



Board of Trustees Meeting Synopsis

Tuesday, September 12, 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

Israel Cortes (Area 6), Emmely Duque Martinez (Torres High School), Gladys Diebert (Area 2), Joetta Fleak (Area 4), Ruben Mendoza (Area 3), Lucy Salazar (Area 5), and Ray Seibert (Area 1)

Communications

1. **EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR** - Staff presented Paraprofessional Aide [Paula Garibay](#) of Sierra Vista Elementary School with the 2022-2023 Loretta Edwards Classified Employee of the Year. She was commended for creating ways to help Spanish-speaking parents, for organizing and volunteering for school events, and for her understanding and respect for the backgrounds of all Sierra Vista families.
2. **WINNING ARTWORK** - The [Association of Mexican American Educators](#) and MUSD presented the winners of the Hispanic Heritage Month Poster Contest.
 - a. 1st place: Sophomore Erika Cruz Salazar of Madera South High School
 - b. 2nd place: Madera High School graduate Diego Salazar Angel
 - c. 3rd place: Senior Nizhoni Gallegos of MSHS
3. **[MADERA MINUTES](#)** - Staff shared a video summarizing recent student and staff activities.

Consent Agenda

1. **BILLBOARD CAMPAIGN** - The Board of Trustees unanimously approved an agreement with Fresno-based [Outfront Media](#) for a 10.5-month advertising campaign to promote the achievements of MUSD students. Seven Madera billboards by State Route 99 would be rented one at a time between September 2023 and July 2024. The cost will be \$800 per month for billboard rental and \$110 per 10' 5" x 22' 8" poster produced for display. The total cost of \$9,170 will be from the General Fund.
2. **SPORTS TICKETING** - The Board unanimously okayed a one-year agreement with [SI Tickets](#) for promotional and registration services to the district's recently established Madera



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Community Athletic Recreation Department, which will offer community sports activities. The cost will be \$1,000 from [Expanded Learning Opportunities Program](#) funds.

3. **SPORTS BRANDING** - The Board unanimously approved the district's five-year participation in the [Varsity Impact Program](#) through [Varsity Brands](#). The company will provide "[identity branding](#)" for the Community Athletic Recreation Department at no charge and in exchange will be the "preferred provider" of athletic clothing, supplies, and equipment. The branding service will include a collaborative design of a mascot for the department as well as free branded "[media backdrops](#)," pop-up tents, rugs, loveseats, chairs, and tables.
4. **AFTER-SCHOOL WRITING** - The Board unanimously okayed the purchase of [Write Brain](#) writing curriculum for the After School Program. Transitional kindergarten through 8th grade students will write poems, letters, journal entries, short stories, rap songs, and animation scripts. The cost is not to exceed \$225,000 from [Expanded Learning Opportunities Program](#) funds.
5. **AFTER-SCHOOL ARTS** - The Board unanimously approved a revised agreement with the [Madera County Arts Council](#) for After School Program arts enrichment lessons at all elementary and middle schools this school year. Prior to this January, the lessons were only at select schools, and the expansion to all schools increased costs. The administrative costs are not to exceed \$107,207 and the artists labor costs are not to exceed \$118,020.
6. **AFTER-SCHOOL ZOO** - The Board unanimously okayed an agreement with [Fresno Chaffee Zoo](#) to provide two-week lessons on animals and the natural world during the After School Program (transitional kindergarten through 6th grade). The zoo would also offer a one-week program about zoo and field science careers to three middle and four high schools. The cost is not to exceed \$152,400 from [Expanded Learning Opportunities Program](#) funds.
7. **FIELD TRIPS** - The Board unanimously approved 12 high school field trips involving about 90 students and 20 adults. The largest trip will bring 33 Madera High School athletes and 7 adults by van to Irvine for the 42nd annual [Woodbridge Cross Country Classic](#) in mid-September. The farthest trip will take 18 MHS students and 2 adults by van to Riverside for the 77th annual [Family, Career and Community Leaders of America State Leadership Conference](#) in late April. The total costs will be \$12,585 for transportation and \$24,276 for lodging from Athletics, Athletic Boosters, Associated Student Body, and [Perkins](#) and [Career Technical Education Incentive](#) grants.
8. **EMPLOYEE TRIPS** - The Board unanimously okayed potential reimbursement requests for two trips to Seattle, Washington, for a total of 13 district employees: a flight in mid-October for [Character Strong Tier 2](#) training and one in mid-January for [Get Your Teach On](#) training. The total cost will be \$20,000 from [California Community Schools Partnership Program](#) grant funds and the Teacher Support Mentors' General Fund.



