multiple School Sites Project 3213-4416-6 Deductive Change Order 1 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-12 Delta Sierra Middle School Paving Replacement Project 8150-5830-7 Deductive Change Order 1 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-13 Addition of Speak Life Speech Services, Inc. to the 2024-25 Non-Public Agency Master Contract (Mr. Warren)
- Item A-14 Revisions to Board Policies: BP 5141.31 Immunizations; BP 6159.1 Procedural Safeguards and Complaints for Special Education; BP 6159.2 Nonpublic Nonsectarian School and Agency Services for Special Education; BP 6159.3 Appointment of Surrogate Parent for Special Education Student. Proposing deletion of obsolete Board Policies: BP 6159.4 Behavioral Intervention for Special Education Students; BP 6159.9 Least Restrictive Environment; BP 6159.6 Placement of Transfer Students with Exceptional Needs; BP 6159.8 Termination of Placement in Special Education Programs; BP 6159.9 Provision of Special Education Services

To Students Voluntarily Enrolled in Charter Schools; BP 6164.3 Comprehensive Local Plan for Special Education (Mr. Warren)
Item A-15 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 6, 2024 (Mr. Young)

Dr. Bal moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted to approve Consent Agenda A, Routine Business, as presented, as follows:

Ayes: Bal, Knackstedt, Macfarlane, Nava, Porter, and Stroh
Noes: none
Abstain: none
Absent: Alexander Motion Carried

Student Representatives voted unanimously to abstain.

Public Comments on Consent Agenda B

No comments were received for Consent Agenda B.

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

Item B-1 Suspended Expulsion: Student # 23/24-11-92
Item B-2 Expulsion: Student # 23/24-7-93
Item B-3 Expulsion: Student # 23/24-8-94
Item B-4 Expulsion: Student # 23/24-9-95

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted to approve Consent Agenda B, Student Discipline Cases, as presented, as follows:

Ayes: Bal, Knackstedt, Macfarlane, Nava, Porter, and Stroh
Noes: none
Abstain: none
Absent: Alexander Motion Carried

Other Action Items

Item OAI-1 Approval of Job Descriptions/Revision to Existing Job Descriptions for Business Services Restructure

Edith Holbert, Executive Director, Operations, presented the job descriptions for Board review.

Public Comments:

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, Lodi Education Association

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted to approve Item OAI-1 Approval of Job Descriptions/Revision to Existing Job Descriptions for Business Services Restructure, as follows:

Ayes: Bal, Knackstedt, Macfarlane, Nava, Porter, and Stroh
Noes: none
Abstain: none
Absent: Alexander Motion Carried

Student Representatives voted unanimously aye.

Item OAI-2 Ratification/Approval of Amendments to Superintendent’s Employment Contract

Board President Knackstedt presented the proposed amendment to the Superintendent’s contract.

Public Comments

Anne Swehla-Garcia, Representative, Lodi Education Association
Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Porter asked to table the item until Board has a better idea of the entirety of the Superintendent’s contract.

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Nava seconded, and the Board voted to table Item OAI-2 Ratification/Approval of Amendments to Superintendent’s Employment Contract, as follows:

Ayes:	Bal, Macfarlane, Nava, Porter, and Stroh	
Noes:	Knackstedt	
Abstain:	none	
Absent:	Alexander	Motion Carried

Student Representatives voted unanimously to abstain.

Reports

Revisions to Board Policies & Rules: BP 1250 Visitors/Outsiders; BP 4033 Lactation Accommodation; BP 4119.11, BP 4219.11, BP 4319.11 Personnel Sexual Harassment; BP 4119.25, 4219.25 Political Activities of Employees; BR 4119.25, 4219.25 Political Activities of Employees; BP 5020 Parent Rights and Responsibilities; BP 5022 Student and Family Privacy Rights; BP 5145.12 Search and Seizure; and BP 5125.1 Release of Directory Information;

David Horton, Associate Superintendent, presented the proposed revisions and deletions to Board policies and rules and noted that the recommended language is from the Federal Program Monitoring process and California School Boards Association language to bring policies up to date.

Public Comments

Anne Swehla-Garcia, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary

Board Member Porter inquired about the revision of Board policy 4119.25 regarding political activities.

Discussion ensued.

Dr. Bal spoke regarding the policy for lactation accommodation, asking for clarification of reasonable amount of brektime and who decides what is reasonable. Superintendent Young provided an example of how reasonable accommodation could be an ongoing process, as needs change.

Proposed Board Rule Revisions: BR 5144 Student Discipline; BR 5145.2 Freedom of Speech-Expression; BR 5131.9 Academic Honesty

Dr. Horton presented proposed revisions to three Board policies in the 5000-policy series.

Dr. Bal asked for clarification regarding aspects of Board rule 5131.9 Academic Honesty in terms of artificial intelligence (AI) and student publications.

Discussion ensued.

Title IX Coordinator Job Description

Superintendent Young presented the job description and explained it is needed in response to Federal Program Monitoring and California Department of Education guidance for insuring that the district has clear direction for the person assigned Title IX primary duties and responsibilities. He provided clarification that this is not an increase in staffing.

Public Comments:

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association

Board Member Advisory Reports

No advisory reports were presented.

Comments from Board Members

Mr. Porter noted that as a former high school department head, he understands the flexibility the 120 teacher contracts provide. He shared that for administration and department heads at the high school level, 120 contracts are easier for everybody if there are not enough teachers or good candidates available. It is a longer day for teachers; however, it helps out kids and the school. He questioned class sizes, staffing, and the availability of Chromebooks in preparation for the start of school.

Dr. Bal noted that we started the process of revising Board policies and rules in September of last year. She would like a report as to how many more Board polices are pending and a potential end date. Superintendent Young noted he will look at where we are in the process and provide that information. Dr. Bal voiced her support and spoke for the importance of teacher aides in classrooms. She suggested that graduating seniors and/or parents might be interested in information towards a pathway to acquire such positions.

Mr. Stroh visited Tokay High School this week. He reflected on the conversations from the last meeting regarding the frustrations of the library media technicians and noted that the job is a lot different than in prior years. Mr. Stroh shared a story of a LUSD school bus driver going above and beyond to accommodate students and parents and he highlighted the importance of school crossing guards.

Mr. Knackstedt shared information from his end of the year visits to Christa McAuliffe Middle, Manlio Silva, Julia Morgan, Creekside, John Muir, and Bear Creek High School.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

President of the Board