

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**CALL TO ORDER/MEETING PLACE**

The Superintendent, Dr. Knight presided over the Organizational meeting until the new Board President was elected. Dr. Knight called the Organizational meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. On March 17, 2020, Gov. Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 that, in part, authorized governing boards to hold public meetings via teleconference. Governing boards must still provide advance notice of each public meeting in accordance with the Brown Act and make public meetings accessible telephonically or otherwise electronically to all members of the public seeking to observe the meeting and/or to address the governing board on agenda and non-agenda items.

Based on these guidelines, the OPUSD Board of Education held a video conference/teleconference regular meeting on December 15th. Members of the public were able to observe the meeting using a published live stream link. Members of the public were able to submit comments via an online form which opened at 5:30 pm on the day of the meeting and remained open for submission of comments until the end of the meeting.

**BOARD PRESENT**

Mrs. Barbara Laifman, President (outgoing member), Mr. Allen Rosen, Vice President, Mr. Drew Hazelton, Clerk, Mr. Derek Ross, Member, and Mrs. Denise Helfstein, Member, Mrs. Tina Wang, Incoming Member, Charlotte Robertson, Student Board Member

**BOARD ABSENT**

None

**STAFF PRESENT**

Dr. Tony Knight, Superintendent, Mr. Adam Rauch, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, Mr. Stew McGugan, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, Dr. Jay Greenlinger, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Mr. Enoch Kwok, Director of Information Technology, Mr. Brendan Callahan, Director of Bond Programs, Sustainability, Maintenance and Operations, Mr. Byron Jones, Director Fiscal Services, Mrs. Holly Baxter, Coordinator of Safety and Equity, and Mrs. Ragini Aggarwal, Executive Assistant.

**FLAG SALUTE**

Dr. Knight led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Student Board Member, Charlotte Robertson cast a preferential vote to approve the adoption of the Agenda. On motion of Derek Ross, seconded by Denise Helfstein, the Board of Education adopted the agenda as presented. Motion carried Aye: Hazelton, Helfstein, Laifman, Rosen, Ross. No - 0.

**PUBLIC SPEAKERS**

None

**II. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE**

Dr. Knight administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Board Members Denise Helfstein and Tina Wang

**III. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING BOARD MEMBER, BARBARA LAIFMAN**

Dr. Knight recognized outgoing Board Member Barbara Laifman with a commemorative vase on behalf of

the board and the District for her 13 years of service to the District and the community.

Barbara Laifman thanked the Board, Tony and the District for the opportunity to serve the District. Barbara left the meeting at 6:18pm.

#### **IV. BOARD REORGANIZATION**

##### **a. Election of Officers of the Board of Education**

Student Board Member, Charlotte Robertson cast a preferential vote to approve the Election of Officers.

On nomination of Derek Ross, seconded by Drew Hazelton, the Board of Education appointed Allen Rosen, President of the Board for 2021. Motion carried Aye – Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0.

On nomination of Denise Helfstein, seconded by Derek Ross, the Board of Education appointed Drew Hazelton, Vice President of the Board for 2021. Motion carried Aye – Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0.

On nomination of Denise Helfstein, seconded by Drew Hazelton, the Board of Education appointed Derek Ross, Clerk of the Board for 2021. Motion carried Aye – Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0.

Mr. Allen Rosen, newly elected Board President for 2021, assumed leadership of the meeting.

##### **b. Approve Proposed Board Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2021**

Student Board Member, Charlotte Robertson cast a preferential vote to approve the Meeting Schedule for 2021.

On motion of Derek Ross, seconded by Drew Hazelton, the Board of Education approved the Board Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2021. Motion carried Aye – Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0.

##### **c. Approve Designation of Secretary/Authorized Agent of the Board of Education**

Student Board Member, Charlotte Robertson cast a preferential vote to approve the Designation of Secretary/Authorized Agent of the Board.

On motion of Denise Helfstein, seconded by Drew Hazelton, the Board of Education approved the appointment of Dr. Anthony W. Knight as the Secretary/Authorized Agent of the Board of Education. Motion carried Aye – Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0.

##### **d. Approve Certification of Signatures**

Student Board Member, Charlotte Robertson cast a preferential vote to approve the certificate of signatures.

On motion of Allen Rosen, seconded by Denise Helfstein, the Board of Education approved the Certification of Signatures. Motion carried Aye – Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0.

##### **e. Select and Approve School Board Representative to the County Committee on School District Organization**

Student Board Member, Charlotte Robertson cast a preferential vote to approve the designation of Denise Helfstein as representative to the County Committee on School District Organization.

On nomination of Derek Ross, seconded by Tina Wang, the Board of Education appointed Denise Helfstein, School Board Representative to the County Committee on School District Organization. Motion carried Aye – Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0.

