



# Board of Trustees Meeting Synopsis

## Tuesday, March 28, 2023

*By John Rieping, Administrative Assistant V*

Below is a brief summary of this week'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](#)). Official minutes listing board actions at each meeting are approved at the following meetings and can also be viewed online ([click here](#)).

### Roll Call

Nadeem Ahmad (Area 7), Israel Cortes (Area 6), Gladys Diebert (Area 2), Joetta Fleak (Area 4), Genesis Guillen (Madera South High School), Ruben Mendoza (Area 3), Lucy Salazar (Area 5), Frank Jerik Santos (Alternative Education), and Ray Seibert (Area 1)

### Communications

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

### Information and Reports

**UNION TIME** - David Holder, president of the Madera Unified Teachers Association, praised a "very impressive" teacher job fair held by MUSD at the District Office on Saturday, March 25, and said he looked forward to a Fresno/Madera School Board Dinner in Fresno on Thursday, March 30.

### Consent Agenda

1. **LEASE FOR PRESCHOOL** - The Board of Trustees unanimously approved an agreement with Jose Ramirez to lease 2,215 square feet of office space for an additional year with a 3% increase in rent. The office at 1816 Howard Road has been leased by the district for nine years and is used by the preschool department. The cost will be \$3,355 per month plus utilities.
2. **FACILITY NEEDS** - The Board unanimously okayed a contract with [SchoolWorks](#) to prepare a School Facility Needs Analysis. If approved, the analysis would allow the district to justify raising the fee rates paid to it by local property developers who build homes. A new analysis is also needed each year for residential development fees to be collected at all. Currently, MUSD receives \$5.04 per square foot of new houses. The total cost for the study is \$9,000, which will be paid for by Fund 25 (Developer Fees).



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3. **WIDE AREA NETWORK** - The Board unanimously approved awarding a contract to the most competitive bidder for a project to install Wide Area Network connectivity to all district schools and facilities. The deadline for bids was March 24. A previous application for federal funding of the project had been “erroneously denied” due to a violation of competitive bidding requirements, staff said. The cost, which is yet “to be determined,” will be covered by the technology department’s General Fund.
4. **THS SPEAKERS** - The Board unanimously okayed presentations to Torres High School students to help students better understand the Graduate Profile. The profile consists, in part, of a portfolio that represents a student’s activities, accomplishments, and achievements while in high school. Beginning with the class of 2025, students must present and defend their portfolio to graduate.
  - a. Motivational speaker [Laymon Hicks](#) will urge students to reflect on their decisionmaking, and will help them deal with the trauma of peer pressure, neglect, bullying and substance abuse.
  - b. Motivational speaker Kim Karr of [#ICANHELP](#) will urge students to consider their decisions when it comes to online activity, and will speak on online bullying and harassment.

The total cost will be \$9,395 from [California Community Schools Partnership Program](#) grant funds.

5. **BABE RUTH** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with Madera Babe Ruth to offer youth baseball programs to all district students aged 12-15. The cost is not to exceed \$100,000 or \$550.50 per district student who participates.
6. **FIELD TRIPS** - The Board unanimously okayed six field trips involving 136 Torres High School students in April through July. The largest trip will carry 90 students and eight adults by charter bus on a Band and Colorguard Spring Tour to Anaheim. The farthest trip will fly 12 students and two adults to the [HOSA International Leadership Conference](#) in Dallas, Texas, this summer. [HOSA](#) is a student organization that promotes health care careers. The total costs will be \$28,500 for transportation and \$27,800 for lodging from THS Athletics, Athletics Boosters, Associated Student Body, Band, Band Boosters, and a [Perkins](#) grant funds for career technical education.
7. **EMPLOYEE TRAVEL** - The Board unanimously approved a potential reimbursement request for a trip in November and December by multiple MUSD staff members to the [CareerTech Vision Conference](#), which will be held in Phoenix, Arizona, by the Association for Career and Technical Education. The total cost will be \$6,400.
8. **NEW TJ PRINCIPAL** - The Board unanimously accepted Mark Fowler as the new principal of Thomas Jefferson Middle School.



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9. **STAFF CHANGES** - The Board unanimously okayed the filling of 20 vacant teaching jobs, 6 new teaching jobs, 2 vacant classified jobs, and 2 new certificated jobs.
10. **PARENT CLASSES** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with nonprofit [Success Together](#) to offer classes to district parents from March through May. The classes will focus on strengthening their children's academic and socioemotional learning. The cost will be \$17,500 from [California Community Schools Partnership Program](#) grant funds.

### New Business

**TRANSPORTATION PLAN** - The Board of Trustees approved a 2022-2024 Home-to-School Transportation Services Plan, which is newly required by the state. Starting this school year, the state will reimburse districts who submit such plans for 60% of transportation costs, which is expected to bring in a million dollars of funding to MUSD. The brief plan tells how the district will transport students, including those who are low income, with disabilities, or without homes. All students who live outside of designated walking areas are eligible for home-to-school transportation, according to the plan, which will be reviewed and updated annually.

### Announcements

1. **OPEN HOUSES** - Open houses for elementary and middle schools were held last week and continue this week. Open houses for high schools will be in early May.
2. **WELLNESS COMMITTEE** - The next Wellness Committee meeting will be Wednesday, March 29, at 4:30 p.m. The group puts the district's Wellness Policy into action.
3. **BATTLE OF THE BOOKS** - A district-wide literacy competition for third through sixth grade students, Battle of the Books, will take place on Thursday, March 30.
4. **BOARD DINNER** - The Fresno/Madera School Board dinner will be Thursday, March 30, in Fresno.
5. **RESOURCE FAIR** - The 2nd annual Cesar Chavez Educational & Community Resource Fair will be Friday, March 31, from 5-7 p.m. at Torres High School.
6. **SPRING BREAK** - The district's spring break will be April 3-10. Students and school staff will return on Tuesday, April 11.
7. **PAC** - The Parent Advisory Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. on April 12 in the district's Boardroom. The group advises MUSD on its finances and consults, reviews, and comments on the district's Local Control and Accountability Plan.



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8. **VAPAAC** - The Visual and Performing Arts Advisory Committee will meet at 5 p.m. on April 13 in the district office's Teacher Workshop. The group exists to promote the value of arts education.
9. **CVEC** - The Central Valley Education Coalition will have its annual luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on April 17. The coalition of more than 120 education agencies advocates for policies and funds to meet the needs of valley students, such as English as a Second Language and Career Technical Education.
10. **DELAC** - The District English Language Advisory Committee will meet at 6 p.m. on April 17 in the district's boardroom. DELAC is a bilingual group that develops recommendations on teaching students whose primary language is not English.
11. **SCHOLARSHIP NIGHTS** - Scholarship nights will be on the evenings of April 24 (Madera High School), April 25 (Torres High School), and April 26 (Madera South High School).

### Advanced Planning

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING** - The next regular Board Meeting will be Tuesday, April 25, in the Madera Unified School District Boardroom at 1902 Howard Road. The meeting will be held in person and virtually.