



Board of Trustees Meeting Synopsis

Tuesday, July 23, 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 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), 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)

Communications

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

Consent Agenda

1. **SERVICE WITH PRIDE/HALL OF FAME** - The Board of Trustees unanimously approved a lease agreement with the [Manor Estate](#) in rural Madera County to host up to 300 attendees of two events: the Student Champion Hall of Fame and Service with Pride. Manor Estate is large enough to hold both events on the same evening. The Hall of Fame honors former employees or community members who made a positive impact on the district, its staff, and/or its students, staff said. Service with Pride celebrates staff for significant years of service. The cost will be \$20,000 from donations to the General Fund.
2. **KING HUSEIN SCHOOL** - The Board unanimously okayed an agreement with [Salem Engineering Group Inc.](#) for materials testing and special inspection for the first increment of the King Husein School project. The testing lab's work is required by the state for the construction can occur. The cost will be \$194,512.50 from the Building Fund.
3. **MADISON SCHOOL** - The Board unanimously approved a one-year lease agreement with the [Mobile Modular Management Corporation](#) for two temporary portable classrooms at Madison School. The pair would be used for 8th grade students until a new building is built for the campus, which would be completed late in 2025 at the earliest. The cost will be \$85,182 from the Building Fund.
4. **FREEZER PROJECT** - The Board unanimously okayed a change order for the Child Nutrition Center walk-in freezer project, which began construction in November 2023. The change will involve installation of a 8-inch water service line that would carry water from the city's main



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- line on Gill Avenue to the center. This will improve the center's water pressure so that its fire sprinkler system can function properly. The cost will be \$181,069.78 from the Cafeteria Fund.
5. **ASSEMBLY SPEAKER** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with [CoolSpeak](#), which will provide a keynote speaker for kick-off assemblies at Madera (Aug. 13), Madera South (Aug. 15), and Torres (Aug. 16) high schools. [Lilyan Prado-Carrillo](#), an immigrant from Guatemala, will share her personal story on education. The cost will be \$4,500 per school (\$13,500 total) from [Title I](#) or [California Community Schools Partnership Program](#) grant funds
 6. **NEWCOMER ACADEMY** - The Board unanimously ratified a textbook budget increase for the 7-12th grade Newcomer Academy program. The curriculum cost will increase by \$22,000 to a total of \$82,000, which will come from restricted lottery funds. Newcomer Academy added two new high school programs in June due to a growing number of newly immigrant students with limited to no English. VISTA Higher Learning's [Get Ready!](#) curriculum will be used.
 7. **STAFF TRAINING** - The Board unanimously okayed an agreement with the [Core Collaborative](#), which will train middle school staff in best practices in mathematics instruction. The cost will be \$107,100 in Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant funds.
 8. **MHS WATER POLO** - The Board unanimously approved two Madera High School water polo field trips to Santa Maria. Each will bring 12 students and three adults by van to the city for a tournament. Boys Water Polo will travel at the end of August, and Girls Water Polo will do so early in September. The total costs will be \$1,468 for transportation and \$1,200 for lodging from MHS Athletics funds.
 9. **NEW LEADERS** - The Board unanimously sanctioned the hiring of the following leaders.
 - a. Program Specialist *Adrian Samuelson* of Special Education
 - b. Vice Principal *Christopher Rodriguez* of Jefferson Middle School
 - c. Vice Principal *Marcie Osier* of Desmond Middle School
 - d. Vice Principal *Karen Almarez* of King Jr. Middle School
 - e. Vice Principal *Alan Sandoval* of Monroe Elementary School
 - f. Vice Principal *Cortney King* of Lincoln Elementary School
 10. **STAFF CHANGES** - The Board unanimously okayed the filling of 110 high school coaching positions for fall, 34 middle school coaching positions for fall, 20 teaching positions, 17 paraprofessional aide jobs, a gymnastics coach job for fall, 13 other classified positions, and eight other certificated positions.
 11. **BEREAVEMENT LEAVE** - The Board unanimously approved solemn nonbinding agreements with the [Madera Unified Teachers Association](#) and the local chapter #169 of the [California School Employees Association](#) regarding bereavement leave. As required by state [Assembly Bill 1949](#), eligible staff will be able to take five days of bereavement leave within three months of the death of a family member (spouse, child, parent, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, domestic partner, or parent-in-law). The state approved AB 1949 in 2022.



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12. **INSURANCE TRACKING** - The Board unanimously okayed an agreement with consultant Pacific Insurance Network Systems (doing business as [PINS Advantage](#)) for automated liability insurance tracking software. Staff said about 350 contractors and vendors served the district in the 2023-2024 school year, and each had to offer proof of authorized insurance during their time of service. So software to help monitor all this directly impacts the growth of staff and students. The cost will be \$9,500 from the Risk Management Budget.
13. **NEW & REVISED JOBS** - The Board unanimously approved a new Nurse on Special Assignment job and a revised job description for Community Support Specialist.
- Nurse on Special Assignment* (\$73,002-\$111,857 per year) will train staff in health services, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation classes, help orient new health staff, assist with Medi-Cal billing, and may participate in meetings with the community.
 - Community Support Specialist* (\$71,410-\$92,937 per year) now must have a bachelor's degree in criminology, psychology, sociology, social work, criminal justice, or a related field "to support the intensive case management services" for the districts most at-risk students, staff said.

Old Business

POLICES & REGULATIONS - The Board of Trustees unanimously adopted revised Madera Unified School District policies and regulations (0000-7000 Series and 9000 Series). The "[global](#)" revisions were proposed by the [California School Boards Association](#) and reviewed by district leaders. The revisions were made to comply with new laws. District leadership and the Board have struggled to keep pace with vast numbers of quarterly updates over the years, said Superintendent Todd Lile, therefore justifying CSBA's proposed global policy update.

Changes include the following:

- **INTERNET** - School district websites are "closed" – not public – forums. Closed forums do not offer freedom of expression. (Policy & Regulation 1113) Official district social media or networking accounts are not to be created or used without prior written approval. (Policy 1114)
- **PERSONAL PROPERTY** - The Board of Trustees shall approve the price and terms of any sale or lease of the district's personal property with a value more than \$10,000. (Policy 3270)
- **CONTRACTS** - The Superintendent or a designee may approve an increase of 10% or less – not to exceed \$10,000 – to a previously Board-approved services contract. (Policy 3300)



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- **PETTY CASH** - Petty cash funds at schools shall be used not only for unforeseen small school expenses but also for cash-on hand at school events. Expenses paid by petty cash funds shall be documented and summarized monthly. Funds shall be reconciled monthly and are subject to audit by the district's auditors. (Regulation 3451)
- **SECURITY VIDEO** - Security video recordings of a specific incident involving a student shall be treated as part of the student's academic record. (Regulation 3515)
- **TRANSPORT** - Personal vehicles used to transport students for school activities must have seatbelts for each passenger and liability insurance coverage of \$100,000/\$300,000 for bodily injury, \$50,000 for property damage, and \$2,000 for medical payments – per accident. (Exhibit 3541.1)
- **EMPLOYEE TRANSFERS** - The criteria for choosing a certificated employee to transfer no longer includes the option of considering input from principals at the employee's current or potential school. (Policy 4114)
- **EVALUATIONS** - Employees shall be evaluated at least every other year. Distinguished employees who've worked for the district for 10 years or more may instead be evaluated at least once every four years. Certificated employees shall now receive a written copy of their evaluation by May 1 of that school year. (Regulation 4115)
- **SICK LEAVE** - When donating accrued sick leave to others, employees must keep at least 10 days of sick leave for themselves. (Regulation 4161.9)
- **PARAPROFESSIONALS** - Paraprofessionals must demonstrate reading, writing, and mathematics skills at or exceeding a high school senior level, and may not assign grades to students or any other duties exclusive to a classroom teacher. (Regulation 4200)
- **DEATHS** - To attend a funeral or grieve, a student may miss no more than five days of school per death of an "immediate family" member, which is a status decided by the student's parent or guardian. (Regulation 5113)
- **HEALTH** - Any student who leaves the U.S. for more than six months may be required to complete a new tuberculosis skin test or risk assessment before re-entering school. (Regulation 5141.31)
- **SUSPENSIONS** - A student with a disability may be suspended for up to five consecutive school days for a single incident or misconduct. (Regulation 5144.2)
- **FALSE WITNESS** - Students who knowingly file false complaints of sexual harassment or sexual violence or who knowingly give false statements during an investigation shall be subject to discipline up to and including suspension and expulsion. This applies also to any student found to retaliate against another in such cases. (Policy 5145.7)
- **DIPLOMA** - To graduate with a regular high school diploma, students must – among other requirements – complete four courses in English, three in mathematics, three in



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physical education, and a Senior Portfolio and Showcase. Each of these courses shall be a year long. (Policy 6146.1)

New Business

SCHOOL BONDS - The Board of Trustees unanimously resolved to ask the Madera County Board of Supervisors to adopt a tax rate and levy a tax for MUSD general obligation bonds. An estimated \$50 million in bonds are expected to be sold to fund the construction of King Husein School.

Announcements

1. **STUDENT CHAMPION** - Human Resources will host the district's annual Student Champion course for newly hired certificated staff at the Madera South High School cafeteria on Tuesday, Aug. 6.
2. **TEACHER ORIENTATION** - New teacher orientation will be held at the Madera South High School Cafeteria on Wednesday, Aug. 7.
3. **SCHOOL BEGINS** - The first day of school will be on Monday, Aug. 12.

Advanced Planning

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - The next regular Board Meeting will be Tuesday, August 13, in the Madera Unified School District Boardroom at 1902 Howard Road. The meeting will be held in person and virtually.