



# Board of Trustees Meeting Synopsis

## Tuesday, August 8, 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

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.

### Information and Reports

**UNION TIME** - David Holder, president of the Madera Unified Teachers Association, praised the recent teacher orientation as well received, positive, and energetic. He also said MUTA members would document any physical threats against teachers that violate their contract with the district, and would reject waivers of class size limits or any other part of the contract should they be proposed.

### Consent Agenda

1. **PARKING LOTS** - The Board of Trustees unanimously approved an agreement with Yamabe & Horn Engineering to prepare for new asphalt at parking lots shared by Maintenance & Operations, Accounts Payable, Purchasing, and Facilities Planning and Construction Management. The lots are more than 30 years old and suffer from cracks, potholes, and seasonal flooding. Staff will work with the company to prepare schematic drawings, designs, and construction documents for grading and drainage work at 1205 S. Madera Ave. A proposed fixed fee of \$9,500 will be paid from Routine Restricted Maintenance funds.
2. **PRC LEASE** - The Board unanimously okayed an agreement with Rhino Holdings Madera to lease three suites at the Walmart Shopping Center, 2055 W. Cleveland Ave., for five years. Suites A, B, and C – which total 6,932 square feet – would be used to house three Parent Resource Centers. The base rent is \$9,011.60 per month plus about \$3,466 per month for



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common area maintenance, property taxes, and building insurance. Rent would rise 3% each year.

3. **EMPLOYEE TRIPS** - The Board unanimously approved a potential reimbursement request for an employee's flight in mid-September to Anchorage, Alaska, for the Section 7 and 8 Conference of the National Federation of State High School Associations. All costs are to be covered by the California Interscholastic Federation.
4. **STAFF CHANGES** - The Board unanimously okayed the filling of 13 vacant teaching positions, 8 custodian jobs, 6 paraprofessional aide jobs, 3 elementary drama teacher jobs, 3 preschool classroom aide jobs, 2 intervention specialist jobs, 2 bus driver jobs, 8 other certificated jobs, and 6 other classified jobs.
5. **NEW LEADERS** - The Board unanimously sanctioned the hiring of the following new leaders:
  - a. Dean of Curriculum and Instruction *Gabriella "Gabby" Faria Lopez* of Madera Technical Exploration Center
  - b. Vice Principal *William Quaschnick* of Alpha Elementary School
  - c. Vice Principal *Eleanor Esqueda* of Berenda Elementary School
  - d. Senior Executive Assistant *Norma Martinez* for the Superintendent and the Board of Trustees
6. **NEW JOB** - The Board unanimously approved a description for the new job of Low Voltage Systems Specialist, which will troubleshoot, repair, and install network data cabling around the district. The job's salary will be negotiated with the California School Employees Association.
7. **ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE** - The Board unanimously okayed an agreement with the Madera County Arts Council for an Artists-in-Residence program for the 2023-2024 school year. The program will bring working artists onto campus to model their artistic process and mentor students, staff said. The cost will be \$55,389 of [Proposition 28 funds](#).
8. **SPORTS SOFTWARE** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with [Aktivate](#) for software to manage middle school sports, including organization, communication, and fundraising. The cost will be \$1,200 in [Title I state funds](#).

### Old Business

**KING HUSEIN SCHOOL** - The Board approved a 90-page Educational Specifications document by [Darden Architects](#) for the proposed King Husein Elementary School. The specifications include the school's expected enrollment (1,024), grade-level configuration (pre-Kindergarten to 8th grade), emphases in teaching content and methods, spaces to be included (29 classrooms and more), and functions it will serve for its community. The state requires such information before it will approve a school's architectural design.



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### New Business

1. **GYMNASTICS FACILITY** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with [V-Force Elite Gymnastics](#) for access to a practice facility for district gymnastics teams and divers. Previously, MUSD relied on TEC Gymnastics, which shutdown late this spring. The cost will be \$12,000 from the Athletic Department's General Fund.
2. **WAGE STUDY** - The Board unanimously okayed a "Compensation Review: Phase 4 - Wage Survey of 64 Benchmark Job Classes" final report completed by Eric Hall & Associates. "Of the 64 jobs surveyed," staff said, "28 (job) classes compare favorably at or above the [market median](#); 19 classes are currently lower than the median; and 17 lacked sufficient comparison data." A salary at the "market median" is in the middle compared to pay for equivalent positions at seven San Joaquin Valley school districts. The study did not compare health and other benefits – only pay. The previous wage and classification study of MUSD occurred more than 10 years ago. Work on this new study began in Nov. 2020 and finished two and a half years later.

### Announcements

1. **CVEC** - The Central Valley Education Coalition will meet in the Madera County Superintendent of Schools conference room from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 16. The coalition of more than 120 education agencies advocates for policies and funds to meet the needs of valley students, such as English as a Second Language and Career Technical Education.
2. **BOND OVERSIGHT** - The Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee will meet Wednesday, August 16, at 5:30 p.m. in the library of Torres High School. This group of community members reviews financial audits of all bond projects and informs the public on project progress. They meet four times a year.

### Advanced Planning

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