

RAVENSWOOD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

2120 Euclid Avenue
East Palo Alto, CA 94303
This Meeting was held via Zoom Webinar.

Board Members:

Ana Maria Pulido, President
Sharifa Wilson, Vice President
Stephanie Fitch, Clerk
Marielena Gaona-Mendoza, Member
Tamara Sobomehin, Member

Draft Minutes September 24, 2020

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL.**

President Pulido called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Trustees Ana Maria Pulido, Sharifa Wilson, Marielena Gaona Mendoza and Tamara Sobomehin were present. Trustee Stephanie Fitch was absent.

President Pulido asked that if anyone in the audience prefers to listen to this Meeting in Spanish, at the bottom of the screen click on the interpretation icon and then click on Spanish.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA.**

MSC (Sobomehin/Wilson) to approve the agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Pulido, Wilson, Gaona Mendoza and Sobomehin, Yes. Motion carried unanimously (4-0)

The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 6:32 p.m. Open Session reconvened at 7:17 p.m.

3/4. **REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.1**

President Pulido greeted the audience and reported that Trustee Stephanie Fitch was absent.

3. CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957:

No report on Item 3.A.

A. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE/RESIGNATION.

President Pulido reported that the Board held a discussion on Item 3.B.1.

B. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR

1. District Negotiator: Gina Sudaria and appropriate staff member. Employee Organization: RTA – CSEA – Unrepresented Parties (Management/Confidential)

Trustee Wilson returned to Open Session at 7:20 at the beginning of Item 8.A

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. MSC (Gaona Mendoza/Sobomehin) to approve the Minutes for the September 10, 2020, Regular Board Meeting. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Pulido, Gaona Mendoza and Sobomehin, Yes. Motion carried unanimously (3-0).

6. **FROM THE FLOOR.** No one addressed the Board on this Item.

7. **CONSENT AGENDA**

MSC (Sobomehin/Pulido) to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Pulido, Gaona Mendoza and Sobomehin, Yes. Motion carried unanimously (3-0)

- A. Consideration to Approve Personnel Recommendations.
- B. Consideration to approve the purchase of Pearsons online assessment software and iPads for staff to administer the assessments.
- C. Consideration to Approve the Purchase of PowerSchool Unified Talent and Service Agreement.
- D. Consideration to approve licenses for Zoom accounts.
- E. Consideration to approve MOU with Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo.
- F. Consideration to approve MOU with Canopy Environmental Volunteers.
- G. Consideration to Approve Change Orders #3 with AMS.net, Inc. for the Ravenswood IT Infrastructure Project Phases 3 & 4.
- H. Consideration to approve an MOU with Ravenswood Reads.
- I. Consideration to approve an amendment to the MOU with Reading Partners
- J. Consideration to approve an agreement with EdSped Solutions, Inc. to establish a bill rate for the candidates referenced in the contract: Steve Duralis, APE. [Special Education]
- K. Consideration to approve MOU with Music in the Schools Foundation
- L. Consideration to approve Extension of Keenan & Associates Contract.

8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

A. Superintendent's Report.

1. Distance Learning Update.

Superintendent Gina Sudaria and the following Cabinet Members provided a PowerPoint Presentation and answered questions on Distance Learning: Cindy Chin, Director of Student Services; Lara Burenin, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Will Edger, CBO, Solomon Hill, Director of Technology. It included (a) Ravenswood Response to the Needs of the Community; (b) The Prevalence of COVID-19 in East Palo Alto; (c) Recommendation to continue with Distance Learning through the First Trimester; (d) Attendance and Engagement Update; (e) Community Learning Hub Update; (f) Technology Support Update. Superintendent Sudaria provided an Introduction that included (a) Response to Distance Learning Needs; (b) COVID-19 Status: San Mateo County 4.1% Positive rate – East Palo Alto 15.4% Positive rate; (c) Recommendation to continue with Distance Learning through the First Trimester and Next Steps.