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9. **STAFF CHANGES** - The Board unanimously approved the filling of 7 vacant cafeteria/playground aide positions, 5 vacant paraprofessional aide positions, 4 new student advocate jobs, 3 vacant teaching positions, 3 new teaching jobs, 3 vacant Child Nutrition assistant I positions, 16 other classified jobs, and 3 other certificated jobs.
10. **RETIREEES** - The Board unanimously accepted the retirements of Parkwood School teacher *Alycia Cabello-Garcia*, who will retire on June 6, 2024, after 36 years of service, and bus driver *Kearney Hayes*, who retired on Sept. 5, 2023, after 7 years of service.
11. **NEW LEADER** - The Board sanctioned the hiring of [Fabian Casillas Iñiguez](#) as the new vice principal of Virginia Lee Rose Elementary School.
12. **CREDENTIAL WAIVER** - The Board unanimously okayed a waiver allowing [Karen Mendoza](#) to coordinate Dual Language and Teacher Residency Program staff. A “variable term” waiver is an option for school districts if an applicant lacks the proper credential for an assignment, staff said. Mendoza is enrolled in a program, [Bridges to Leadership](#), to earn an Administrative Service Credential by Dec. 1, 2023.
13. **REVISED JOBS** - The Board unanimously approved revisions to two jobs.
 - a. *Athletic Directors* will work 205 days a year (an increase of seven days) and will now be paid equally to a high school vice principal (\$119,542-\$134,103 per year).
 - b. *Communications Analyst* (\$71,410-\$92,937 per year) will now focus on both internal and external communications.
14. **GANG PREVENTION** - The Board unanimously okayed an agreement with [Hector Garibay](#) to provide gang prevention and intervention services through June 30, 2024. Garibay has more than 20 years of law enforcement experience. The cost will be \$60,000 from the General Fund.
15. **THS TRAINING** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with [Learning for Living](#) to train Torres High School staff this school year. Learning for Living will conduct a 4-hour workshop at Torres High School to promote stronger relations with students and fellow staff. The cost will be \$6,500 from [California Community Schools Partnership Program Grant](#) funds.

Old Business

DEVELOPER FEES - The Board approved a 2023 School Facility Needs Analysis (SFNA) authorizing the levying of alternative school facility fees on residential development, but chose not to increase the district’s fees for home developers. Residential development fees will stay at \$5.04 per square foot instead of rising to the potential maximum of \$7.83 per square foot specified in the analysis. The SFNA estimates the growth in student population due to new homes and calculates the funds needed to welcome those new students, which can require building school facilities. The maximum fee proposed by the analysis is meant to help the district meet those future needs.



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New Business

FINANCIAL REPORT - The Board unanimously approved the 2022-23 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report, which covers the district's financial status.

- **Enrollment & Attendance** - This school year's estimated enrollment is 20,312 students and estimated average daily attendance is 18,584 (91%), which is lower than pre-pandemic years.
- **General Fund Revenue** - This school year's estimated revenue is \$424.3 million, which is 91% of the revenue received last school year. Part of that decline is due to a 57% drop in COVID-19 Relief Funds and other one-time funds, which are estimated to be \$39 million this school year.
- **General Fund Expenditures** - This school year's total expenditures are \$494.3 million, which is an increase of 22% compared to last school year. Most of this (60% or \$298.2 million) is for salaries and benefits. The second largest expenditure is Special Education (7% or \$34 million).
- **Interfund Transfers** - This school year's interfund transfers totaled \$16 million. Most of this (63% or \$10 million) was transferred to the building fund (Fund 41).
- **Building Fund Projects** - The Building Fund has provided \$2.4 million for the Torres High School Stadium, \$18 million for the transitional kindergarten expansion at four schools, \$1.2 million for a solar project, \$10 million for the Madera High School Field House, \$16.5 million for the MHS Stadium modernization, \$12.3 million for the 7th-8th grade expansion at Madison Elementary School, and \$2.5 million for the kitchen and air conditioning modernization at Thomas Jefferson Middle School.
- **Ending Balance & Reserve** - This school year's estimated ending balance is \$95.2 million, and about half of those funds are non-spendable, assigned, or committed. The remainder (\$47.9 million) is the district's estimated reserve – 9.7% of the total expenditures budget.
- **One-time Funds Update** - The last of the district's [Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds](#) – \$27.3 million – will be depleted at the end of this school year. The funds were a result of the U.S. federal government's COVID-19 economic stimulus bills. The district has been awarded about \$201 million in COVID-19 Relief Funds and other one-time funds since 2020.
- **Multiyear Projections** - New revenue via the state's [Local Control Funding Formula](#) is estimated to total \$20.1 million for 2023-2024, \$9.3 million for 2024-2025, and \$9.2 million for 2025-2026. New expenses are estimated to total \$19.6 million for 2023-2024, \$17.3 million for 2024-2025, and \$7.2 million for 2025-2026.



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Announcements

1. **PACE CONFERENCE** - The 7th annual Parent and Community Engagement Conference will be held Friday, Sept. 22, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Torres High School.
2. **UNITY CONFERENCE** - The [California Latino School Boards Association](#)'s [Unity 2023 Conference](#) will be held Sept. 28-30 in Long Beach. The association promotes the education of Hispanic students.

Advanced Planning

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - The next regular Board Meeting will be Tuesday, September 26, in the Madera Unified School District Boardroom at 1902 Howard Road. The meeting will be held in person and virtually.