

**San Mateo-Foster City School District**  
**Minutes - Draft**  
**CLOSED SESSION/REGULAR MEETING~BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

November 19, 2020, 6:30 PM

Teleconference Meeting via Zoom

Closed Session Begins at 5:30 pm -- <https://zoom.us/j/92568692866> --Zoom ID: 92568692866

Regular Board Meeting Begins at 6:30 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/96975171996> -- Zoom ID: 96975171996

To listen to the meetings: One tap mobile +16699009128,,96975171996# US (San Jose)

**1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 P.M.**

**2. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

**2.1. Review Non-Public School/Non-Public Agency contract(s) for the 2020-2021 school year.**

**2.2. GOVT. CODE 54957.6 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR(S) Agency Designated Representative: Dr. Joan Rosas. Employee Organization: SMETA, CSEA and/or SMEAA.**

**2.3. GOVT. CODE 54957 - PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE.**

**2.4. GOVT. CODE 54957 - Public Employee Performance Goals/Evaluation. TITLE: Superintendent. If these discussions are not completed before 6:30 p.m., the Closed Session will continue following the regular meeting.**

**3. RECONVENE TO REGULAR MEETING**

The Regular Board meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm.

**3.1. Report out of Closed Session**

None.

**3.2. Roll Call**

Board Members Present: \_

Kenneth Chin

Rebecca Hitchcock

Alison Proctor

Shara Watkins

Absent: \_

Noelia Corzo

**3.3. Approval of Agenda: November 19, 2020 (v)**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Shara Watkins and a second by Rebecca Hitchcock.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Absent Noelia Corzo  
Yes Rebecca Hitchcock  
Yes Alison Proctor  
Yes Shara Watkins

### **3.4. Approval of Minutes:**

#### **3.4.1. November 5, 2020 - Regular (v)**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Shara Watkins.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Absent Noelia Corzo  
Yes Rebecca Hitchcock  
Yes Alison Proctor  
Yes Shara Watkins

#### **3.4.2. November 10, 2020 - School Visitations (v)**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Shara Watkins.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Absent Noelia Corzo  
Abstain Rebecca Hitchcock  
Yes Alison Proctor  
Yes Shara Watkins

## **4. RECOGNITION**

### **4.1. Recognition of Board Member Rebecca Hitchcock for her Service to the District**

Dr. Rosas recognized Trustee Hitchcock's service stating that the needs of our students drove the decisions that she made as a member of the Board of Trustees of the San Mateo - Foster City School District.

In support of our most vulnerable students, Trustee Hitchcock supported Board efforts to establish a Sanctuary Task Force, Equity Task Force and Special Education District Advisory Council. She also lent her affirmative vote to resolutions in support of undocumented students, Black Lives Matter, Ethnic Studies Programming and a Resolution to direct staff to reexamine the District Safety Plan, discipline practices and to redefine the District's relationship with local police departments.

Measure X passed prior to Trustee Hitchcock's term, however, she followed through on the Phase I promises made during that campaign seeing the completion of one of the three middle school gyms and the near completion of two other gyms and a new school in Foster City, Beach Park Elementary.

During Trustee Hitchcock's term the District ran two campaigns. Measure V was a parcel tax that passed during a difficult budgetary period. These funds maintained programs that are highly valued and added counseling services to all of our schools. Additionally, Measure T was a bond measure to support necessary infrastructure work in all of the schools throughout the District with an emphasis on health and safety upgrades.

Each Board member also serves as a liaison to various organizational committees. Trustee Hitchcock has served as a liaison to the Foster City City Council, the San Mateo Foster City Education Foundation, PTA Coordinating Council, Communication Committee and Special Education District Advisory Council. In the final months of her term, Trustee Hitchcock helped launch the first ever, virtual Gala for the Education Foundation. It was a huge success and her sense of fun was seen in the pet costume and Mok Tok contests that attendees enjoyed during the Gala. It is also important to note that Trustee Hitchcock worked through many late Board meetings managing our District response to COVID-19.

We thank Trustee Hitchcock for her work as a member of the Board of Trustees for the San Mateo - Foster City School District.

#### Board Comments:

Trustee Hitchcock said that she has been impressed by the administration, teachers, staff, PTA members, parents and community members for their energy and engagement. She appreciated all the support and collaboration received during her three years of service with the District and wished everyone her best.

Trustee Watkins reiterated what Dr Rosas said adding that it was a pleasure working and collaborating on a variety of work with Trustee Hitchcock. She said that Trustee Hitchcock's decisions were driven by students. She appreciated having her as a fellow educator, on the board. She also appreciated her passionate work and contribution to the GALA. She will be missed.

Trustee Proctor loved Trustee's Hitchcock's positive attitude and her focus on the students. She appreciated her unique perspective to the Board with experience as an educator in early childhood. As a fellow Trustee, community member and a mother, she thanked Trustee Hitchcock for her service in the District. She wished her the best of luck.

Trustee Chin appreciated her leadership and the time they work together on the Board. He described Trustee Hitchcock as a quiet person but contributed much to the organization. He also appreciated her raising questions on issues and will miss her representation and the Highlands community will miss her representation on the Board. He thanked her for all the work she did as Trustee.