Ms. Cindy Chin and Ms. Lara Burenin covered Attendance and Engagement. (a) Attendance percentage: 82% on September 4, 88% on September 11, 90% on September 18. (b) Engagement measured through synchronous work and reflected in attendance percentages. (c) Re-engagement. Academic Tiered Support: (a) Literacy intervention (6-8); (b) All Students Matter (K-5); (c) Reading Partners (K-5); (d) Ravenswood Reads (K-3).

Ms. Cindy Chin, Mr. Will Edger and Ms. Delma Camacho covered Community Learning Hubs (a) Launch; (b) Operations: **Learning Hubs Partners:** (a) BGCP –Currently at LRRM. Hosts a hub of students for each elementary school site; (b) EPATT –Hosts hubs with students and their siblings and students work on their tennis skills; 49ers Academy –Hosts hubs of middle school students and siblings in upper elementary schools. **Plans for expansion:** Mr. Edger indicated that they are working closely with each of them to figure out ways to address as many students as they can as safely as possible. He noted that EPATT is currently full and the 49ers Academy still have space for more students. They are looking for space to expand BGCP potentially at Costaño around early October and Belle Haven shortly after.

Solomon Hill and John Colleton, Audio Visual Coordinator, covered Technology Support Update. Internet Connectivity for students: In response to a question from the Board about the Internet needs survey data from July through September that Ms. Chin reported at the last Board Meeting, they did an analysis about whom they responded to, whom they gave a device to and based on the data that they have through this past Tuesday, they have given devices to 276 out of 295 who needed stable internet. 19 of the responders have not received hotspots for connectivity as of yet. Mr. Hill indicated that they are waiting for 225 new hotspots that we purchased. They are also handing out 275 free Comcast internet codes for 14 months that we received from SMCOE in addition to the hotspots they donated. In addition, SMCOE is providing free Wi-Fi in East Palo Alto; they will try to do it County-wide. Existing 500 Hotspots: Mr. Hill noted that they have been discussing

the throttling issue with carrier. He stated that 1275 Connectivity Devices or Solutions will be handed out by Mid-October. Staff Technology Training. Mr. Colleton informed the Board that they are approaching supporting staff in the way that they are doing instruction, both synchronously and asynchronously, in 3 ways: (a) A You Tube Channel that was created in our network – A Curated video of playlists, Original training videos, Based on teacher request. (b) Small Groups: Virtual, In Person/On Campus, Skill level based. (c) 1-on-1's: Through Help Desk and by Appointment.

The Board thanked staff for the great presentation, team work and amazing accomplishments. Regarding hotspots, President Pulido indicated that she understands that we already order hotspots and that some school districts order them in bulk. She is wondering if we can get loaners from neighboring school districts that have an excess of hotspots and loan them out while our hotspots come in and check if we need to replace the ones that we borrowed or switch them out.

The Board indicated that they support the Superintendent's recommendation and directed her to continue with Distance Learning through the First Trimester (November 20, 2020) due to the high COVID positive rate in East Palo Alto.

9. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

- A. Ms. Lara Burenin, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, presented the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan to the Board for its approval. As a reminder, she informed the Board that the Learning Continuity Plan memorializes the planning process already underway for the 2020–21 school year and includes descriptions of addressing gaps in learning; conducting meaningful stakeholder engagement; maintaining transparency; addressing the needs of unduplicated pupils, students with unique needs, and students experiencing homelessness; providing access to necessary devices and connectivity for distance learning; providing resources and supports to address student and staff mental health and social emotional well-being; and continuing to provide school meals for students. She stated that for the 2020-2021 school year, the requirement to adopt a Local Control and Accountability Plan by December 15, 2020 has been replaced by the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan.

She noted that she presented it in full at a public hearing at the last Board Meeting. It is a completion of the hard work of so many people across the District to put the plan in place and make the opening of school with Distance Learning possible to serve our students and staff in every way that we can and also be prepared to bring students back on the campus in a hybrid model following the four pillars from the SMCOE when it is safe to do so. Ms. Burenin indicated that we did not receive any comments at the Public Hearing. However, we received comments that are online on our website to say that people really appreciated the plan to start the year in SmartStart.

