



# Board of Trustees Meeting Synopsis

## Tuesday, June 27, 2023

*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 minutes for the meeting are approved at later meetings and can then be viewed online ([click here](#)). Meeting videos can also be found online ([click here](#)).

### Roll Call

Nadeem Ahmad (Area 7), Gladys Diebert (Area 2), Joetta Fleak (Area 4), Ruben Mendoza (Area 3), Lucy Salazar (Area 5), and Ray Seibert (Area 1)

### Communications

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

### Information and Reports

1. **DISTRICT PERFORMANCE** – Staff presented a review of 2023 California Dashboard Local Performance Indicators, which the district reports to the state in its annual [Local Control and Accountability Plan](#). Indicators included feedback gathered by [Panorama Education](#) from students and families on school climate.
  - a. *For grades 3-5*, results were most favorable in the areas of “school belonging” (64% positive) and “school safety” (63% positive), which are results equal to or better than 80% and 70% of U.S. schools, respectively. The worst results were in the area of “school climate” (61% positive) and “school safety” (56% positive), which is equal to or better than 40% and 50% of U.S. schools, respectively.
  - b. *For grades 6-12*, results were most favorable in the area of “school belonging” (63% positive), which is equal to or better than 70% of U.S. schools. The worst results were in the areas of “school safety” (56% positive), “school climate” (39% positive), and “school engagement” (22% positive), which is equal to or better than 50%, 10%, and 10% of U.S. schools, respectively.

Other statistics discussed included the following:

- a. 489 students finished one or more of the 25 Career Pathway offerings.
- b. 716 students earned college credit by completing dual enrollment course work with Madera Community College.



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- c. 25.6% of students were enrolled in Advanced Placement and honors courses.
  - d. 34% of 8th grade students were enrolled at Madera Technical Exploration Center.
2. **UNION TIME** - David Holder, president of the Madera Unified Teachers Association, said he had heard and experienced firsthand that summer school is “going very well” in its third week.

### Consent Agenda

1. **PRE-ACADEMY EVENING** - The Board of Trustees unanimously approved a professional development evening for the Strategic Executive Cabinet, directors, coordinators, principals, and vice-principals on July 17 at [Roger Rocka's Dinner Theater](#). The evening will be led by former Coyote Drama teacher Dan Passano. The cost is not to exceed \$10,000 from the General Fund.
2. **VEHICLE PURCHASES** - The Board unanimously and formally resolved that public, competitive bidding was infeasible for the purchase of 8 vehicles needed by the district. The resolution authorized staff to buy them directly from dealerships or manufacturers.
3. **BULLDOG BOUND** - The Board unanimously okayed a solemn yet nonbinding agreement with Fresno State University for the [Bulldog Bound](#) program, which guarantees admission to MUSD high school students who meet minimum requirements. The program costs the district nothing.
4. **FIELD TRIPS** - The Board unanimously approved four high school field trips in July through November involving more than 35 students and 10 adults. The largest and farthest trip will fly 18 [Future Farmers of America](#) students and 4 adults to Indianapolis, Indiana, for the [National FFA Convention and Expo](#). The total costs of the four trips will be \$15,950 for transportation and \$16,100 for lodging from Torres High School Athletics Boosters, the Associated Student Body at Madera South High School, and [AIG Matching Grants Program](#) funds as well as a [Perkins](#) grant for career and technical education.
5. **STAFF CHANGES** - The Board unanimously okayed the filling of 12 vacant teaching positions, 2 vacant Behavioral Intervention Technician positions, 2 vacant Groundsperson II positions, 9 other classified jobs, and 5 other certificated jobs.
6. **SUBSTITUTE PAY** - The Board unanimously approved keeping a teacher substitute rate of \$220 per day and a long-term substitute teacher rate of \$250 per day. Staff said the district attracted more substitutes in the 2021-2022 school year than before due to the pay rate.
7. **WAIVERS** - The Board unanimously okayed a waiver allowing Maria Isabel-Lorenzo of Secondary Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment and Amanda Wade of the Teacher Support Mentor Program to continue to coordinate their staff. A “variable term” waiver is an option for



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school districts if an applicant lacks the proper credential for an assignment, staff said. Both are enrolled in a program, Bridges to Leadership, to earn an Administrative Service Credential.