#### Public Comments

Marcella McCollum expressed her appreciation on behalf of the parents for Trustee Hitchcock's work in the District, for asking important questions during the pandemic, and holding the District accountable.

Sandi Arata also thanked Trustee Hitchcock for her work in the District, for listening to the parents and for her contribution to the fun GALA event.

Randi Paynter thanked Trustee Hitchcock for her service recognizing that Board members spend many hours of work behind the scenes. She said that Trustee

Hitchcock brought her own special flavor to the meetings and her perspective has been of value. She also thanked her for asking difficult questions.

Julie McArthur, SMETA President, Teachers Association, expressed her appreciation for Trustee Hitchcock on behalf of the teachers, for her fantastic support to students and teachers.

Bernadette Christensen thanked Trustee Hitchcock for putting the students' needs first and for considering parents and teachers as well. She shared that Trustee Hitchcock welcomed her special needs daughter into the preschool program and she was very appreciative of that. Her daughter is now in middle school.

Amy Connors also joined previous callers in thanking Trustee Hitchcock for her time, commitment to parent involvement and participating in the Communications Committee. She said that it was a pleasure working with her and other Board members in improving communications in the District. She wished her well.

Amy Fickenscher thanked her for the support to the students. She appreciated the personal connection with Trustee Hitchcock and said that she will be missed.

#### **4.2. Permanent Status-Certificated (v)**

Sue Weiser, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, recognized Certificated Staff who have earned permanent status in the District. She noted that this year 50 teachers were honored for their permanent status and thanked them for their unwavering support of all the students, for nurturing them, encouraging them to seek their greatest potential and reassuring them that we will get through these challenging times together. On behalf of the District, she thanked them for working in the District and congratulated them on their permanent status. Ms. Wieser presented a video in their honor.

Each of the Trustees took a moment to congratulate the new certificated members. They thanked them for all their hard work, effort, and commitment to the students and families and for teaching in Distance Learning and during these challenging times. They welcomed them into the District as permanent teachers.

#### **Public Comments:**

Julie MacArthur also took a moment, on behalf of SMETA, to congratulate the teachers who received permanent status this evening, adding that she is incredibly proud of them and that she looks forward to continuing to work together for many years to come.

## **5. STATEMENTS**

### **5.1. Public Statements Related to Non-agenda Topics:**

Ian McCullough continued the previous sentiments in expressing deep appreciation for Trustee Hitchcock's service. He congratulated Trustees Corzo and Watkins on their reelection, and welcomed Lisa Warren as the new incoming Trustee. He affirmed his respect for the Trustees for their support of the students. He thanked them for doing everything they can to ensure that all students are included and thriving.

Amy is a resident of North Central and has a child entering kindergarten next fall. She stated that she saw the video of the November 6 Board meeting and was disheartened by some public comments made and by the responses from the Trustees. As a new parent she found the comments elite and exclusive. She elaborated on her feelings and how she feels her daughter won't fit in based on the Board's diversity plan. Her daughter is Asian American. She is concerned about the opinions voiced by some of the Board members and the public and how that could affect negatively the children at College Park. She asked everyone to consider their comments as their words can have an impact on the children and families.

Vy Vo was appreciative of the Board's work and for making the difficult decisions. Although she may be disappointed at times with decisions the District makes she knows it is part of conducting business. She expressed respect for what the Board and the District is doing for the families.

## **5.2. Public Statements Related to Agenda Items: Persons will be called on at the appropriate time**

### **5.3. Foundation/Committee Reports**

Trustee Proctor attended the Communications Committee where they discussed COVID-19 and school reopening communication as well as useful information for parents that should be posted on the District website and linking important information via Facebook. They discussed the virtual opening of the Bayside gym.

Trustee Watkins shared that she, Trustee Corzo, and Dr. Rosas met with the City of San Mateo Council Liaisons, City Manager, and Assistant City Manager. They congratulated Amourence Lee and Diane Papan for their election as Councilmembers and gave an update on the GALA event. Trustee Watkins mentioned that both City Liaisons were instrumental in helping make new connections in the community and donated generously to the Education Foundation GALA. She also gave an update on the neighborhood priority for the four Magnet programs. Additionally, she reported that the Equity Task Force met with Nicole Anderson, Consultant, this week and the focus was reestablishing the meaning of equity and continuing the work on the initiatives of staffing, LGBTQ+, academic programming and safety (which has been recently added). She reminded everyone that the Equity Task Force meetings are open to the public. The Education Foundation met and they discussed a new initiative on Culturally Relevant Literature.

Colleen Sullivan, President of the San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation, thanked Trustee Hitchcock for her three years of service in the District, for her dedication, and passion in representing the families and staff. She continued with an update on the Education Foundation, adding that on November 16, the Education Foundation held a virtual community meeting about Culturally Relevant Literature. She reminded everyone that Giving Tuesday is on December 1 and donations are welcomed. She also mentioned that the Education Foundation is launching Project Inspiration, which is a three-year fundraising effort. The goal is to raise \$5 million over the course of three years. The project would engage 25 corporations, nonprofits, foundations, and other community partners for consistent funding for the students in the District and it would support academic leadership, health and safety, and arts. She encouraged everyone to visit their website for more information [smfc@fund.org](mailto:smfc@fund.org).

