



Board of Trustees Meeting Synopsis

Tuesday, August 22, 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

Trustees Nadeem Ahmad (Area 7), Israel Cortes (Area 6), Gladys Diebert (Area 2), Joetta Fleak (Area 4), Daveli Leanos (Madera South High School), Lucy Salazar (Area 5), Ray Seibert (Area 1), and Suad Taha (Madera High School)

Board Reorganization Items

STUDENT TRUSTEES - Six MUSD high school students swore an oath Tuesday to support and defend the U.S. and California constitutions following their appointment as 2023-2024 advisory members of the Board of Trustees. The new members are:

- ★ **Alternative Education:** Mia Garza
- ★ **Madera High School:** Suad Taha and alternate Zuleyma Rodriguez-Hernandez
- ★ **Madera South High School:** Daveli Leanos and alternate Adriana Gomez-Leon
- ★ **Matilda Torres High School:** Emmely Duque Martinez

Only two students will be officially seated as trustees on the dais at any regular Board meeting, and they will exit around 9:30 p.m. Student trustees can make motions, serve on subcommittees, and vote on agenda items, but those “preferential votes” won’t affect whether items pass or fail. Each student will also lead a Student Voice forum with peers and will meet quarterly with the superintendent.

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 enthusiasm, preparations, and activities at schools before and during the first weeks of class.



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Consent Agenda

1. **NETWORK STORAGE** - The Board of Trustees unanimously approved an agreement with [AMS.Net](#) for the purchase of [“Pure Storage”](#) data storage and three years of support. The total cost will be \$289,349.45. The annual support cost after the first three years will be \$29,322.
2. **BMX ASSEMBLIES** - The Board unanimously okayed an agreement with [Royale Management Group](#) to perform two [BMX assemblies](#) at Sierra Vista Elementary School between Oct. 1, 2023, and March 31, 2024. The 45-minute assemblies feature stunts by professional BMX bicyclists and a “5 Secrets to Success” message. The secrets include staying drug-free, “setting big goals,” being motivated (“success requires hard work”), respecting others (“anti-bullying and kindness”), and staying in school. The cost will be \$3,394 from Sierra Vista School’s [Title I funds](#).
3. **OFFICE LEASE** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with the the City of Madera to lease office space at [John Wells Youth Center](#), 701 East 5th St., for a year. The space will be used for the [Expanded Learning Opportunities Program](#) and Athletics and Community Activities staff. The base rent will be \$1,725.94 per month (\$1.61 per square foot) from ELOP funds.
4. **FIELD TRIP** - The Board unanimously okayed a Torres High School field trip involving 20 Varsity Girls Soccer athletes and 4 adults in late November and early December. The group will travel by vans to Newport Beach for the 5th annual Back Bay Invitational 2023. The costs will be \$2,000 for transportation and \$3,500 for lodging from THS Athletics and Athletic Boosters funds.
5. **EMPLOYEE TRIP** - The Board unanimously approved a potential reimbursement request for a trip to Chicago, Illinois, involving at least 8 district employees in late October for the two-day [National PBIS \(Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports\) Leadership Forum](#). The total cost will be \$21,000.
6. **STAFF CHANGES** - The Board unanimously okayed the filling of 4 cafeteria/playground aide jobs, 3 vacant paraprofessional aide positions, 2 vacant teaching positions, 8 other classified jobs, and 3 other certificated jobs.
7. **NEW LEADER** - The Board unanimously sanctioned the hiring of [Daniel Aved](#) as the new vice principal of Martin Luther King Jr. School.
8. **RETIREEES** - The Board unanimously accepted the following retirements.
 - a. [Gail Jiles](#), teacher at Berenda School, will retire on June 6, 2024, after 34 years of service.
 - b. [Kathryn Ghioldi](#), Response-to-Intervention teacher on special assignment at Berenda School, will retire on June 6, 2024, after 33 years of service.



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- c. [Juan Jaime Medina](#), teacher at Madera South High School, will retire on June 6, 2024, after 30 years of service.
- d. **Mary H. Cortez**, Child Nutrition assistant II at Adams School, will retire on August 31, 2023, after 28 years of service.
- 9. **DISABILITY TESTING** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with San Francisco-based [WestEd](#) to support school psychologists, speech-language pathologists, and special and general education administrators. WestEd will assist them in developing district policies, procedures, and best practices for assessing English learners who are suspected of having a disability. The cost will be \$100,000 from a [Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant](#).

New Business

HOME DEVELOPER FEES - Staff presented a School Facilities Needs Analysis for home development to the Board of Trustees for their review and discussion. The analysis, which will be voted on in a later meeting, summarizes and calculates the fee the district can collect on residential development projects using a method set by state law. The district's current Level 2 developer fee for homes is \$5.04 per square foot. The maximum calculated fee is \$7.83 per square foot, according to the analysis. (Level 2 developer fees are meant by the state to cover half of the cost of providing new school facilities due to growing population.)

Announcements

- 1. **MCSBA** - A general meeting of the Madera County School Boards Association will be held tomorrow, Aug. 23. The group has a three-fold objective of advancing public schools, cooperation with all who wish to better the educational opportunities in Madera County, and promotion of public education through other means.
- 2. **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHTS:** Back to School Nights will be at the following schools this month.
 - a. *Furman Elementary Independent Study Program*: Thursday, Aug. 24
 - b. *Furman High School*: Thursday, Aug. 24
 - c. *Madera High School*: Monday, Aug. 28
 - d. *Madera South High School*: Tuesday, Aug. 29
 - e. *Torres High School*: Wednesday, Aug. 30
 - f. *Mt. Vista High School*: Thursday, Aug. 31



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3. **CRYSTAL TOWER AWARD**: A Crystal Tower Award will be presented to MUSD supporter Dan Riley, owner of Steel Structures, at the [Madera County Compact](#)'s annual Business and Education Shareholders' Luncheon on Tuesday, Aug. 29. The compact is a coalition of business, education, and community leaders working together to improve the achievement and skills of young students.
4. **DELAC** - The District English Language Advisory Committee will meet Monday, Sept. 11, in the District Office boardroom, 1902 Howard Road, for training in Robert's Rules of Order. The bilingual group develops recommendations on teaching students whose primary language is not English.

Advanced Planning

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - The next regular Board Meeting will be Tuesday, September 12, in the Madera Unified School District Boardroom at 1902 Howard Road. The meeting will be held in person and virtually.