

Board of Trustees Meeting Synopsis

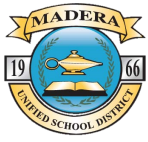
Tuesday, May 11, 2021

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

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](#) 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](#)).

Consent Agenda

1. **CARPET PROJECTS** - The Board unanimously approved acceptance of a bid by [RJ Commercial Flooring Company](#) to replace carpets at Eastin-Arcola, La Vina, Desmond, Pershing, Washington, and Sierra Vista schools. The project will benefit from the state's Deferred Maintenance Program, which offers matching funds to aid school districts with major repairs or replacements. The total estimated cost for removing and installing carpets at six schools will be \$389,734.
2. **LEADERSHIP TRAINING** - The Board unanimously okayed an agreement with the [National Center on Education and Economy](#) (formerly known as NISL) to train 26 MUSD administrators in instructional leadership beginning this fall. The cost will be \$273,000. A total of 97 district administrators have completed the training previously.
3. **ONLINE SUMMER COURSES** - The Board unanimously approved expanding the online classes to be offered this summer through online curriculum provider [Edgenuity](#). The additional classes will be for first-time studies rather than to raise prior grades. Staff said the ratio of teachers to students will be lower this summer than in the past due social distancing restrictions. So the use of Edgenuity classes will enable MUSD summer staff to focus on helping students pass previously failed classes, which is an "area of most need." The cost will be \$70,500 from an [Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant](#).
4. **LA VINA PRESCHOOL** - The Board unanimously okayed seeking a State Preschool program license for La Vina Elementary School for this coming school year. The full-day, full-year program would care for 3 and 4 year old children. Part-day programs already exist at 11 other MUSD schools. A Parent Square survey revealed that 58 area families require preschool for their children and 24 need full-day preschool. The district would cover 67 percent of the cost of a full-time equivalent teacher, which would cost about \$60,376.
5. **ROBOTICS GRANT** - The Board unanimously approved acceptance of a \$9,682.25 [U Skills Fund](#) grant from the [Packaging Machinery Manufacturers Institute](#) to the MUSD Agriculture Department. Staff said the grant will be used with Madtown Robotics 1323 to further manufacturing skills in robotics at Matilda Torres High School. [ADCO Manufacturing](#), a THS robotics supporter, submitted the grant request on behalf of the school's [FIRST](#) Robotics club.



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6. **MADERA FFA TRIP** - The Board unanimously okayed a [Madera FFA](#) field trip from May 13-16 for a Madera South High School student and an adult to the State FFA Officer Final Interviews in Sacramento. The cost will be \$150 for transportation and \$600 for lodging with funding from a [Perkins Grant](#) and the MSHS Associated Student Body.
7. **STAFF CHANGES** - The Board unanimously approved the creation of three new full-time positions: Intervention Specialist for Thomas Jefferson Middle School, and Behavioral Health Clinician (Licensed Clinical Social Worker) and Teacher on Special Assignment Response-to-Intervention Support Teacher for Mt. Vista High School. The Board okayed the filling of 12 new Information Systems Technician positions, a new Educational Informational Systems Manager position, a new Network Support Specialist position, and a new Maintenance Journeyman position at Maintenance and Operations. The Board also approved the hiring of 8 replacement teachers.
8. **NEW DIRECTORS** - The Board unanimously okayed the hiring of two new directors within Educational Services.
 - a. **Nicole Guerriero**, principal of Lincoln Elementary School, will be the new director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment - Elementary.
 - b. **Mercedes Ochoa**, principal of Madison Elementary School, will be the new director of Language and Literacy.
9. **SCHOOL CALENDAR** - The Board unanimously approved the MUSD School Calendar for the 2021-2022 school year, which was created in consultation with the Madera Unified Teachers Association. Staff said MUSD negotiated unsuccessfully with MUTA for additional student and teacher days.
10. **NEW POSITIONS** - The Board unanimously okayed three new certificated positions and job descriptions. The Coordinator of Physical Education and Athletics will direct and lead in the planning, execution, and assessment of the district's physical education program and wellness policy. The Elementary STEM Teacher and the Teacher Elementary Art both will offer specialized instruction rather than following the "one teacher, one classroom" approach, staff said. The change is part of an attempt to provide more personalized attention and diverse courses for students and greater differentiation for teachers as part of [a systemic redesign of MUSD](#).
11. **SALARY REVISIONS** - The Board unanimously approved increases to the salary schedules of certificated and classified staff as well as substitutes. This included two 2% salary increases. The first is retroactive to the 2019-2020 school year and the second will take effect next school year. The additional costs will be \$3,222,486 for 2019-20 and \$3,647,903 for 2020-21.
12. **STAFF WELLNESS** - The Board unanimously okayed a contract with [Whitefawn Wellness](#) to teach MUSD staff relaxation techniques, mindfulness, sound therapies, therapeutic yoga, and [reiki](#) through June 31, 2022. Staff said the company's goal is to help people maximize their



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physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual potential. The cost is not to exceed \$8,500 from a Cowell Foundation Grant.

Old Business

CORE STAFFING - The Board unanimously approved the 2021-22 core staffing proposal, which was summarized in [the previous Board of Trustees meeting synopsis](#).

New Business

1. **DISTRICT REDESIGN** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with the National Center on Education and the Economy to continue the work of the [District System Design Partnership](#) through June 30, 2023. This effort to help MUSD redesign how it operates originally began in September 2019 but was interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic in spring of 2020. The renewed effort will focus on planning and communication through August 2021, on supporting collaborative professional learning time from spring 2021 through June 2022, and on career ladder design from May 2022 through Spring 2023. The cost will be \$300,000 from COVID-19 funds.
2. **NEW SCHOOL SITE** - The Board unanimously okayed acceptance of a 49.52 acre property donated by BFP Partnership to be used for a new elementary school.

Announcements

1. **PAC** - The Parent Advisory Committee will meet via Zoom at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 12. This group advises MUSD on its finances and consults, reviews, and comments on the district's Local Control and Accountability Plan.
2. **WELLNESS** - The Wellness Committee will be held via Zoom at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 12. This group enacts the district's Wellness Policy.

Advanced Planning

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