Trustee Hitchcock reminded everyone that the SEDAC meeting scheduled for December 1 has been moved to December 8.

Trustee Chin shared that he attended a couple of Sanctuary Task Force meetings where they focused on helping newcomers and the families who have been affected by COVID-19. They also talked about having a donation drive for families who are struggling. They discussed transportation for children who need to be in the learning hubs. He also attended the LMI meeting where they discussed the reopening plan.

#### **5.4. Announcements**

Trustee Proctor announced that the City of Foster City City Council approved the establishment of a Sister City relationship with Inagi City, Japan. She is looking forward to this new relationship since the City of San Mateo and the SMFC School District already have a relationship with the City of Toyonaka, Japan.

Trustee Chin announced that the County of San Mateo is continuing with providing COVID-19 testing for entire families at the San Mateo County Event Center. It's by appointment.

#### **5.5. Board Member Statements**

Trustee Watkins addressed concerns raised during the last Board meeting regarding the College Park Mandarin Immersion program. She thanked the staff and families for their engagement in the conversation and reiterated her support for language immersion programs. She also stated that the Board needs to reflect on policies and practices to ensure that they support all students in achieving their full potential. She is particularly concerned about students who are not currently successful in our district and that she needs to be a voice for students who do not have a voice. She explained that Dr. Rosas and she would work with the College Park leadership, staff and students in establishing next steps and expressed her availability to engage further individually.

#### **5.6. Superintendent Report**

Dr. Rosas thanked the Ed Foundation for their support with the Culturally Relevant Literature project. She appreciated the work of Angela Kollerer, Shannon Twomey, Tyson Anir, author of Black Boy Poems and William Perdue, educator and author of Shannon's Window.

She also shared her thoughts related to questions and concerns that arose under the magnet neighborhood priority item from the last Board meeting speaking to the fact that she has worked in this District for almost 25 years because of the educational community and its willingness to innovate for the betterment of our students. She spoke to the importance of language learning as an essential skill in a global economy and that the District remains committed to language learning options. She did explain that alongside our programmatic commitments at College Park and other programs throughout the District, there is a commitment called out in our Vision and Mission statements that all of our students will experience academic success in our schools. Step by step we are working together to ensure student academic success no matter economic status, language learning levels, racial or ethnic backgrounds or learning differences. She stated that she realizes that the District still has much work to do but

strides have been made and will continue to be made. Dr. Rosas said that our leadership team will work with the College Park Principal, staff and families to continue this high quality language program and to look deeply at how to better promote the program for all students and to support the academic success of students in the program.

## **6. PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA (v)**

The Board removed Items 6.1.2 and 6.2.3 from the Consent Agenda to allow comments. The Consent Agenda was approved as amended.

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Shara Watkins and a second by Rebecca Hitchcock.

Yes Kenneth Chin

Absent Noelia Corzo

Yes Rebecca Hitchcock

Yes Alison Proctor

Yes Shara Watkins

### **6.1.2. Response to the 2019-2020 Grand Jury Report: Ransomware It Is Not Enough To Think You Are Protected**

Dr. Rosas shared that the Grand Jury issues reports that sometimes has to do with schools, communities, or city government. Over time, the District has received different types of Grand Jury reports such as this one and there is a process to follow where the District accepts the report and provides a response stating whether the District agrees with the findings or not and whether it will follow the recommendations. In this instance, the District received the report and agrees with many of the findings and the District will be working on an internal report to the Board on the status of the District's cyber security infrastructure.

#### **Public Comments:**

Leya expressed appreciation for Peter Cazanis, the District, and the Board for taking this topic seriously. She felt that much is happening with ransomware and information could be breached at any time. She asked that the District practice two-step authentication and requested changes in AERIES to avoid compromising the AERIES account. She indicated that in the District's response there was one point about the District's lacking information to agree or disagree with the finding about identity theft recovery cost and wanted to point out that it is an expensive situation.

**Motion Passed:** Item 6.1.2 passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Shara Watkins.

Yes Kenneth Chin

Absent Noelia Corzo

Yes Rebecca Hitchcock

Yes Alison Proctor

Yes Shara Watkins

### **6.2.3. Contracts & Consultants \$45,000 and Under**

Trustee Proctor abstained as she indicated that she serves on the Board for one of the organizations listed on the report so that she would need to abstain from the vote.

