

# UNADOPTED MINUTES

Of the Board of Trustees  
Special Board Meeting  
September 22, 2020

## 1. PRELIMINARY

1. **Call to Order.** President Macias called this meeting to order at: 4:01 PM.

2. **Roll Call:** President Macias called Roll Call at 4:02 PM.

Minutes:

All Board of Trustees present as listed.

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

Sylvia V. Macias, President

Jan Baird, Vice President

Natalia Barajas, Clerk

Deborah Pacheco, Member

Elias Alvarado, Member

Minutes:

All Administration present as listed except for Mark Keriakous

### **ADMINISTRATORS:**

Dr. Gary Gonzales, Superintendent

Martha Mestanza-Rojas, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services

Dr. Marti Tienda-Ayala, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources

Mark Keriakous, Chief Business Officer

Michael Bishop, CBO Consultant

### **STAFF:**

Kurby Flores, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

## 2. CLOSED SESSION (4:00PM – 5:20PM)

Minutes:

By general consent, the Board adjourned to Closed Session at: 4:03 PM.

1. **Conference with Agency Labor Negotiators:** South Whittier Teachers Association and California School Employees Association. Agency Negotiators: Dr. Gary Gonzales, Dr. Marti Tienda-Ayala, Martha Mestanza-Rojas, Mark Keriakous (Government Codes Section 3549.1 and 54957.6)

2. **Classified - Public Employee Appointment/Employment/Evaluation**

3. **Classified - Public Employee Dismissal/Release/Discipline/Transfers/Reassignments/Retirement**

4. **Certificated - Public Employee Appointment/Employment/Evaluation**

5. **Certificated - Public Employee**

**Dismissal/Release/Discipline/Transfers/Reassignments/Retirement**

### 3. OPEN SESSION (5:30PM)

Minutes:

By general consent of the Board, the Board reconvened to open session at: 5:31 PM.

#### 1. Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dr. Gary Gonzales.

#### 2. Mission and Vision

Minutes:

President Macias read out the mission and vision for the district.

#### 3. Report on Closed Session Items

Minutes:

Superintendent Gonzales reported that no action was taken in Closed Session.

### 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion Passed:** The Superintendent recommends approval of the September 22, 2020 Agenda as presented.

Motion: \_\_\_\_ Seconded: \_\_\_\_ VOTE: YES 5 NO \_\_\_\_ Abstain \_\_\_\_ Absent \_\_\_\_

Passed with a motion by Elias Alvarado and a second by Jan Baird.

Yes Sylvia Macias  
Yes Jan Baird  
Yes Natalia Barajas  
Yes Deborah Pacheco  
Yes Elias Alvarado

Minutes:

No discussion.

### 5. COMMENTS BY TRUSTEES

Minutes:

Trustee Pacheco did not have any comments.

Trustee Alvarado wanted to compliment both Carmen Ornelas and Michelle Ryan for being Teacher and Classified Employee of the year.

Trustee Baird also wanted to congratulate Carmen Ornelas and Michelle Wold Ryan. Trustee Baird also wanted to comment on the Food Giveaway that she attended the previous Saturday. It was a great event.

Trustee Barajas did not have any comments.

President Macias also wanted to congratulate Carmen Ornelas and Michelle Ryan for doing what they do and helping our district and students.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Minutes:  
No public comments.

**7. CONSENT**

**Motion Passed:** The Superintendent recommends the Board of Trustees review and approve Consent agenda item 7.1 as presented.

Motion: \_\_\_ Seconded:\_\_\_ VOTE: Yes 5 No \_\_\_ Abstain:\_\_\_ Absent: \_\_\_  
Passed with a motion by Jan Baird and a second by Natalia Barajas.

- Yes Sylvia Macias
- Yes Jan Baird
- Yes Natalia Barajas
- Yes Deborah Pacheco
- Yes Elias Alvarado

Minutes:  
No discussion or questions from the Board.