##### **f. Confirmation and Designation of Board Representatives to District Committees**

Student Board Member, Charlotte Robertson cast a preferential vote to approve the Designation of Board Representatives to District Committee

On motion of Denise Helfstein, seconded by Allen Rosen, the Board of Education approved names of Board members to serve on District Committees during 2021 as discussed at the meeting. Motion carried Aye – Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0.

## **REPORT FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Board Member, Tina Wang shared her appreciation for the cohesive governance in the District between the Board and the Leadership of the District. Tina acknowledged the feedback she has received from parents, staff, and students. Tina reported that she had attended CSBA training for the Masters in Governance program. The Master's in Governance program is a 40-hour program that all our school board members have gone through. Tina has completed three of the five-sessions. Tina also attended CSBA's Annual Education Conference and workshops.

Board Member Denise Helfstein welcomed Tina to the Board and thanked Barbara for her service to the District. Denise reported that she toured the Red Oak Elementary Campus with Allen and Tina to see the preparations being made for student's return to campus. Denise thanked Holly and Adam for taking the Board on this tour. She expressed her appreciation that the staff has thought through so many details and focusing on school safety and procedures during this Pandemic. Denise also shared that she had the opportunity to observe our student nutrition staff handing out meals to families and expressed her appreciation to Carole Ly and her staff for their hard work serving over 500 students in need. Denise reported that she attended the elementary and high school safety webinars, the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization, the Ventura County School Board dinner meeting, and the CSBA annual conference. Denise wished everyone a good holiday season.

Board Member Drew Hazelton thanked Barbara for her service and welcome Tina to the board. Drew reported that he attended the elementary safety webinar and agreed with Denise that we should do more video communications for the families. Drew reported that he attended the Safety and Security Task Force meeting, which is now chaired by Jason Meskis.

Board Member Derek Ross thanked Barbara for her long-term dedication to OPUSD and welcomed Tina, our newest governing board member. Derek reported that he attended the Safety and Security Task Force, the Safe Kids Task Force, the Diversity and Equity Task Force, the Measure S Committee meeting, the safety webinars, and the choir Holiday concert. Derek encouraged the community and staff to stay engaged during the process to hire a new Superintendent. Derek wished everyone a peaceful and enjoyable winter break, surrounded by friends and loved ones.

Board Member Allen Rosen acknowledged Barbara for her 13 years of service to the District and welcomed Tina to the Board. Allen stated that he firmly believes that the Board members have the same goals in mind with a unity of purpose and looks forward to working together as a governance team. Allen thanked Holly and Adam for the tour of the preparations for student's return to campus. Allen reported that he also watched the Choir performance and the MAC meeting.

Student Board Member Charlotte Robertson shared that it's been a challenging year for everyone and expressed her thanks to the Board and the District for pushing to create a safe and diverse environment for all students and staff. Charlotte reported that the ASB held a Toy Drive and is currently designing sweatshirts and planning for future fundraisers.

Superintendent Tony Knight congratulated Denise on her reelection and Tina on her election to her first term. Dr. Knight shared that Mr. Stan Mantoath, the Superintendent of the Ventura County Office of Education announced his retirement.

Student Board member Charlotte Robertson left the meeting at 7:15 pm.

### **REPORT FROM OAK PARK EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Scott Star, chairperson of the Oak Park Education Foundation (OPEF) provided an update

### **REPORT FROM OAK PARK MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Jane Nye, Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council, representative, reported that the sheriff had reported three residential burglaries in October. The Volunteers in Policing (VIP) program was on hold until end of pandemic. The MAC voted to add three trash cans on Kanan Road after a Trash Audit was conducted.

### **UPDATE ON COVID-19 IMPACT ON OAK PARK USD SCHOOLS**

The Board received an update in regard to COVID-19 and the impact on OPUSD schools related to staff testing plans, safety webinars, staff safety training, and preparations for reopening the schools when we are allowed to do so. The Board requested a plan for more frequent COVID-19 testing of staff be presented at the January Board meeting. The current plan is to test 25% of the staff every two weeks as recommended by the state. Dr. Jay Greenlinger shared data on the recent Distance Learning Survey, which was administered to Parents, Staff, and students in grades 6-12. The Board recommended that staff look at ways to increase social-emotional wellbeing and school connectedness for students.

### **B.1. CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion of Derek Ross, seconded by Allen Rosen, the Board of Education approved the Consent Agenda. Motion carried Aye: Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No - 0.