**Motion Passed:** Item 6.2.3 passed with a motion by Shara Watkins and a second by Rebecca Hitchcock.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Absent Noelia Corzo  
Yes Rebecca Hitchcock  
Abstain Alison Proctor  
Yes Shara Watkins

## **7. SUPERINTENDENT SERVICES/BOARD**

### **7.1. Equity Task Force Update**

Nicole Anderson, Consultant, and Karla Rodriguez, Member of the Equity Task Force, presented information to the Board on the recent community and student listening sessions data as outlined in the SRO Resolution. They provided a background of the SRO Resolution and shared information on the work of the Equity Task Force, the methodology used for the listening session data collection, the demographics for the community, and student listening sessions. Both listening sessions were around school safety. The Equity Task Force had some recommendations for the Board to consider:

- Conduct ongoing listening sessions (follow up and share data with all stakeholders)
- Outreach to diverse stakeholder groups to engage in school safety work
- Provide professional development and support for staff, teachers, and leaders
- Examine data, policies, practices, and resource allocation that impact student safety
- Leverage Equity Task Force to examine, recommend, and monitor data, policies, and practices that impact school safety (sub committee) during the 2020-2021 school year
- Redefine the relationship of the district and police department to ensure optimal school safety
- Revise district discipline matrix to ensure school safety for all students with an equity lens.

#### **Public Comments:**

Grace McCollum, sixth grade student, appreciated the conversation about school safety. She feels more at ease discussing the issue in smaller groups. She wished more people would participate, for example, students who have experienced bullying or have been discriminated against. She said that it's important to participate so the District can help. She felt that safety is a right and the District should not pay SRO's for such service. She thanked the presenters for the conversation on equity.

Alan Home requested to move the discussion concerning the reopening plan up on the agenda as he was anxious to hear about Health and Safety and the reopening plan.

Stephen Floor shared that he personally experienced bullying in school. He asked that the District listen to the students who are experiencing bullying because it takes years to cope and cannot be underestimated. It is important for students to feel validated. He also brought up exclusion and how it is also a form of racism.

Randi Paynter acknowledged the three public commenters that preceded her. She especially thanked Grace for speaking up. She brought up the SRO contract issues and



whether the District has heard about feelings from both sides, people that don't have positive experiences and others who feel strongly about the importance of having SROs in the schools. Regarding the level of data that the Police Department has provided, she asked the Board if it met their expectations.

Valerie Benavides, a fifth grade student, stated her appreciation to the Equity Task Force for their presentation. She liked the platform as it provides the students with the opportunity to express their feelings on the issue, especially for Spanish speakers.

Board Comments:

Trustee Hitchcock thanked Ms. Anderson and Ms. Rodriguez for leading the presentation and to all who participated in the listening sessions. She was especially proud of the students' participation and comments.

Trustee Watkins also thanked Ms. Anderson and Ms. Rodriguez for their presentation, noting that this is a good start but more work needs to be done in terms of community engagement. She, too, was happy to see student engagement and be part of the decision-making process and hopes for more diverse representation. She felt that the current format may not be for everyone, especially for people who don't have access to the internet or aren't comfortable speaking in public. She thought that there is the need for more creative ways to reach out to the community and get their input. She offered to contact other districts for ideas on their work in this area. She asked for a timeline for staff and community engagement sessions and to continue with small groups.

Trustee Proctor appreciated the presentation and thanked the team for doing the sessions and for analyzing the work. She too would like to see more engagement but appreciated that the sessions will continue and hopes to obtain broader feedback. She was impressed with the students who provided their input and joined the Board meeting. She would like to find ways to increase their participation.

Trustee Chin shared that he attended the first community listening session and thought it was great. He expressed his appreciation to Ms. Anderson and said that she has become an integral part of the District moderating the Equity Task Force. He reflected on the work done thus far in the District. He noted that we have very smart and talented students and he would like to see them involved in the equity work or any other type of work in the District. He agreed on needing a timeline. He felt that the Equity Task Force is moving in the right direction.

**7.2. Consider entering into a Compensation Agreement for the Disposition of former Redevelopment Agency properties within the City of San Mateo Pursuant to Health and Safety Code 34180(f): Kathy Kleinbaum, Assistant City Manager, San Mateo.**

Kathy Kleinbaum, Assistant City Manager, presented the Compensation Agreement with the City of San Mateo, which relates to the redevelopment dissolution process that occurred in the state. She explained that redevelopment agencies which are part of city government were required to develop a plan for the disposition of any property that they own. She gave further details of the redevelopments and requested that the San Mateo Foster City School District enter into a Compensation Agreement with the

City on the disposition of the two former redevelopment Agency properties at 480 E. 4th Avenue and 400 E 5th Avenue in San Mateo. The District is part of the 10 entities that receive a share of the property tax revenue from former Redevelopment Agencies in the City of San Mateo.

**Board Comments:**

The Trustees were very excited about the project and said that they look forward to seeing it completed. Trustee Chin added that he was very appreciative of the City of San Mateo and Deputy Kleinbaum for working with the District. He noted that the Homeroom Committee worked with the City together to ensure affordable units for teachers and staff.

**Motion Passed:** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CONSIDER EXECUTING THE COMPENSATION AGREEMENT. Passed with a motion by Shara Watkins and a second by Rebecca Hitchcock.

