

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
OF THE PASO ROBLES JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGARDING CENSURE OF TRUSTEE CHRIS BAUSCH**

Resolution No. 17-16

WHEREAS, Board Bylaw 9000, "Role of the Board," recognizes that Board Members are elected to "provide leadership" and that the Board "shall work with the Superintendent to fulfill its major responsibilities;"

WHEREAS, Board Bylaw 9005, "Governance Standards," states that the Board's "primary responsibility is to act in the best interests of every student in the District;"

WHEREAS, Board Bylaw 9005 further states that, "To maximize Board effectiveness and public confidence in district governance, Board Members are expected to govern responsibly and hold themselves to the highest standards of ethical conduct;"

WHEREAS, Board Bylaw 9005 further states that, "The Board expects its members to work with each other and the Superintendent to ensure that a high-quality education is provided to each student;"

WHEREAS, Board Bylaw 9005 further states that, "Each individual Board Member shall... 'Recognize and respect differences of perspective and style on the Board and among staff, students, parents, and the community;'"

WHEREAS, Board Bylaw 9005 further states that, "Each individual Board Member shall... 'Act with dignity, and understand the implications of demeanor and behavior;'"

WHEREAS, Board Bylaw 9005 further states that, "Board Members shall assume collective responsibility for building unity and creating a positive organizational culture" and "Govern in a dignified and professional manner, treating everyone with civility and respect;" and,

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District makes the following factual findings:

1. That adherence to the Board Bylaws and appropriate Governance Standards are primary responsibilities of the Board and in the best interests of every student in the District;
2. That each Board Member must adhere to the distinction between Board and staff roles and refrain from performing management functions that are the responsibility of the Superintendent and staff;
3. That each Board Member must act with dignity and understand the implications of their demeanor and behavior;
4. That the following conduct by Board Member Chris Bausch falls short of the Board's expectations and supports the issuance of this Censure Resolution:
 - In and around April 2016, Mr. Bausch exceeded his authority by negotiating directly with a vendor who was attempting to win a contract with the District and actively colluded with them. Mr. Bausch further

made public statements that he had a business relationship with this vendor, creating a real or perceived conflict of interest. His actions opened the District up to potential legal action and ultimately caused a delay of the project by several months.

- On or about May 9, 2016, Mr. Bausch submitted an article to the Paso Robles Press stating that he was told at the School Board meeting on April 12, 2016, that he was off-topic and that the right to question approval of the Facilities Master Plan was taken away from him. Mr. Bausch's article unfairly levels criticism at the Board in that he admittedly intended to deviate from the Brown Act.

Specifically, Mr. Bausch stated in the article that if he would have been allowed to continue speaking at the Board meeting, he would have discussed a bond, the sales tax, the minimum wage law impact, and the Affordable Care Act. The Board notes that these topics were not on the agenda and that the matter before the Board involved approval of the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District Facilities Master Plan. Mr. Bausch's admitted attempt to discuss a variety of non-agendized items is inconsistent with the Brown Act.

The Board further notes that Mr. Bausch spread misinformation to the public in his article by referencing him raising \$60 million through a bond and then being able to obtain another \$60 million from Sacramento in matching funds. This is misinformation in that the maximum amount that the District could get in matching funds was \$21.6 million.

- On or about December 13, 2016, a student requested that Mr. Bausch submit his goals to the Paso Robles High School's Crimson Newsmagazine. However, instead Mr. Bausch submitted to the student publication his personal submission towards the Governing Board's self-evaluation. The self-evaluation contained Mr. Bausch's allegation that another Board Member used a specific vulgar word (which he referenced) against him. The self-evaluation also made other negative comments both of the District and other Board Members. By providing this information to the student publication, Mr. Bausch was essentially involving students in a dispute between Board Members and the District, and attempted to portray the District and other Board Members in a negative light at a time where Mr. Bausch was threatening litigation against both the majority of the Board as well as the District, and which may ultimately involve litigation by the Board Member he accused.
- On or about November 2, 2016, Mr. Bausch used poor discretion by contacting a local radio station and a website to make a statement regarding an employee on administrative leave and anticipated litigation.
- On or about December 1, 2016, Mr. Bausch told Board Members that he had them "investigated."
- On or about December 1, 2016, Mr. Bausch made comments to individual Board Members regarding him carrying his "cache of weapons," "a gun with big bullets," and that he "aims for the head;" as well as other

comments that can be perceived as threatening. In order to put the Board and staff at ease, law enforcement is now present at Board Meetings.

- On or about December 1, 2016, Mr. Bausch threatened to "destroy" Board Member Kathleen Hall and referenced her gender and age, and continues to question her religious beliefs.
- On or about December 1, 2016, Mr. Bausch called Board Member Hall a "72-year-old, weak, old lady."

WHEREAS, the Governing Board determines that Trustee Bausch's conduct is unacceptable, unprofessional, and a violation of the Board Bylaws cited above.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Governing Board of the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District hereby finds that the foregoing recitals are true and correct.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that based on these recitals, the Governing Board of the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District hereby censures Trustee Chris Bausch and proclaims publicly that this Board disapproves of the aforementioned conduct and finds it to be a violation of the Board Bylaws and unacceptable behavior that shall not be tolerated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that Trustee Bausch shall treat fellow Board Members and District staff with dignity and respect at all times.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the following vote of the members of the Governing Board of the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District of San Luis Obispo County, State of California, this 14th day of March, 2017.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

APPROVE:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PASO ROBLES
JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

By:

Field Gibson,
President of the Board of Trustees of the
Paso Robles Joint Unified School District

ATTEST:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PASO ROBLES
JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

By:

Dave Lambert,
Clerk of the Board of Trustees of the
Paso Robles Joint Unified School District