



Board of Trustees Meeting Synopsis

Tuesday, December 12, 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), Adriana Gomez Leon (Madera South High School), Ruben Mendoza (Area 3), Lucy Salazar (Area 5), Ray Seibert (Area 1), and Suad Taha (Madera High School)

Annual Reorganization Items

1. **NEW PRESIDENT & CLERK** - The Board reelected Trustee Salazar as its president and Trustee Mendoza as its clerk for 2024.
2. **MEETING SCHEDULE** - The Board approved the following regular meeting dates for itself in 2024: Jan. 23, Feb. 13, Feb. 27, March 12, April 9, April 23, May 14, May 28, June 11, June 25, July 23, Aug. 13, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, Oct. 22, Nov. 12, and Dec. 10.

Communications

1. **MSHS PATHWAY** - The Board of Trustees recognized Madera South High School for achieving [Associated Equipment Distributors Foundation accreditation](#) in diesel technology through a partnership with Reedley College and local tractor dealers. MSHS is the first high school in the state to do so, staff said. The school's career technical educator Christopher Sharp teaches about small engines and power systems.
2. **MADERA MINUTES** - Staff shared a video summarizing recent student and staff activities.

Consent Agenda

1. **DONATIONS** - The Board of Trustees unanimously ratified \$8,500 in donations.
 - a. Juan and Gloria Valdivia donated \$500 to the 8th grade class of La Vina School.
 - b. [Vulcan Materials Company](#) gave \$5,000 to the district's general activities.
 - c. Nonprofit [Whole Kids Foundation](#) contributed \$3,000 to the garden of Ripperdan Community Day School.



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2. **M&O STORAGE** - The Board unanimously approved a proposal by [Blair, Church & Flynn Consulting Engineers](#) for a central services storage building. The warehouse would be used to securely store spare parts for the Maintenance and Operations department. Blair, Church & Flynn would survey for the new building, create construction documents, work with the City of Madera for approval of the design, assist with project bids, and review completed construction. The cost will be \$21,100.
3. **D.O. PARKING** - The Board unanimously okayed a proposal by [Blair, Church & Flynn Consulting Engineers](#) for reconstruction of the District Office parking lot. Blair, Church & Flynn would update plans prepared in 2016, plan for a sewer line replacement, work with the City of Madera for approval of the plans, assist with project bids, and manage construction. The cost will be \$21,100.
4. **MSHS LANDSCAPE** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with [Briner & Son Landscape Management](#) to create a drought tolerant landscape plan with improved irrigation for Madera South High School. The cost will be \$12,000 from Routine Restricted Maintenance funds.
5. **OFFICE LEASE** - The Board unanimously okayed a one-year lease extension and 3.5% rent increase in an agreement with Ramirez Family Properties. The 1,000 square foot office suite at 1816 Howard Road is used by [Children & Youth in Transition](#). The new cost will be \$1,665 per month plus utilities.
6. **NEW OVENS** - The Board unanimously approved awarding a bid for 20 ovens to J&E Restaurant Supply. The new ovens will replace older equipment at Adams, Alpha, Berenda, Dixieland, Howard, Lincoln, Madison, Millview, Monroe, and Sierra Vista elementary schools. The cost will be \$250,00-\$270,000 for 20 [Cres Cor QuikTherm](#) Retherm Ovens. (“Retherming” is a term for reheating previously cooked food that has been safely cooled or frozen. This allows food to be prepared off site.)
7. **ART NIGHTS** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with the Madera County Arts Council, which will host “Family Night with the Arts” at each school requesting the event. Twenty-one school principals have expressed interest. A gallery of student work would be displayed on campus after curation by council staff, and professional artists would assist attendees at art-making stations. The cost would be \$3,500 per event from [Expanded Learning Opportunities Program](#) funds and is not to exceed \$73,500.
8. **MSHS SPEAKER** - The Board unanimously okayed an agreement with speaker [Robb Holladay](#), who will perform mind magic and illusions at a Madera South High School student assembly to discourage vaping. About 200-300 students would attend. The cost will be \$2,500 from [Title I funds](#).
9. **THS CLUBS** - The Board unanimously approved proposals for a Chicanos Unidos Club and a Class of 2027 Club at Torres High School. Chicanos Unidos Club will “promote positive [chicanx](#)



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history and culture, support student movements, and the pursuit of higher education,” according to its proposal. The Class of 2027 Club will raise funds for rallies.