Yes Kenneth Chin

Absent Noelia Corzo

Yes Rebecca Hitchcock

Yes Alison Proctor

Yes Shara Watkins

### **7.3. Reopening Plan Update**

Dr. Rosas presented an update on the Reopening Plan noting what has been accomplished this far. She reported that elementary families will be deciding on the model of their choice, Distance Learning or the AA/BB Hybrid model. For middle school students, the District is planning grade level activities and families will have the opportunity to give authorization for their children to participate. The District is in the process of developing a timeline for class assignments which will be shared with the families. Health and Hygiene protocols will also be shared with parents.

The Board asked clarifying questions.

**Public Comments:**

Randi Paynter spoke about the pandemic recovery plan released by the San Mateo County Office of Education on November 9 and cited a section of the plan where it refers to the direction of the County Office of Education to the District about forming a committee that should include staff with oversight of the central operations in the District as well as administrators, teachers, parents, experts in the subject matter, and preschool and childcare site leaders. She stated that there is interest from the public to volunteer to help. Reopening is fast approaching and the District could use guidance on ventilation in the classrooms, more specifically, the ventilation systems will need testing, monitoring, and maintenance.

Marcella McCollum agreed with Ms. Paynter's comment and added that families have been asking to volunteer. She felt that the District is making decisions equally across the District but not all the schools operate the same way. If we ever go to in-person classes, she would like to see an audit on direct instruction time as the ability of privileged families who have access to special services concerns her. She wondered if a multi-year plan had been started to overcome the academic loss during the pandemic. She would like to see a plan for middle school students particularly for the sixth grade

students. She thought that it is important to create physical space where they can be in a community safely supported for social emotional connections.

Alan Home asked for a Q&A page on the District website and to remind families about it during the Board meetings, which would be helpful for new parents. He would like to see a benchmark on cases. He wanted to know how the District plans to prevent students from sharing materials in the classrooms. He shared that it would help him feel safe knowing that the District listens and embraces ideas.

Julie MacArthur, SMETA President, urged the Board to pay attention to expenditures made related to COVID-19 as the plans are presented, moving forward. She is happy about the Learning Support Hubs but asked if these classrooms would be used when we go to Hybrid. She is concerned about the most vulnerable students and wanted to make sure that we do the right thing for them. She concluded by saying that no low income student should be punished because they don't attend a Title I school and the priority needs to be based on the students regardless of their neighborhood where they live in.

Julia asked a clarifying question about choices of programs. She wanted to know if her children would be able to retain their teachers if her family chooses to stay in Distance Learning starting January 19.

Vivian D., asked a few clarifying questions about the current survey. She wanted to know if the class list will be posted in December, regardless of the rise in COVID-19 cases. She stated that her children have already established a relationship with their teachers. She asked how the District will handle transition to the new teachers in January. She asked for more efficient communication meetings such as a Coffee Chat setting for parents to ask questions.

Rena Corb, a parent at Abbott, also expressed outrage that there isn't a plan for middle school students yet to return to school. She asked for community engagement for them in the meantime or some type of sports such as tennis where players are spread out.

Shivani Gupta thanked the District for the support. She asked questions about the protocol in the event that someone tests positive in the school campus. She wondered if the entire class would be quarantined for 14 days? She also asked about the protocol for tracing and communications. She asked for different channels for families to pose questions and the District to post answers online as parents are anxious for more information. The Hybrid program is challenging for working couples as students would be in school for two days and the rest of the week would be at home. She would like to see a program that would provide a minimum of 4 days a week of in school instruction so parents would feel at ease when they are at work.

Mike Spillner, a parent at College Park, advocated for keeping GATE students in the same classes with the same GATE teachers for program continuity. He also felt that it is important to keep kindergarteners and sixth graders together as they are new to the schools regardless of the program parents choose. He asked to have half of a class in person and the other half join remotely so the whole class can be together. He added that St Gregory School is already doing that. He hopes that the GATE teacher assignments are made with the goal of keeping them with their students.

Chelsea Yuan, a sixth grade parent, said that she has joined the Board meetings since the summer. She agreed with the previous speaker about the need for community activities for middle school students and thought that is something that can be done at the site level. The students need teacher interaction and with each other. She also requested live streaming in the classrooms at least four days a week where half of the class is in person and the other half is live streaming. She mentioned that other districts are already doing it.

Molly Gallatin has a 7th grade child at Abbott Middle School. She agreed with previous callers concerning the lack of a plan for middle school students. She was disappointed to hear that students may not be back until next year. She would like to know what the District will do for the middle school students.

Lauren had clarifying questions around synchronous learning and the student schedule. She wondered which model offered more synchronous, Hybrid or Distance Learning.

Vy Vo asked Dr. Rosas to use non-technical language when answering questions from the Board as not everyone in the public understands the rules and regulations and its technicalities. She also asked that parents get email confirmation of the learning model they chose. She wondered if there is a way to rectify the choice if a parent chose the wrong model.

Jayme Congdon, a Parkside School parent, wanted information on guidance for reopening and a scenario where schools would be allowed to reopen but the District would opt not to. She too believes in transparency and stakeholder engagement. She also had questions about students temporarily being moved to another school if there is a high number that choose Hybrid. She wanted to know if the District is working to establish policies with Community Partners to continue supporting students through the Learning Support Hubs for Hybrid students in January. As an essential worker, she would like for her child to attend in person classes, stay in the Learning Support Hubs, and have childcare.

