

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING 3-21-2023 #1079
BOARD OF EDUCATION

CALL TO ORDER/MEETING PLACE

The Board of Education President, Mrs. Denise Helfstein, called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. at Oak Park High School Presentation Room, G9, 899 N. Kanan Road, Oak Park.

Members of the public were able to attend in person.

BOARD PRESENT

Mrs. Denise Helfstein, President, Mrs. Tina Wang, Vice President, Mrs. Soyon Hardy, Clerk, Mrs. Megan Lantsman, Member, and Mr. Jim Moynihan, Member.

STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Jeff Davis, Superintendent, Mr. Adam Rauch, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Mr. Stew McGugan, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Mrs. Ragini Aggarwal, Communications Coordinator and Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/Board, and Mr. Jonathan Salt, Legal Counsel.

BOARD ABSENT

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

2. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Board President, Denise Helfstein reported that in Closed Session the Board would be discussing:

2.1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2): one case

2.2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS : Government Code 54957.6

Agency Designated Representatives: Adam Rauch and Stewart McGugan

Employee Organizations: Oak Park Teachers Association and Oak Park Classified Association

2.3 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE:

Government Code Section 54957

2.4. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EMPLOYMENT: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Trainer, Guest Teacher

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER/MEETING PLACE

The Board of Education President, Mrs. Denise Helfstein, called the regular meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

BOARD PRESENT

Mrs. Denise Helfstein, President, Mrs. Tina Wang, Vice President, Mrs. Soyon Hardy, Clerk, Mrs. Megan Lantsman, Member, and Mr. Jim Moynihan, Member, Ms. Tess Leong, Student Board Member.

BOARD ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Jeff Davis, Superintendent, Mr. Adam Rauch, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Mrs. Tammy Herzog Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, Mr. Brad Benioff, Director of Student Support and School Safety, Mr. Byron Jones, Director of Fiscal Services, and Mrs. Ragini Aggarwal, Communications Coordinator and Executive Assistant.

FLAG SALUTE

Denise Helfstein led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

Board President Mrs. Denise Helfstein reported that the Board took no action in closed session tonight and also took no action at the closed session on March 14th.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On motion of Megan Lantsman, seconded by Jim Moynihan, the Board of Education adopted the agenda as presented. Motion carried Aye: Hardy, Helfstein, Lantsman, Moynihan, Wang. No - 0. Tess Leong, Student Board Member – Preferential Vote: Aye.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

There were no public speakers.

REPORT FROM OAK PARK MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Jane Nye, Oak Park MAC Chair provided updates on Public Safety Reports, Supervisor Gorell's plan on holding sidewalk office hours and the approval of a new 80ft lattice tower at Fire Station 36.

REPORT FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member Soyon Hardy reported that she participated in Legislative Action Week and met with elected representatives to discuss matters pertaining to OPUSD and how the state law makers could support district such as ours. Soyon attended Future Panther Night, Oak Park High Mock College Admissions Night, Brookside Board Office Hours, Curriculum Council and Measure S Subcommittees. Soyon thanked the Natalie Smith and Amanda Fitts for organizing the Mock College Admissions Night and Ragini for sharing the Future Panther Night with DOC families.

Board Member Tina Wang reported she also attended the Oak Park High Mock College Admissions Night, the Oak Park High Board Office Hours, and listened to a webinar on Math Course Taking. Tina thanked the Oak Park High PFA for cosponsoring the Mock College Admissions Night and also thanked Amanda Fitts for all of her work putting this together.

Board Member Jim Moynihan reported he attended opening night of the Addams Family at Oak Park High School, a budget meeting with Board member Tina Wang, Assistant Superintendent Adam Rauch, and Director of Fiscal Services Byron Jones, Board office hours at Oak View High School and Oak Hills Elementary School.

Board Member Megan Lantsman reported that she attended the Board Office Hours at Oak View High School, the Addams Family at Oak Park High School, Slam Poetry at Oak View High School and Legislative Action Week.