10. **LEADERSHIP TRAINING** - The Board unanimously okayed a revised agreement with the [National Center on Education and the Economy](#) that will enable two more participants in [school leadership training](#). The cost will be \$241,500 from [Supplemental and Concentration grant](#) funds from the state.
11. **WINTER INTERSESSION** - The Board unanimously approved an agreement with Gold Gulch Adventures to offer five days of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Agriculture, and Math camps to 5th and 6th grade students during Winter Intersession (Jan. 8-12, 2024). Staff will teach courses at three elementary schools in “woodshop,” jelly making, oceanography, bugs/microscopes, and photography. The cost will be \$15,500 from [Expanded Learning Opportunities Program](#) funds
12. **SPORTS TRIPS** - The Board unanimously okayed nine high school field trips involving more than 55 students and a dozen adults to various wrestling competitions and a volleyball tournament around the state. The largest trip will drive 20 Madera High School wrestlers and 5 adults by van to Aptos for the Pat Lovell Wrestling Tournament late this month. The farthest trips - a trio - will take more than 40 Torres and Madera high school Girls and Boys wrestlers and half a dozen adults to Morro Bay for tournaments in January and February. The total costs will be \$5,648 for transportation and \$13,760 for lodging from athletics, wrestling, Athletic Boosters, and volleyball funds.
13. **EMPLOYEE TRAVEL** - The Board unanimously approved potential reimbursement requests for two employee trips.
 - a. Four Madera South and Torres high school staff members will fly to Chicago, Illinois, this month for Midwest Conference Professional Development for \$10,000 from [Title I funds](#).
 - b. A Madera South High School staff member will fly to Las Vegas, Nevada, in mid-January for the [2024 Associated Equipment Distributors Summit](#) for \$2,470 from [Career Technical Education Incentive](#) grant funds.
14. **RETIREES** - The Board unanimously accepted the retirements of the following employees.
 - a. *Raquel Schrantz*, an office technician at King Middle School, will retire on Dec. 22 after 22 years of service.
 - b. *Jaime Arteaga*, a bus driver in Transportation, retired on Dec. 1 after 18 years of service.
1. **STAFF CHANGES** - The Board unanimously okayed the filling of 10 school safety officer positions, 4 paraprofessional aide positions, 3 Child Nutrition assistant I positions, 2 new community support specialist jobs, 2 vacant teaching positions, and 8 other classified jobs.



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15. **JOB DESCRIPTIONS** - The Board unanimously approved a new format for classified job descriptions, which includes adding the district logo, adding more details on to whom one reports, and rewording statements on functions, duties, and tasks.

Old Business

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT PLANS - The Board of Trustees unanimously approved a 2023-2024 School Plan for Student Achievement for each school. The plans present goals, actions, and expenditures to boost academic success and are required by the state for any local education agency that receives [Title I funds](#), which are meant to help disadvantaged students meet state standards.

New Business

1. **KING HUSEIN SCHOOL** - The Board unanimously approved an initial study that investigated whether any environmental hazards had to be dealt with before building the proposed King Husein School. The report, which found no significant problems, will be submitted to the state for approval.
2. **FIRST INTERIM REPORT** - The Board unanimously okayed the 2023-2024 First Interim Report on the financial and budgetary status of the district from July 1 through Oct. 31, 2023.

Announcements

1. **WINTER CONCERTS** - Several concerts will be held in the next several weeks. Torres High School's Winter Showcase and Madera High School's Winter Arts Celebration will be tomorrow, Dec. 13. Madera South High School's Winter Showcase will be Thursday, Dec. 14. The Madera Community Band Holiday Concert will be Sunday, Dec. 17, at THS.
2. **DELAC** - The District English Language Advisory Committee will meet on Monday, Dec. 18. The bilingual group develops recommendations on teaching students whose primary language is not English.
3. **PRC** - Parent Resource Center will hold a Parent Project/Loving Solutions Parent Graduation on Tuesday, Dec. 19, at Washington School.
4. **WINTER BREAK** - Dec. 22 will be the last day of school before winter break.



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Advanced Planning

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - The next regular Board Meeting will be Tuesday, January 23, in the Madera Unified School District Boardroom at 1902 Howard Road. The meeting will be held in person and virtually.