Mrs. Morinishi also had clarifying questions around the Hybrid schedule. She wondered how teachers will engage with students online and in person at the same time. She expressed concerns about synchronous vs asynchronous instructional minutes and the ability for teachers to connect with students to help them.

Callie Williams, teacher at Brewer Island, shared that she misses seeing her students in person and desperately wants to go back to teach in person; however, she feels it is not the right time to return in January due to the surge in COVID-19 cases. She thanked the District for the ongoing effort of keeping everyone safe and asked to keep the classes as they currently are and wait.

Danielle Combs has a student in first grade at Audubon. He agreed with Callie's comment and felt that teachers are in a difficult position. Parents and teachers are fearful and he feels for them. He agreed with other callers about the need of knowing the threshold for returning to school because parents are still wondering what will happen in January. He had questions about the shuffling of classes.

Robert Hanson has two children in the District. He was appreciative for the Hybrid model presented this evening. He advocated for another survey to gauge parent needs in terms of in person instructional days.

Suzanne stated that in person communication with peers is important for middle school students but she felt that they have been completely ignored. She shared that group chats are not working for them. She fears that many parents will enroll their children outside the District. She touched on transportation and health and safety protocols and asked what safety precautions will be taken to minimize the risk of spreading the virus. She would like to see some information about it on the District website. She also had questions related to IEP instructional minutes that students are currently receiving.

Jennifer Mayman appreciated the comment made by Trustee Watkins about inclusion, adding that her son is in SDC. She wanted to see inclusion addressed in the plan for returning to school. She asked if parents whose children spend time in a general education setting need to call in December for an IEP.

Melissa LaRue also asked about inclusion as she had been told that it wouldn't be offered in Distance Learning. She thought that depending on the percentage of inclusion minutes for a child, perhaps they could be placed in the general education hybrid model. She also thought that it would be an exciting opportunity for more inclusion time and she wanted to learn more about it at the next SEDAC meeting on December 8. However, she doesn't think that it has been communicated to the IEP teams.

Lauren Cracknell has a first grade student and fourth grade student in the District. She had questions about the assignment of teachers. She shared that her choice of Distance Learning or Hybrid models is contingent on her child staying with the same teacher. She was concerned about the surge of COVID-19 cases, especially during the holidays and agrees with Trustee Watkins that we need more data to make a decision. She would prefer that the District wait until after the holidays to make a decision. She also wanted clarification on the communication email that she received today about the AERIES portal and agreed that a confirmation email would be helpful.

CC (Claudia) agreed with some of the previous comments and reported having technical issues with the AERIES portal and the inability to save her changes. She is concerned that her choice of model was not properly recorded and she won't find out about it until January. She agreed that a confirmation email would be helpful for parents to know they chose the model they wanted as well as reassignment and dates for the reassignment of teachers. Her final question was if we will be allowed to reopen even if we are in purple status.

Joy Shmueli shared that as a family they are making Distance Learning work and her son is doing well, although, her son misses his classmates. She reminded everyone that we are in a pandemic and that returning to classes will not be the same for the students. She thought that we need to be careful about setting a return date in January. She is an educator as well and believes that the District will adjust expectations and will make sure that students are prepared for their next step academically in the new school year.

Teachers are working hard at keeping their students engaged and challenged. She thanked the District for making the right decision for the staff and families.

Steven Floor has a child in second grade. He shared that he is confused and has questions about what model to choose and he is also concerned about families that don't normally attend the Board meetings to get more information or clarification on the plan. He agreed that cases are surging and requested that the District put any decision on hold and revisit the plan in the spring, optimize Distance Learning, and extend support where it is needed.

Fernando Martinez was appreciative of the continuous work of the District and agreed with the last comment. He shared that his family will be fine in the current setting but he is concerned about students who are struggling and those who are home alone because both parents work; their children need to be in an environment where they can focus and be successful.

#### Board Comments:

Trustee Hitchcock requested that parents get an email confirmation letting them know the schedule that they chose. She also asked about teacher transition for January 19. Dr. Rosas said that January 19 is still the reopening day and people would make the transition. Otherwise, students would stay with their teachers until the transition is made. Trustee Hitchcock also requested virtual tours for new families and milestones so parents know what the expectations are of the grade level, via report cards or teacher conferences. Trustee Hitchcock reminded Dr. Rosas that parents have offered to volunteer for developing a FAQ that can be posted on the District website. She wanted to know if the District has a protocol for families who have traveled, if they have to quarantine for 14 days before they are allowed to return to classes. Dr. Rosas said that one reason for reopening on January 19 is to allow time for travelers to quarantine for 14 days. Trustee Hitchcock said that we are in a very unstable environment with COVID-19 cases rising and wondered what would be the criteria if the District sees the need to shut down after reopening.