8. **2024-2025 CALENDAR** - The Board unanimously approved a MUSD calendar for the 2024-2025 school year. Teaching days will drop by four compared to the 2023-2024 school year for a total of 183 days. The 2024-2025 school year will begin on August 12, 2024, and end on June 8, 2025. Winter break will be Dec. 23, 2024, to Jan. 10, 2025. Spring break will be April 14-18, 2025.
9. **COMPENSATION STUDY** - The Board unanimously ratified an agreement with Eric Hall & Associates for a two-year district wide Classification and Compensation Study of Classified Positions from Oct. 14, 2020, to June 14, 2023. The completion of the study was delayed by nine months due to COVID-19 restrictions and a request by the district to create 23 new job classifications. The study's cost was \$61,133.50 from General Funds.
10. **EVENT MANAGEMENT** - The Board unanimously okayed a subscription agreement with [Blackthorn.io](https://blackthorn.io) for an [event management app](#) from June 28, 2023, through June 30, 2024. The app can be used within [Salesforce](#) marketing software and can be fed into the [Aeries Student Information System](#), both of which are used by the district. In the past, workshops and classes offered by the Parent Resource Centers were tracked via several spreadsheets, staff said, and it was difficult and time-consuming to create reports by school or pyramid. Besides centralizing data, the new app will automate reminders and confirmations that were previously done by staff. The subscription cost will be \$23,190 in General Funds.
11. **ACADEMY KEYNOTE** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with Imani Enterprises Consulting to have its owner [Chike Akua](#), an assistant professor at [Clark Atlanta University](#), present a keynote speech at the Leadership Academy on July 18-21. Akua will speak on the role of culture in education. The cost will be \$15,000 from the General Fund.

### Old Business

1. **LCAP** - The Board of Trustees unanimously approved with modifications the 2023-2024 [Local Control and Accountability Plan](#), which describes progress and expenses in striving for district and school-wide goals for students. California requires school districts to submit the three-year plan yearly in order to receive state funds.
2. **BUDGET** - The Board okayed the 2023-2024 Adopted Budget, which details projections of anticipated income and expenses. A May revision of the state budget included an 8.22% cost-of-living adjustment and a reduction to two grants (learning recovery and the arts). Enrollment for 2023-2024 is projected to increase by 161 students to 20,312, but General Fund revenue is expected to drop by \$54 million, mostly due to declines in one-time funds such as COVID-19 relief. (The district has received a total of \$205 million in COVID-related funds



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since the start of the pandemic in 2020, but is not anticipated to receive any more COVID funds after the 2023-2024 school year.) MUSD may add 106 new positions in 2023-2024.

### New Business

**KING HUSEIN SCHOOL** - The Board of Trustees [tabled](#) a 90-page Educational Specifications document by [Darden Architects](#) for the proposed King Husein Elementary School. The specifications, which will be discussed at a special board meeting on July 18, include the school's expected enrollment, grade-level configuration, emphases in teaching content and methods, spaces to be included, and functions it will serve for its community. The state requires such information before it will approve a school's architectural design. According to the document, the school may have 1,024 total students in 29 classrooms for pre-kindergarten, transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1-8. Art, music, career technical education, physical education, [expanded learning opportunities](#), and special education are also anticipated.

### Announcements

1. **SUMMER SCHOOL** - The district's summer school will end next week on Thursday, July 6.
2. **SPECIAL BOARD MEETING** - A special meeting of the Board of Trustees on future facilities projects will be Tuesday, July 18, in the Madera Unified School District Boardroom at 1902 Howard Road. The meeting will be held in person and virtually.

### Advanced Planning

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