**1. Contract/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) List # 6 (FY 2020-21)**

CONTRACT/MOU LIST NO. 6 FY 20/21		September 22, 2020		
NUMBER	CONTRACTOR	SERVICE	DURATION	COST TO DISTRICT/ BENEFIT TO THE DISTRICT
20-21-064	MoU - Partnership in the Learning to Teach Continuum District Intern Program Agreement	LACOE and SWSD will collaborate by developing and delivering a quality teacher preparation program through the District Intern Program.	8/18/2020-6/30/2025	\$ 0.00
20-21-065	The Flippen Group	Staff development training, "Capturing Kids' Hearts Recharged." It includes three, two-hour virtual training sessions for up to 50 participants.	10/21/2020-2/26/2021	\$ 4,500.00
20-21-066	MoU - Moving Mindz LLC (MMZ)	Provides six, 1-hour sessions per week for a length of 10 weeks of Virtual Enrichment Classes, maximum of 20 students attending Graves Middle School per 1-hour session. Also, provides 3 sessions per week (approximately 45 minutes per session) per tutor for a length of 29 weeks of Virtual Tutoring for students attending Graves Middle School.	9/3/2020-6/30/2021	\$ 40,000.00
20-21-067	Eide Bailly, LLP, Certified Public Accountant	To provide annual audits of District financials. Audit of the years ending June 30, 2021, June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023	7/1/2020-6/30/2023	\$ 72,000.00
20-21-068	Thriving YOUiversity, LLC	Thriving YOUiversity offers several trainings to empower individuals and organizations to thrive. The "Taking Time to B.R.E.A.T.H.E" course provides strategies for strengthening personal and professional resilience.	10/12/2020-10/12/2020	\$ 3,000.00
TOTAL				\$119,500.00

**8. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD**

No written communication to the Board submitted for this agenda.

Minutes:

No discussion or questions from the Board.

## 9. GOVERNING BOARD

No items submitted for this section of the agenda.

Minutes:

No discussion or questions from the Board.

## 10. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF BOARD POLICIES, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS, AND BOARD BYLAWS

No Board Policies, Administrative Regulations, Exhibits, or Board Bylaws submitted for Board review or approval for this agenda.

Minutes:

No comments or discussion from the board.

## 11. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

**Motion Passed:** The Superintendent recommends the Board of Trustees approve Educational Services agenda items 11.1 through 11.2 as presented.

Motion: \_\_\_ Seconded: \_\_\_ VOTE: Yes 5 No \_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_ Absent: \_\_\_

Passed with a motion by Jan Baird and a second by Elias Alvarado.

Yes Sylvia Macias  
Yes Jan Baird  
Yes Natalia Barajas  
Yes Deborah Pacheco  
Yes Elias Alvarado

Minutes:

Trustee Barajas wanted to comment on the School Plans. She shared that she is aware that every year the Board approves these school plans for student achievement but she believes it is important to reflect on the data that is printed out on some of these plans. Trustee Barajas knows that there have been several other topics of conversation as of late with everything that is going on with COVID, but she really wanted to highlight that only 20% of students at GMS are meeting or exceeding the standard for math means that 80% are not and that is very hard to swallow as a Board Member. She respects the effort the school district is placing on this but it something that needs to continue being a topic of conversation so that we can continue to close the achievement gap. Trustee Barajas wanted to point out that when we read our mission and vision as a district in which we help prepare our students for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we are not necessarily doing so if we are only meeting 20% math grade level standards.

Trustee Alvarada shared that this was a good point.

1. 2020-2021 Learning Continuity & Attendance Plan
2. 2020-2021 School Plans for Student Achievement (SPSA)

## 12. BUSINESS SERVICES

**Motion Passed:** The Superintendent recommends the Board of Trustees approve agenda item 12.1 as presented.

Motion: \_\_\_ Seconded: \_\_\_ VOTE: Yes 5 No \_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_ Absent: \_\_\_

Passed with a motion by Jan Baird and a second by Natalia Barajas.

