

MADERA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Madera: Unified For Student Success

Board of Trustees Meeting

MINUTES

Special Meeting

Monday, June 29, 2020

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

5:00 PM Board Workshop - 6:00 PM - Closed Session

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. 5:00 PM: Call to Order of Public Meeting

President Mendoza called the Special Meeting of the MUSD Board of Trustees to order at 5:14 p.m. Superintendent Lile read the Vision and Mission of the district

2. Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance

President Mendoza asked Gladys Diebert to call the Roll of Trustees. President Mendoza asked Trustee Fleak lead the flag salute. The meeting was recorded on Audio File No. 44-2019/20.

Board Members Present

Ruben Mendoza, President

Brent Fernandes, Clerk

Joetta Fleak, Trustee

J. Gordon Kennedy, Trustee

Ed McIntyre, Trustee

Lucy Salazar, Trustee

Ray Seibert, Trustee

Board Members Absent

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

Rebecca Malmo, Executive Director of Family and Student Support Services
Babatunde Ilori, Executive Director of Accountability and Communications
Gladys A. Diebert, Senior Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees

Union Representatives Present Online

David Holder, MUTA President
Cheri Giddens, CSEA President

There were approximately 43 members of the public and District employees online.

3. Board Workshop

A. Budget Update Discussion

Arelis Garcia, Chief Financial Officer, presented the item to the Board. CFO Garcia provided an extensive presentation of the updates to the Budget from California Governor Newsome. The agenda for the presentation included:

- ☐ State Budget Agreement
- ☐ Revenue
- ☐ Expenditures
- ☐ Ending Balance & Reserve
- ☐ Multi-Year Projection

The Board and staff held an extensive discussion on this presentation. To view the complete presentation and discussion please visit the Board Meeting Audio page on our website.

President Mendoza opened the floor for public comment on this item.

David Holder, MUTA President, asked the Board if the district would avoid paying interest by borrowing money internally, like from the building fund instead of using TRANS.

CFO Garcia indicated she was waiting for information from Madera County Superintendent of Schools on this topic.

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

The Board recommended staff take another look at contract agreements and don't enter into agreements for which services may not be needed in the coming year. The Board requested staff take another look at the contract with The City of Madera for the Safety Resource Officers to see if the cuts could be made to this contract. The Board requested staff reconsider the elimination of contributions to the OPEB funds.

The Board recommended staff tier the borrowing through TRANS and continue to keep our reserves in place.

The Board expressed concerns with the expenses related to sanitation of our campuses.

CFO Arelis indicated that personal protective equipment expenses will be covered by the COVID-19 funds. The PPE funds could also be used for transportation, teacher training, WiFi network.

The Board recommended staff look into purchasing thermometers for temperature check on the school buses.

The Board requested staff look at bus stop radiuses and bring a report to the Board. The Board requested staff look into eliminating frozen positions, and take a look at administrative positions.

The Board expressed concern about TSAs going back to the classrooms and the need for accountability of teachers and the need to get students on grade level, especially grades K-3.

The Board expressed concerns with teacher training on the use of different platforms for distance learning.

The Board requested staff bring forward a report on the expenses for March and April. The Board.

The Board recommended distance learning become part of the equation to bring up the education gap.

The Board recommended staff gather feedback not only from staff and parents but also from students in regards to their education and stated they are also responsible for their education.

The Board expressed a sense of urgency regarding community WiFi and internet access at students' homes, and requested staff make this a priority for students to access materials through distance learning and focus on contracting with AT&T to improve internet connectivity.

Joseph Halford, Director of Technology informed the Board that he will be bringing options to the Board at the July 21 Board meeting and a request to do an RFP to have a personalized design for the district.

Superintendent Lile informed the Board staff will also meet with vendors or contacts the City of Madera had provided to the district.

The Board inquired about the Summer Feeding program.

CFO Garcia informed the Board that this program is USDA funded and available for high school students.

The Board requested staff keep students connected and supportive of students' emotional wellbeing.

The Board suggested staff look into morning and afternoon sessions for the upcoming year.

The Board asked staff whether some reductions could be reinstated.

CFO Garcia cautioned the Board on reinstatement of cuts made to the budget.

The Board expressed concerns with the lower grades and the need for teachers aides and fund programs that directly impact students.

CFO Garcia informed the Board that the goal is to keep the district fiscally solvent which requires all stakeholders to work together.

Superintendent Lile stated the district needs to be judicious about our budget but staff is working together with stakeholders to bring instruction to ours students and the goal is to close the education gap.

B. Adjournment of Board Workshop

President Mendoza adjourned the Board Workshop at 6:59 p.m. and opened the public meeting for Closed Session

4. **6:00 PM - Closed Session**

President Mendoza opened the floor for public comment on any item listed in the Closed Session Agenda. Seeing no one come forward, President Mendoza closed public comment. The Board adjourned to Closed Session to discuss the following matters:

A. **Conference With Labor Negotiator**

1. District Representative: Kent Albertson; Employee Organizations: MUTA, CSEA (Government Code section 54957.6)

5. **Reconvene Public Session**

President Mendoza adjourned the Closed Session at 9:12 p.m. and reconvened the Special Meeting by calling the Public Session to order at 9:15 p.m.

6. **Closed Session Reportable Actions** (*Government Code Section 54957.1*)

Superintendent Lile informed the Board there were no reportable action items from Closed Session.

7. **Adjournment**

President Mendoza adjourned the regular meeting at 9:15 p.m.



Mrs. Gladys A. Diebert
Senior Executive Assistant to the
Superintendent and Board of Trustees

Dated: June 29, 2020