



Board of Trustees Meeting Synopsis

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

By John Rieping, Administrative Assistant V

Below is a brief summary of a regular meeting of the [MUSD school board](#). It is not comprehensive and is for informational purposes only. [Official agendas and minutes](#), [meeting videos](#), and [2024-2025 board-approved staffing lists](#) can be found online.

Roll Call

Nadeem Ahmad (Area 7), Angelica Cervantes-Hernandez (Madera South High School), Angelica Castillo (Madera High School), Israel Cortes (Area 6), Gladys Diebert (Area 2), Joetta Fleak (Area 4), Ruben Mendoza (Area 3), Lucy Salazar (Area 5), and Ray Seibert (Area 1)

Annual Reorganization Items

1. **NEW PRESIDENT & CLERK** - The Board elected Trustee Ray Seibert as its president and reelected Trustee Mendoza as its clerk for 2025.
2. **MEETING SCHEDULE** - The Board approved the following regular meeting dates for itself in 2025: Jan. 28, Feb. 11 and 25, March 11 and 25, April 8 and 22, May 13 and 27, June 10 and 24, July 22, Aug. 12 and 26, Sept. 9 and 23, Oct. 14 and 28, Nov. 18, and Dec. 16.

Communications

[MADERA MINUTES](#) - Staff shared a video summarizing recent student and staff activities.

Consent Agenda

1. **MEETING SPACES** - The Board of Trustees unanimously approved an agreement with [Community Action Partnership of Madera County](#) to use its facilities for meetings. Staff said this will help the district respond to a need created by the rising diversity and amount of meetings needed for administration and strategy. The cost will be \$10,000 from general funds.
2. **LEASES RENEWED** - The Board unanimously okayed extending leases with Ramirez Family Properties for suites 1, 2, and 4 at the Courtyard Professional Center, 1816 Howard Road. The suites are used for the Preschool and Student Services departments. Services at the suites include a clothing closet and food pantry for foster youth and homeless families. The total cost, including rent increases, will be \$6,508 per month plus utilities.



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3. **FILM STUDIES** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with [Swank Motion Pictures](#), which will provide online streaming of its film library to “Film Studies” classes at Madera, Madera South, and Torres high schools. Use of services such as Netflix, Amazon Prime, Disney Plus, etc. are not possible due to copyright restrictions, staff said, and the district lacks adequate devices to use DVDs to show full films and excerpts. The subscription cost will be \$25,023 from Secondary Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment funds.
4. **STUDENT AUTHORS** - The Board unanimously okayed an agreement with Clovis-based consultant [Authorable](#). The company will lead a four-week book publishing course for 3rd graders at eight elementary schools during the After-School Program. The schools are Chavez, La Vina, Millview, Monroe, Nishimoto, Parkwood, and Rose. The cost will be \$39,000 from [Expanded Learning Opportunities Program](#) funds.
5. **CHILDCARE SOFTWARE** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with [MCT Technology](#) for online database software. The company’s website and phone apps will allow the [Preschool Program](#) to manage enrollment, track attendance and meals, and meet state requirements. The cost will be \$9,852 from Child Development funds – about half of which will be an annual cost.
6. **BRIDGING THE GAP** - The Board unanimously okayed an agreement with [University of California, Merced](#), for academies for English learner students. UC Merced will lead a Winter Academy on mathematics at [Fresno Pacific University](#) on Jan. 6-10. In the spring, UC Merced will lead 10 Saturday Academies at Fresno Pacific and [Fresno State](#) universities to prepare students for the [California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress](#). The cost will be \$13,425 from [Expanded Learning Opportunities Program](#) funds.
7. **BOOSTER CLUBS** - The Board unanimously approved recognition of the Howard Parent Teacher Club at Howard School and the parent booster club for Jefferson School. The clubs support extracurricular activities.
8. **RETIREEES** - The Board unanimously accepted the retirement of the following staff.
 - a. *Laura J. Toney*, coordinator of College and Career Readiness, will retire on March 19 after 35 years of service.
 - b. *Terri Stroud*, specialty services supervisor at Child Nutrition, will retire on Dec. 27 after 30 years of service.
 - c. *Rosemary G. Angeles*, a Child Nutrition assistant II at Millview School, will retire on Dec. 26 after 28 years of service.
 - d. *Juvenal Vera*, a mechanics specialist for Transportation, will retire on Dec. 31 after 25 years of service.
 - e. *Teresa Deleija*, Child Nutrition assistant II at Lincoln School, will retire on Dec. 20 after 22 years of service.



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- f. *Jose C. Torres*, a custodian at Berenda School, will retire on Dec. 30 after 17 years of service.
9. **STAFF CHANGES** - The Board unanimously okayed the filling of six paraprofessional aide jobs, three vacant teaching positions, and 12 other classified jobs as well as 43 Winter Intersession classified jobs (Jan. 6-10). These consist of 18 paraprofessionals, eight Child Nutrition assistants, five attendance secretaries, four licensed vocational nurses, four school safety officers, and four administrative assistants II.
10. **CREDENTIAL WAIVERS** - The Board unanimously approved five variable term waivers, which is an option for school districts if an applicant lacks the proper credential for an assignment. Four of the five waivers are for Career Technical Education teachers. While they teach this school year, the applicants will be mentored by representatives from the Orange and Fresno counties offices of education. The fifth candidate will work as a program specialist while earning a Preliminary Administrative Services Credential through [National University](#). His graduation is expected in February 2026.
11. **REVISED JOB** - The Board unanimously okayed minor revisions of the job description for Bus Driver Trainer/Dispatcher. Those in the job will now serve as a secondary dispatcher when the primary one is unavailable and will also work a flex schedule and overtime. A valid School Bus Driver Instructor's Certificate is now preferred rather than required. They will inform parents and schools in English or Spanish about bus routes and schedules as needed.
12. **FIELD TRIPS** - The Board unanimously approved six high school field trips involving about 30 students and eight adults. The largest trips will carry 24 Torres High School [robotics students](#) and six adults by van to [Woodside](#) and [Pittsburg](#) in March for regional competitions. The farthest trip will fly 20 THS robotics students to Houston, Texas, for the [world competition](#) in mid-April. The total costs will be \$27,446 for transportation and \$21,600 for lodging from Madera High School athletics, MHS wrestling booster, THS Associated Student Body, and [Perkins](#) grant funds.
13. **EMPLOYEE TRAVEL** - The Board unanimously approved a potential reimbursement request for two Madera High School employees to fly to North Las Vegas, Nevada, for a Western Wheels Conference in early January. The estimated cost will be \$2,640 from state [Career Technical Education Incentive Grant](#) funds.
14. **GRADUATION STREAMING** - The Board unanimously okayed an agreement with [Freestyle Event Services](#) for screens, audio systems, technicians, and live streaming of high school commencement ceremonies. The cost will be \$57,095 from general funds.



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Information and Reports

1. **FACILITY PROJECTS** - Staff presented an update on the district's facilities projects. These include six construction sites now and double that many by spring – about \$197 million in projects. The project list consists of King Husein School, universal transitional kindergarten classrooms at Alpha, Lincoln, Pershing, and Rose schools, a two-story academic building at Madison School, middle school athletic field improvements, a modernization of the Madera High School stadium, and a modernization of Child Nutrition's production kitchen.
2. **MADERA FFA** - Saray Madriz Alcaarez and Brianna Ramirez of Madera FFA highlighted the club's many activities and achievements this past year, including 13 members earning their [American FFA Degree](#) and teacher and club advisor Kristin Sheehan being named the [National Association of Agricultural Educators'](#) 2024 outstanding teacher for Region I.

New Business

1. **1ST INTERIM REPORT** - The Board of Trustees approved the 2024-2025 First Interim Report on the financial and budgetary status of the district from July 1 through Oct. 31, 2024.
2. **CSEA PROPOSALS** - The Board okayed initial negotiation proposals by MUSD and the local chapter 169 of the California School Employees Association. CSEA proposed a classified salary schedule increase and revisions to the language of articles VII, X, and XI on health and welfare benefits, leaves, and transfers. MUSD proposed bargaining on articles VI, VII, XVIII, and XXI on pay and allowances, health and welfare benefits, disciplinary action, and transportation.

Announcements

1. **WINTER BREAK** - Winter break will begin next Monday, Dec. 23, and will last through Jan. 10. The District Office will also be closed for the holidays from Dec. 23 to Jan. 3.
2. **MLK HOLIDAY** - Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School will host its namesake's annual celebration on Sunday, Jan. 19, from 2-4 p.m. Schools and district offices will also be closed for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday on Monday, Jan. 20.



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Advanced Planning

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - The next regular Board Meeting will be Tuesday, January 28, in the Madera Unified School District Boardroom at 1902 Howard Road. The meeting will be held in person and virtually.