Trustee Watkins felt that it is crucial to have a timeline of current events on the District website, including the questions raised this evening such as teacher shuffling and cohort information so families can access information and reduce concerns that have been presented. She asked that the Handbook also be posted on the website. She followed up on various questions such as a program for middle school students and inclusion for students in SDC and asked that communications go out to parents with FAQ answering their questions and keep a live FAQ document so all families access the information. She also thought that we could share contact information on social media for parents to address their questions and that criteria for reopening and closing should be clearly articulated. She would like to discuss criteria for reopening during the December Board meeting. Additionally, she asked for a budget update that includes expenditures related to COVID-19. She thought that we should continue with the reopening plan.

Dr. Rosas shared that the Parent's Handbook has been updated and will be on the District website in December. The handbook will address many of the questions asked by the parents. She noted that principals have most of the information to the questions that parents have been asking. Dr. Rosas will check what other districts are doing about

reopening at this time and seek recommendations from the San Mateo County Office of Education.

Trustee Proctor said that she trusts the judgment of the parents when they say that their middle school children are not doing well. Middle school children are in their early teenage years and during that period of time they are changing physically, mentally, emotionally, as well as socially. She urged the District to think creatively to support the middle school students. She asked to incorporate questions raised today by the public in FAQ and post them in the District website. She would like to see included in the communications any metric that would push the date back and keep a running COVID-19 list.

Trustee Chin added that the schools have reopening teams often starting with their Site Council and adding interested staff and parents. He would also like to see what other Districts are considering for reopening.

The Board continued their conversation by asking additional clarifying questions.

#### **7.4. CSBA Regional County Delegate & CCBE Board of Directors Call for Nominations in Region 5 (v)**

There were no nominations made by the Trustees.

### **8. EDUCATION/STUDENT SERVICES**

#### **8.1. Distance Learning Program Implementation - 14th Week Update**

David Chambliss, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services and staff, presented the 14 Week update on Distance Learning. This was the third of the three presentation updates.

Board asked clarifying questions.

#### **Public Comments:**

Randi Paynter said learning loss among younger students caught her attention during the presentation. She concurred with Trustee Watkins' question about defining the reopening process. Ms. Paynter suggested that as the District focusses on equity to consider the lower grades as well. She thought that perhaps the younger groups need more in-person time.

#### **Board Comments:**

Trustee Watkins said that before the reopening, she would like to see the data that has been provided and how matching is being used. She wants to continue to do an analysis on the reopening plan to determine who are the students that are struggling and if we have met their needs. She appreciated the new data track and thought that it was a good base for next steps.

Trustee Proctor appreciated the students' perspective and the comments shared in the focus group.

Trustee Hitchcock followed the comment made by Randi Paynter and Trustee Watkins about reopening and prioritizing students who are experiencing learning loss. She thanked Mr. Chambliss and his team for conducting student focus groups.

Trustee Chin also appreciated the presentation. He said that it really shows the amount of work and dedication that went into the information presented this evening. It shows that everyone is working hard and long hours, not just the regular eight-five hours and he was very appreciative of it. He thought that the data showed positive outcomes but also showed areas that need improvement. He too thought that we need to focus on groups of students who need more support, especially during these difficult times. He added that a lot of effort has gone into Distance Learning and at some point in the future, he would like to see another survey to gauge the success of the program.

## **8.2. Consultant for the New School in North Central San Mateo**

Dr. Rosas presented the consulting proposal received for the project on the New School in North Central San Mateo and noted that one consultant responded to the offer: Pedro Noguera, Ph.D. She shared that Dr. Noguera is a highly regarded individual in the field and it would be an honor to work with him. Mr. Chambliss shared that he had the opportunity to work with him in the past and stated that his work is reputable. Based on the knowledge, expertise, and the level of support system that he offers, Dr. Rosas recommended the Board to review and consider Dr. Noguera's proposal. Should the Board decide to move forward with the proposal, this item would be brought back for approval at the December 9, Board meeting.

### **Public Comments:**

Martin Wiggins is a resident of North Central San Mateo. He asked for the background information on the project and to describe the context for the potential project.

Randi Paynter asked if Dr. Noguera would be directly involved in leading the team in the engagement sessions or would he be more indirectly involved in the work. She agreed with Dr. Rosas and Mr. Chambliss that Dr. Noguera's work is outstanding.

Trustee Watkins said that she is excited for the Dr. Noguera's support as she knows him from many years ago through the educational field and has followed his work since then. She noted that Dr. Noguera is responsive and that it would be great to have him lead the project.

Trustee Chin shared that principal consultants generally join the initial conversations but then they oversee the project. He thought that his fees seem to be quite reasonable.

The Board asked staff to move forward with the contract. This item will be brought for Board approval at the December 9, 2020 Regular Board meeting.

## **9. BUSINESS/FINANCE**

### **9.1. Request for Proposal (RFP) for Solar Generation Program (v)**

Patrick Gaffney, Chief Business Official, presented the Request for Proposal (RFP) draft for professional services for delivering an analysis to generate solar energy. The RFP includes the services guidance on an array of systems, cost savings, and financial options throughout the District as well recommendations to the District on which solar option(s) and financing options(s) to implement.

The Board asked clarifying questions.