- a. [Approve Minutes of Regular Board Meeting November 17, 2020, and Special Board Meeting held on December 8, 2020](#)
- b. [Approve/Ratify Public Employee/Employment Changes 01CL24780-01CL24804 & 01CE10508-01CE10633](#)
- c. [Ratify Purchase Orders – November 1 - November 30, 2020](#)
- d. [Approve Notice of Completion for Measure S Project 19-19S Art Court Phase 2 Buildout at Oak Park High School](#)
- e. [Approve Notice of Completion for Measure S Project 20-21S Outdoor Furniture Purchase Districtwide](#)

At 10:28 pm on motion on Denise Helfstein, seconded by Drew Hazelton the board extended the meeting to midnight. Motion carried Aye: Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No - 0.

### **B.2. BUSINESS SERVICES**

- a. [Discuss and Approve District Capacity/Enrollment Projections/District of Choice Vacancy Projections for School Year 2021-2022](#)

On motion of Denise Helfstein, seconded by Drew Hazelton, the Board of Education approved District Capacity/Enrollment Projections/District of Choice Vacancy Projections for School Year 2021-2022. Motion carried Aye: Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0

- b. [Approve Fiscal Year 2020-21 First Interim Financial Report, Certification and Budget Revisions](#)

On motion of Denise Helfstein, seconded by Drew Hazelton, the Board of Education approved the Fiscal Year 2020-21 First Interim Financial Report, Certification and Budget Revisions. The report submitted to the board shows that the District maintains a positive certification, which means that it will meet financial obligations for the current and two subsequent years. The projected reserve is 3.51%, which is above the 3% reserve as required by state law. Motion

carried Aye: Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross. Wang No – 0. The Board requested that staff share the financials of Club Oak Park at the January Meeting.

**c. [Approve the Local Control Funding Formula \(LCFF\) Budget Overview for Parents](#)**

On motion of Drew Hazelton, seconded by Derek Ross, the Board of Education approved the the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) Budget Overview for Parents. Motion carried Aye: Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross. Wang No – 0. The budget overview for parents is posted on our website

**d. [Amendment to Agreement for Program/Construction Management Services with Balfour Beatty Construction, Inc.](#)**

On motion of Denise Helfstein, seconded by Derek Ross, the Board of Education approved the Agreement for Program/Construction Management Services with Balfour Beatty Construction, Inc. Motion carried Aye: Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross. Wang No – 0.

**e. [Approve Acceptance of Donation](#)**

On motion of Derek Ross, seconded by Drew Hazelton, the Board of Education approved Acceptance of Donation. California Community Foundation donated \$100 as General support for Oak Park High School, as directed by the Office of the Attorney General due to the dissolution of the Cars 4 Causes 501c3 public charity. The Board accepted the donation with gratitude. Motion carried Aye: Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross. Wang No – 0.

### **B3. CURRICULUM**

**a. [Approve New Course "Movements for Social Change" for English IV CP Options at Oak Park High School](#)**

On motion of Denise Helfstein, seconded by Derek Ross, the Board of Education approved New Course "Movements for Social Change" for English IV CP Options at Oak Park High School. Motion carried Aye: Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0.

**b. [Approve New Course "Own Voices" for English IV CP Options at Oak Park High School](#)**

On motion of Denise Helfstein, seconded by Drew Hazelton, the Board of Education approved new Course "Own Voices" for English IV CP Options at Oak Park High School. Motion carried Aye: Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0.

### **B4. HUMAN RESOURCES**

**a. [Approve 2020-21 Early Retirement Incentive Memorandum of Understanding Between Oak Park Unified School District and Oak Park Teachers Association](#)**

On motion of Derek Ross, seconded by Denise Helfstein, the Board of Education approved 2020-21 Early Retirement Incentive Memorandum of Understanding Between Oak Park Unified School District and Oak Park Teachers Association. Motion carried Aye: Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0.

### **B.5. BOARD POLICIES**

**a. [Approve Deletion of Board Policy 6141.6 Multicultural Education - First Reading](#)**

On motion of Denise Helfstein, seconded by Tina Wang, the Board of Education approved the Deletion of Board Policy 6141.6 Multicultural Education as first and final reading. Motion carried Aye: Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0.

This policy had been recommended for deletion in 2009 by CSBA when the key concepts were incorporated in a new Board Policy 6142.95 - History-Social Science Instruction which was adopted in 2009. Due to an oversight BP 6141.6 was never officially deleted by Board action in 2009.

**b. [Approve Amendment to Board Bylaw Exhibit 9323.2 Actions By the Board - First Reading](#)**

On motion of Allen Rosen, seconded by Tina Wang, the Board of Education approved

the amendment to Board Bylaw Exhibit 9323.2 Actions By the Board as first and final reading  
Motion carried Aye: Hazelton, Helfstein, Rosen, Ross, Wang. No – 0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Denise Helfstein, seconded by Tina Wang, there being no further business before this Board,  
the Regular meeting is declared adjourned at 10:51 p.m.

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Date

President of the Board

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Date

Clerk or Secretary of the Board