Board Member Denise Helfstein reported she attended Board Office Hours at Brookside, Oak Hills and Oak Park High School and shared that the office hours allow a great opportunity to exchange information which helps the Board make more informed decisions and fosters trust within the District. Denise reported that she attended Measure S meetings, Measure S subcommittee meetings, Future Panther Night, Oak View Poetry Slam, Legislative Action week and filled in for Tina at the GATE DAC. Denise acknowledged the GATE DAC for implementing the CogAT screener this year and expressed her pride in our District for implementing the screener for equity reasons.

REMARKS FROM STUDENT BOARD MEMBER

Student Board Member Tess Leong believes the new Health Course on the Agenda tonight for Medea Creek Middle School 7th graders is an important and relevant addition to the curriculum. Tess reported she went to the Addams Family on the closing night, she assisted at the Oak Park High School Mock College Night. Tess reported that state testing is underway at the High School and is going well. Tess shared that the ASB spring fling dance will be this weekend and ASB election week for the 2023-24 school year is coming up.

REMARKS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Dr. Jeff Davis shared acknowledged the work of OPCA negotiating team and President Virginia Standring and OPTA negotiating team and President Russ Peters and our District negotiating team Stew McGugan and Adam Rauch for completing negotiations for the 2022-23 school year. Dr. Davis shared highlights of student achievements this month; Math Counts at Medea Creek Middle School for winning 1st place in the county, Fourth grade student Iris Piyasowan from Red Oak Elementary Schools who took second place in the Ventura County Spelling Bee, Speech and Debate at Oak Park High School who qualified for State, FBLA at Oak Park High School for winning awards at the regional competition and individual team members who qualified for state, The Addams Family production at Oak Park High School and Science Olympiad teams at Oak Park High and Medea Creek Middle School. Dr. Davis thanked Medea Creek Middle School PFA President Brianna Adams for working with the Administrators at Medea on intramural sports which has helped create student connections at Medea. Dr. Davis acknowledged Oak Park High Schools CIF Division 5A Girls Basketball champions, Co-CIF players of the year Lindsay Gould and Delaney White and coach Will Burr who was named CIF Coach of the year. Dr. Davis also thanked all of the teachers and staff who attended the Board and Superintendent office hours.

UPDATE ON STUDENT SAFETY AND WELLNESS

Brad Benioff, Director of Student Support and School Safety and Wellness Counselors Fatima Hernandez and Alexis Jordan presented an update on:

- Wellness Centers at Medea Creek Middle School and Oak Park High School
- Early Intervention Data
- Safety Trainings with Commander Pentis

The Board requested staff create a visual mapping by site of student wellness resources and post those resources on each school website.

REPORT ON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS EARNING A GRADE OF D OR F

The Board received a report from Assistant Superintendent Tammy Herzog on strategies implemented to support students who have earned D/F grades or may be at risk of earning D/F grades. The Board requested staff provide objective measures to see how well the interventions are working and to include it in the next update.

REPORT ON OPUSD'S SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES AND THE GREEN SCHOOLS CONFERENCE

The Board received a report from Assistant Superintendent Tammy Herzog on OPUSD's Sustainability Initiatives such as the Green Schools National Network, School Site Sustainability Activities, OPUSD Garden Program provided by Debra Leith, and the EEAC Recycling Event. The Board also received an update on the Green Schools Conference that staff attended. The Board requested that the staff review BP 3510 Green School Operations specifically regarding food sorting and waste.

The Board took a break at 8:20 pm and the meeting resumed at 8:24 pm.

Tess Leong, student Board member left the meeting at 8:20 pm.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

On motion of Tina Wang, seconded by Jim Moynihan, the Board of Education approved the Consent Agenda. Aye: Hardy, Helfstein, Lantsman, Moynihan, Wang. No - 0. Tess Leong, Student Board Member – Preferential Vote: Absent.

