

This meeting was held via Zoom. The video of this meeting can be viewed/listened to by clicking [here](#), or in the Zoom Video Recording section of the Board page in our website at www.madera.k12.ca.us

MADERA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Madera: Unified For Student Success

Board of Trustees Meeting

MINUTES

Special Meeting

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Meeting will be held via Zoom, a cloud-based video communication that holds virtual meetings.

Click [here](#) to access the link to the Zoom meeting or from the link included in page 2.

8:00 AM - Public Meeting

OUR MISSION

We are committed to creating and sustaining a culture enabling Madera Unified students to experience an unparalleled educational journey that is intellectually, socially, and personally transformative.

1. 8:00 AM: Call to Order of Public Meeting

President Mendoza called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:09 a.m.

2. Roll call and Pledge of Allegiance

President Mendoza welcomed the media. President Mendoza asked Gladys Diebert to call the Roll of Trustees. President Mendoza asked Trustee Fleak to lead the flag salute. The meeting was recorded on Audio File No. 13-2020/21.

Board Members Present

Ruben Mendoza, President

Joetta Fleak, Trustee

J. Gordon Kennedy, Trustee

Ed McIntyre, Trustee

Lucy Salazar, Trustee

Ray Seibert, Trustee

Incoming Board Member

Israel Cortes, Trustee

Board Members Absent

Brent Fernandes, Clerk

Student Board Members Present

None.

Superintendent's Executive Cabinet Present & Online

Todd Lile, Superintendent

Sandon Schwart, Deputy Superintendent
Sheryl Sisil, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
Kent Albertson, Chief Human Resources Officer
Arelis Garcia, Chief Financial Officer
Linda Monreal, Area Assistant Superintendent
Jesse Carrasco, Area Assistant Superintendent
Oracio Rodriguez, Area Assistant Superintendent
Rebecca Malmo, Executive Director of Family and Student Support Services
Babatunde Ilori, Executive Director of Accountability and Communications
Gladys Diebert, Senior Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and the Board of Trustees

Union Representatives Present Online

David Holder, MUTA President
Cheri Giddens, CSEA President

There were approximately 35 members of the public and District staff present and online.

3. Request Adoption of Resolution No. 20-2020/21 on Student Grading During COVID-19 School Closure and Distance Learning Instruction

Sheryl Sisil, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services presented the item to the Board. Assistant Superintendent Sisil stated that the resolution emphasizes the direction set in Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5121 regarding student grading. Assistant Superintendent Sisil stated that the district saw a decrease in students' grades that went to Ds and Fs which raised concerns among staff and parents but noticed this is an issue nationwide due to the current situation. Assistant Superintendent Sisil informed the Board that language in the resolution is a combined effort with the district's legal counsel. Also, both labor partners had an opportunity to review the language.

President Mendoza opened the item for public comment. Seeing no one come forward, President Mendoza closed the public comment and brought the item back to the Board for questions and comments.

The Board and staff engaged in a lengthy discussion on the effect of grades on students' mental health and wellbeing and what that students are grade for: effort and knowledge.

The Board requested the word "devastating" be replaced with "negative" in paragraph 11. The Board also requested the words "to punish" be replaced with "as a form of discipline" in paragraph 12.

It was moved by Trustee Seibert, seconded by Trustee Salazar, and carried by majority to adopt Resolution No. 20-2020/21 on Student Grading During COVID-19 School Closure and Distance Learning Instruction

Ayes: Trustees Fleak, Kennedy, Salazar, Seibert, and President Mendoza.
Noes: Trustee McIntyre
Absent: Clerk Fernandes
Abstained: None

**MOTION NO. XX-2020/21
RESOLUTION NO. 20-2020/21**

President Mendoza left the meeting at 9:21. Acting President Gordon Kennedy led for the remainder of the meeting.

4. Board Workshop

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A. District System Design Partnership (DSDP) Return - Facilitated by Edward V. Chevallier, National Center on Education and the Economy

*For detailed information on this portion of the meeting, you are invited to access the Zoom Video for this meeting [here](#).

Trustee Seibert left the meeting at 9:42 a.m.

5. Adjournment- MOTION NO. ____-2020/21

Acting President Kennedy adjourned the regular meeting at 12:00 p.m.



Dated: December 7, 2020

Mrs. Gladys A. Diebert

Senior Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees