



Board of Trustees Meeting Synopsis

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

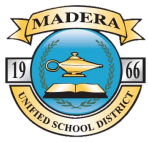
By John Rieping, Executive Administrative Assistant for the Superintendent's Office

Below is a brief summary of yesterday's regular meeting of the MUSD school board. It is not comprehensive and is for informational purposes only. Meeting recordings will be uploaded online ([click here for video](#) or [here for audio](#)). Official minutes listing board actions at each meeting are approved at the following meetings and can also be viewed online ([click here](#)).

Student Reports

1. **STALLION RECAP** - Syan Chavira of Madera South High School shared about the school's many recent activities and achievements. These included:
 - a. Student Edgar Berzamina meriting a spot in the Fresno Madera Counties Music Educators Association High School Honor Band for the second year in a row.
 - b. Five members of the Future Farmers of America earning spots in the organization's San Joaquin Regional Contests in February after placing among the top five in various events at a West Fresno Madera FFA Sectional Speaking competition last week.
 - c. The PBS television show "American Grown" featuring FFA Chapter President Lesly Madriz and FFA advisors Julie Luxon and Kristin Sheehan ([click here to watch](#)).
2. **COYOTE COLUMN** - Vanessa Ayala of Madera High School spoke similarly regarding her school's doings. These included:
 - a. Student-athletes Bryson Smith, Isabella Saucedo, and Lealani Ricks accepting sports scholarships for San Jose State, Southern Utah, and Howard universities (respectively).
 - b. Student Diana Vasquez winning in "Skill Demonstration" for "toys that teach" during a national Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America competition in November. She is one of only three California members to place in the event and was recognized in December during the organization's first-ever [Virtual Leadership Experience](#).
 - c. In November, the school virtually held its first Staffulty Talent(less) Show that highlighted the gifts of MHS teachers and staff.
3. **STUDENT TRUSTEES** - Trustee Kiyana Granados talked of collaborating with Trustee Jeremiah Goodman and MHS Student Body president Giovanni Prudente on the creation of a student bill of rights and presenting their work to the Superintendent's Executive Cabinet.

Superintendent Todd Lile later explained that 25 certificated and classified staff and 63 students of grades 6-12 had, over a seven-week period, discussed their MUSD experiences and what students believed their rights should be while enrolled. Student leaders presented the results to SEC after winter break. The next steps, the superintendent said, will be to refine the



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document and then present it to the whole board.

Trustee Jeremiah Goodman told of progress in developing an idea to send motivational emails to staff and students. He also appreciated the positive response of the SEC to their student bill of rights work. “It feels good to see that there are people who want us to help move forward with this,” he said.

Information and Reports

UNION TIME - David Holder, president of the Madera Unified Teachers Association, said the union’s leadership would continue to work with the Board of Trustees amid the challenges of the pandemic.

Consent Agenda

1. **EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAINING** - The Board of Trustees unanimously approved agreements with nonprofit agency West Ed and consultants Kathy Cockrum and Jodie Karsak to train staff. WestEd will train 50-75 preschool staff during the 2020-21 school year to better use “Teaching Pyramid” strategies to support positive behavior. Cockrum and Karsak will train 50-75 preschool and CalSAFE staff during the 2020-22 school years in creating “anti-biased” classrooms. The combined cost is not to exceed \$17,000 in Preschool Program funds.
2. **STAFFING CHANGES** - The Board of Trustees unanimously agreed to the hiring of two teachers for Torres High School and a communications technician for Rain Creek. Trustees also okayed the creation of an English Language Development teacher position at Sierra Vista School and 18 full-time information technology positions at Rain Creek. In addition, the Board approved the filling of vacant positions such as Special Education teacher at Madera South High School, attendance secretary at Parkwood and Chavez schools, office technician at Martin Luther King Jr. School, office assistant at Washington School, database administrator at Rain Creek, safety officer at Madera Adult School, and lead maintenance journeyman.
3. **CUSTOM DATA REPORTS** - The Board of Trustees unanimously okayed a contract with Parsec Education to help MUSD deal with learning loss and inequities due to COVID-19. Parsec Education will build custom data reporting tools, represent that data visually, generate summaries such as the MetoBe report card, and provide support and maintenance. The cost is not to exceed \$80,000 (General Fund) that was previously approved to be spent for custom data software from JETS Technologies, which offers similar services as Parsec Education. Staff said JETS Technologies has insufficient staffing to support district needs amid the pandemic.



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4. **PREVENTION SERVICES** - The Board of Trustees unanimously okayed an agreement with consultant Deisi Parra to provide alcohol and drug prevention services to MUSD students from Feb. 1 through June 1. The cost is not to exceed \$10,800.

Old Business

1. **SOLAR POWER** - The Board of Trustees approved a proposal by ForeFront Power, which will design and install solar photovoltaic systems at 10 sites for this summer. Staff said ForeFront Power “submitted a thoughtful proposal with a detailed approach to each site and has committed to a robust team of experienced subcontractors and project managers.” The cost is to be determined as the contract needs to be negotiated and presented to the Board along with an updated financial plan for the project.
2. **IMPROVEMENT PLANS** - The Board of Trustees okayed [Comprehensive Support and Improvement](#) plans for Martin Luther King Jr. and Thomas Jefferson middle schools as well as Furman and Mt. Vista high schools. The state requires the development of such plans when Title I-funded schools have a low graduation rate or are among the lowest-performing. Qualifying for CSI plans makes schools eligible for special funding.

Announcements

DELAC - The District English Language Advisory Committee will meet virtually via the Zoom video conferencing service at 6 p.m. next Monday, February 1.

Advanced Planning

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - The next regular Board Meeting will be Tuesday, February 9, in the Madera Unified School District Boardroom at 1902 Howard Road. The meeting will be held virtually.