- 5.1. Minutes of the February 28, 2023 Regular Meeting and Special Meeting held on March 14, 2023
- 5.2. Approve Public Employee Employment/Changes Classified Personnel
- 5.3. Approve Public Employee Employment/Changes Certificated Personnel
- 5.4. Ratify Purchase Orders February 1- February 28, 2023
- 5.5. Approve a Revised Overnight trip for Oak Park High School Varsity Baseball to Participate in the Lions Tournament, April 2-5, 2023, in San Diego, CA.
- 5.6. Approve Overnight Trip for Oak Park High School Athletic Teams to Attend Spring CIF Play-Offs
- 5.7. Approve Out-of-State Travel for Medea Creek Middle School Staff to Attend the Southeast Conference on School Climate - June 5-7, 2023 in Savannah, GA.

6. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

6.1. Approve New Health Course for 7th Grade at Medea Creek Middle School

On motion of Tina Wang, seconded by Soyon Hardy the Board approved the new 7th-grade health class for the 2023-2024 year contingent upon the following conditions :

- The course shall be a 1-year pilot, aligned with California state standards, compliant with BP 6142.8, Comprehensive Health Education, and BP 6142.1, Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction, and piloted by the properly credentialed teacher assigned to teach it.
- MCMS will send a communication to the students and parents of rising 7th graders explaining the school's planned change for health education next year and allowing them to revisit their elective choices given this shift.
- Staff will return to the Board of Education with the following:
 - Positive Prevention Plus, the proposed instructional material for the sexual health and HIV prevention education unit for this course, prior to the end of this school year
 - An update during the 2023-24 school year to address:
 - the rest of the units in the piloted health course
 - equity concerns and
 - information on how we are delivering comprehensive health education in middle school (6-8) to all our students.

Motion carried Aye: Aye: Hardy, Helfstein, Lantsman, Moynihan, Wang. No - 0. Tess Leong, Student Board Member – Preferential Vote: Absent.

6.2. Approve New Courses English Language Development 1-2 & 3-4 at Medea Creek Middle School

6.3. Approve New Courses English Language Development 1-2 & 3-4 at Oak Park High School

6.4. Approve New Course Theatre Performance & Production at Oak Park High School

6.5. Approve New Course Science for Education at Oak View High School

6.6. Approve New Course Contemporary Issues in Education at Oak View High School

6.7. Approve New Materials Request English 4 Senior Seminar at Oak Park High School

On motion of Soyon Hardy, seconded by Jim Moynihan, the Board approved items 6.2. through 6.7 together as one vote. Motion carried Aye: Hardy, Helfstein, Lantsman, Moynihan, Wang. No - 0. Tess Leong, Student Board Member – Absent.

7. BUSINESS SERVICES

7.1. Delegate Authority to the Superintendent to Award Architectural Services Contract for the Relocation of Four Portable Classrooms At Medea Creek Middle School

On motion of Jim Moynihan, seconded by Denise Helfstein the Board delegated authority to the Superintendent to Award Installation Services Contract for Measure S Project 19-17S Emergency Generator for District Administrative Office. Motion carried Aye: Hardy, Helfstein, Lantsman, Moynihan, Wang. No - 0. Tess Leong, Student Board Member – Preferential Vote: Absent.

7.2 Approve Certification of 2022-23 Second Interim Financial Report and Budget Revisions

On motion of Jim Moynihan, seconded by Tina Wang, the Board approved Certification of 2022-23 Second Interim Financial Report and Budget Revisions. Motion carried Aye: Hardy, Helfstein, Lantsman, Moynihan, Wang. No - 0. Tess Leong, Student Board Member – Preferential Vote: Absent.

8. OPEN DISCUSSION/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Board scheduled the following meetings:

- Special Meeting to be held on April 10th to Discuss Board Strategic Priorities

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Tina Wang, seconded by Soyon Hardy, there being no further business before this Board, the regular meeting held on March 21, 2023, is declared adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

Date

President of the Board

Date

Clerk or Secretary of the Board