



Board of Trustees Meeting Synopsis

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

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 when available ([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](#)).

Closed Session

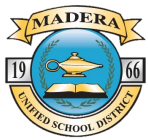
DISCIPLINARY AGREEMENT - After the meeting's closed session, Superintendent Todd Lile reported that the Board of Trustees unanimously approved a Disciplinary Agreement with "employee #5250." No further details were shared.

Information and Reports

UNION TIME - David Holder, president of the Madera Unified Teachers' Association, said that, amidst a pandemic and "serious California fires," the union asks "that the policy on remote work be made available for MUTA members who need the accommodations" it offers.

Consent Agenda

1. **TEMPORARY TECHNICIANS** - The Board of Trustees unanimously ratified the use of a temporary staffing agency, Robert Half Technology, by the Information and Technology Department. Staff said the pandemic increased the workload for the department, which already had several vacancies. The staffing agency provided four Desktop Support Analysts in August. The cost is \$30,000 in COVID-19 Relief Funds.
2. **TEACHER TRAINING** - The Board of Trustees unanimously okayed a consultant services agreement with Frog Street Press to virtually train preschool and transitional kindergarten teachers for four hours. The teachers will learn Frog Street curriculum and distance learning strategies on Sept. 9-10. The cost will be \$1,475 in Preschool Program funds.
3. **STAFFING CHANGES** - The Board of Trustees unanimously approved 7 new, temporary, full-time equivalent Communication Technician positions and a new, full-time Software Developer position. Trustees also authorized hiring 4 new Information Systems Specialists and filling three vacant Child Nutrition Assistant I positions and a vacant Maintenance Journeyman position.



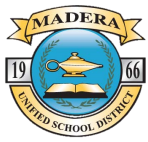
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4. **NEW LEADER** - The Board of Trustees unanimously okayed assigning Matthew Tobin to fill the vacant position of Vice Principal at Desmond Middle School. Tobin said he was humbled, honored, and excited, but realized the pandemic created challenges. "I want to be someone who can be a bridge to be there for kids... But I'm also aware that our staff needs a lot of support as well."
5. **NEW OR REVISED JOBS** - The Board of Trustees unanimously approved revised or new job descriptions for Human Resources Manager, Print Shop Technician, Print Shop Technician Lead, Purchasing Technician, Transportation Operations Assistant, and Communications Technician. Trustees also okayed the creation of a new certificated part-time position for virtual learning, Migrant Education Teacher.
6. **MUTA MOU**- The Board of Trustees unanimously approved a revised Memorandum of Understanding with the Madera Unified Teachers Association about issues related to COVID-19 and the opening of schools for the current school year. The memorandum details pandemic precautions (such as face covering, hand washing, and health screening), distance learning, and procedures for leaves, transfers, COVID-19 exposure, site closures, and more. It also commits MUSD to offer personal protective equipment to teachers and students any day they're at a school site.

Old Business

1. **HOME DEVELOPMENT FEES** - The Board of Trustees okayed the levying of a fee of \$5.25 per square foot on residential development. A School Facility Needs Analysis in May concluded MUSD would be justified in levying a fee of \$6.06 per square foot, but some trustees expressed concern for the impact that might have on local development.
2. **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FEES** - The Board of Trustees approved the levying of a fee of 66 cents per square foot on commercial and industrial development. The amount was recommended by a Fee Justification Study.
3. **SUICIDE PREVENTION** - The Board of Trustees approved a revised Board Policy and Administrative Regulation (5151.52) on suicide prevention. The changes expand suicide awareness and prevention to be for students and teachers at all grade levels, instead of just for secondary schools. The changes also require that student instructions in problem-solving and coping skills be "age appropriate."



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New Business

1. **MHS MODERNIZATION** - The Board of Trustees okayed Change Order #3 for the Madera High School CTE Modernization Project. Changes include asbestos and gas line removal, ceiling tile replacement, roof downspout relocation, cheaper locksets, more painting and trim, updated equipment for the Auto Shop and Heavy Diesel shop, and more. The cost will be \$138,519.82 from the General Fund. The remaining contingency budget will be \$181,170.89.
2. **FIRST READINGS** - The Board of Trustees listened to several first readings of proposed plans and policies. These included an update to the district's sexual harassment policy and regulation, this year's School Plan for Student Achievement for our elementary and middle schools, and the newly required Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan. These items will be adjusted as needed and re-presented for approval at future Board meetings.

Advanced Planning

1. **SPECIAL BOARD MEETING** - A special Board Meeting on student board member training will be Thursday, September 17, at 4:00 p.m. The meeting will be held virtually.
2. **REGULAR BOARD MEETING** - The next regular Board Meeting will be Tuesday, September 22, in the Madera Unified School District Boardroom at 1902 Howard Road. The meeting will be held virtually.