Yes Sylvia Macias  
Yes Jan Baird  
Yes Natalia Barajas  
Yes Deborah Pacheco  
Yes Elias Alvarado

Minutes:

No comments or discussion from the board.

### 1. Adjustment to 2019-2020 Unaudited Actuals

## 13. BOND MEASURE QS

**Motion Passed:** The Superintendent recommends the Board of Trustees approve Bond Measure QS agenda item 13.1 as presented.

Motion: \_\_\_ Seconded: \_\_\_ VOTE: Yes 5 No \_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_ Absent: \_\_\_

Passed with a motion by Jan Baird and a second by Natalia Barajas.

Yes Sylvia Macias  
Yes Jan Baird  
Yes Natalia Barajas  
Yes Deborah Pacheco  
Yes Elias Alvarado

### 1. Resolution No. 20-21-013: Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the South Whittier School District Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Bonds.

Minutes:

Trustee Barajas requested that for transparency reasons, she would like a "Cliff Note" summary of what we are doing with these bonds.

Superintendent Gonzales wanted to share that the main reason we are taking this on as a district is due to the drop in interest rates. This will result in helping the tax payers in reducing the load in terms of payback. This was a great opportunity for the South Whittier Community to save money.

Mr. Jon Isom shared that Dr. Gonzales summarized it very well. He then went on to speak about the bond and shared that this plan originated in 2016 when the district got the funds to renovate our schools. The district planned on selling bonds in 2017, 2020 and 2023. During that time, interest bonds have hit history lows. Now that we have locked in these rates, the district can get their funds sooner and can complete projects sooner.

One way to look at this is to see these bond measures is as mini stimulus plans. People will get jobs due to this, people will eat and pump gas in our city.

President Macias wanted to confirm with Mr. Isom if we have done something similar in the past where we saved our tax payers money due to the selling of bonds.

Mr. Isom confired that we have refund old bonds to save taxpayers money and in the last series we were able to accelerate the bond program and lock lower interest rates. Comparing the interest rates from our last sale, we went from selling bonds at a 3.5% interest rate to selling them at a little over 2% this time around. This calculates to a savings of 10 million dollars to tax payers.

#### 14. HUMAN RESOURCES

**Motion Passed:** The Superintendent recommends the Board of Trustees approve Human Resources agenda items 14.1 through 14.3 as presented.

Motion: \_\_\_ Seconded: \_\_\_ VOTE: Yes 5 No \_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_ Absent: \_\_\_  
Passed with a motion by Jan Baird and a second by Elias Alvarado.

Yes Sylvia Macias  
Yes Jan Baird  
Yes Natalia Barajas  
Yes Deborah Pacheco  
Yes Elias Alvarado

1. Classified Personnel Report # 4
2. Certificated Personnel Report # 4
3. CSEA to SWSD Sunshining Negotiation Proposals for 2020-2021

Minutes:

No comments or discussion from the board.

#### 15. BOARD OF TRUSTEES DISCUSSION TO GUIDE FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS

Minutes:

President Macias shared that she read an article in the CSBA magazine that recommended we review a few BPs and ARs. They consist of BP & AR 3516 Emergency Disaster Plans, BP & AR 0450 Comprehensive Safety Plan, and BP 2210 Administrative Discretion to Board Policy. Due to everything that is going on with COVID-19, these were some BPs and ARs that she would like to make sure are up to date. President Macias also wanted to thank Mr. Bishop for his services to the district during Marks absence.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

Minutes:

By general consent of the Board, President Macias adjourned the Board Meeting at: 5:50 PM to the next regularly scheduled Board meeting of October 20, 2020 at 4:00 PM, Via Zoom Conference, unless otherwise posted.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board of Trustees President  
Sylvia V. Macias

Attested By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board of Trustees Clerk  
Natalia Barajas

As required pursuant to Education Code Section 15280, the minutes of this meeting will be posted on the District's internet web site agenda online.