MSC (Sobomehin/Pulido) to approve the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Pulido, Wilson, Gaona Mendoza and Sobomehin, Yes. Motion carried unanimously.

10. STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- A. MSC (Sobomehin/Pulido) to approve the Ravenswood City School District Title I, Part A LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Pulido, Wilson, Gaona Mendoza and Sobomehin, Yes. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Boys and Girls Club Presentation. Mr. Jose González and Mr. Spencer Haar from the Boys and Girls Club provided a PowerPoint presentation and answered questions on their Fall Program 2020 titled "Helping Students Stay in the Game." Mr. González indicated that their program fully supports students to stay and engage in school and be able to complete their school work. The PowerPoint presentation included: (a) Approaches. During school hours: In person, Community Learning Hubs. During Afterschool: Virtual Crews (a) The Core -5-7 students with a dedicated staff member; (b) Additional Programming; (c) Crew Meeting schedule -Review of the agreements, Ice breaker, Collective goal check-in, Academic Hustlers toolkit, Game, Closing and reflection. (d) Who They Serve: 656 Ravenswood students enrolled, Staff members run multiple crews.

School-Day Community Learning Hubs: Vision Statement -Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula (BGCP) provides students a safe and supportive working space for online learning, walking distance from home, club houses and school sites at the Boys and Girls Club. These Hubs are designed to foster a sense of community and

belonging, and ultimately help students “stay in the game” through consistent virtual school attendance and student work submission. They are housing 3Pods at Los Robles-Ronald McNair (representing each school: Belle Haven, Los Robles-Ronald McNair and Costaño), 10 Students each, 2 Staff Each: 8:00 am-3:00 pm. (a) Lunch and Breakfast; (b) Recess; (c) “Back Pocket” Activities for Engagement; (d) Pilot site at Los Robles. Mr. Haar invited Mr. Alex Quezada, Los Robles-Ronald McNair Principal, to share his perspective on what he has seen at the Community Hub. Mr. Quezada indicated that it has been a very positive experience.

The Board thanked them for the presentation and for the great work they are doing.

11. HUMAN RESOURCES

- A. MSC (Gaona Mendoza/Sobomehin) to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ravenswood City School District ("District") and the California School Employees Association and its Chapter 303 (“CSEA”) regarding the District’s reopening of schools, return to work and response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Pulido, Wilson, Gaona Mendoza and Sobomehin, Yes. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. MSC (Wilson/Sobomehin) to Approve the Employment/Assignment of Caeley Gwilt as Special Education Teacher at Cesar Chavez Ravenswood Middle School on the Basis of a Provisional Internship Permit, effective August 18, 2020. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Pulido, Wilson, Gaona Mendoza and Sobomehin, Yes. Motion carried unanimously.

12. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- A. MSC (Wilson/Sobomehin) to approve Resolution No. 2020/2021 -5 for Trustee Stephanie Fitch excused absence. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Pulido, Wilson, Gaona Mendoza and Sobomehin, Yes. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. MSC (Wilson/Sobomehin) to approve BP 4033 Lactation Accommodation. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Pulido, Wilson, Gaona Mendoza and Sobomehin, Yes. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Board Policy 0470 COVID-19 Mitigation Plan presented to the Board for First Reading. Superintendent Sudaria informed the Board that this new policy presents options and best practices for districts as they reopen school campuses following extended closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and temporarily supersedes any conflicting provisions in existing policies or administrative regulations.
- D. Board Report/communications.
Trustee Gaona Mendoza indicated that she really likes the way the District is moving forward and it is good that everyone is working together and agreed to come back to school when it is safe.
- D. President Pulido reported that the next Regular Board Meeting will be held on October 8, 2020.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice President Wilson adjourned the Meeting at 8:35 p.m.

October 8, 2020
Date of Approval

Clerk’s Signature

/nm