Board Comments:

Trustee Hitchcock was very excited about the solar energy project and thanked Tish Busselle, District Advisor, Jose-Noel Cadiz, Director of Facilities, and Mr. Gaffney for their work.

**Motion Passed:** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DOCUMENT FOR SOLAR GENERATION PROGRAM. Passed with a motion by Rebecca Hitchcock and a second by Shara Watkins.

Yes Kenneth Chin

Absent Noelia Corzo

Yes Rebecca Hitchcock

Yes Alison Proctor

Yes Shara Watkins

### **9.2. Bowditch Middle School Facilities Planning**

Ms. Busselle and Mr. Cadiz presented an update on the Bowditch Middle School Measure X and T projects and the timelines. Ms. Busselle shared work accomplished to date through Measure X and Mr. Cadiz presented the next steps for the planning of Measure T projects.

The Board asked clarifying questions.

Board Comments:

Trustee Proctor thanked the team for their presentation and for keeping the Board updated on the projects. She is excited for the planning and initiation of the projects.

Trustee Hitchcock was excited for the projects as well. She was grateful for the continued updates.

Trustee Chin liked the science pods. He thought that the design is good and that by having the central storage in the middle would provide access to all the classrooms but he wondered if it would be too small for an actual science lab. He has seen the science labs at the San Mateo High School and they are big. One idea he had was to see if Gilead is willing to help out with the science lab project. He pointed out that there is a lot of room for building a two story building on the back side of the campus. Otherwise, he thought that the timeline is great and he is appreciative of the preliminary conversations with the architect and getting ready to move forward. He also mentioned that Peninsula Clean Energy provides free technical assistance and to keep them in mind for reviewing our projects and to reach out for a presentation on their services.

Dr. Rosas thanked Ms. Busselle, Mr. Gaffney, and staff, including music and drama staff for their countless meetings with the science staff and for all the background work that went into the presentation. She said that the model presented would set a standard for new science lab renovations Districtwide.

### **9.3. Measure T Planning**

Mr. Gaffney presented the status of the preliminary work identified as immediate priorities in the Facilities Master Plan for the New Decade as part of the Measure T projects. He noted that the implementation work currently initiated is related to Health

and Safety priorities, such as water bottle water fillers, hand-washing stations, and stand-alone units for air filtration. The work is scheduled to begin January 2021. Other immediate priorities will be implemented in Quarter 1 in order to prepare for the reopening of the schools. Mr. Gaffney thanked Ms. Busselle, Mr. Cadiz, his team of Project Managers, as well as Mark Herrera, Maintenance and Operations Manager for their work in reviewing the document that was presented this evening outlining the immediate list of priorities.

The Board asked clarifying questions.

**Public Comments:**

Marcella McCullom appreciated the quick response from the District in addressing concerns that parents raised relating to Health and Safety. She thought that the Facilities Master Plan didn't capture the feedback previously addressed by Fiesta Gardens community, particularly about the shade structure and other priorities for the school.

**Board Comments:**

Trustee Watkins appreciated both, the presentation on the Bowditch facilities planning and the Measure T update and for the quick response on the planning. She is looking forward to seeing the projects implemented as soon as is humanly possible. She would like these types of updates to be part of regular communications to the community.

Trustee Chin would like to see a big sign thanking the community for their support on Measure T and letting them know that their tax dollars are at work. It would be a constant reminder that we value their support.

Trustee Proctor thanked the almost 40,000 people who voted and supported the Measure. She too was appreciative of hitting the ground running with the planning of the projects and for the hard work from the staff.

## **10. HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **10.1. Defined Ed Code-Local Assignment Option (v)**

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Sue Wieser reviewed the Defined Ed Code-Local Assignment Option and asked for Board approval as presented.

**Motion Passed:** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE AUTHORIZATIONS USING DEFINED EDUCATION CODE FOR THE INDIVIDUAL LISTED IN THE RATIONALE DESCRIPTION.

Katherine Hofman  
Amelia Hollingsworth  
Julia Horak  
Anna Leiss  
Laura Philippon  
Megan Smith  
Amelia Tarantino

**Passed with a motion** by Shara Watkins and a second by Rebecca Hitchcock.

**Yes** Kenneth Chin

Absent Noelia Corzo  
**Yes** Rebecca Hitchcock  
**Yes** Alison Proctor  
**Yes** Shara Watkins

## 11. REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

## 12. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Dr. Rosas read the list of future meetings and reminded everyone that the SEDAC meeting has been changed to December 8.

December 1, 2020	7:00 PM	SEDAC
December 5, 2020	1:00 PM	Special - Study Session - Equity
December 8, 2020	9:00 AM	School Visitations
December 9, 2020	6:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting
December 15, 2020	7:00 PM	Equity Task Force

Trustee Chin also reminded everyone that the next Regular Board meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, December 9.

Trustee Hitchcock once again thanked everyone for the best wishes received this evening.

## 13. ADJOURNMENT

### 13.1. Adjournment (v)

The Regular Board meeting adjourned at 1:03 am.

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Rebecca Hitchcock and a second by Shara Watkins.

**Yes** Kenneth Chin  
Absent Noelia Corzo  
**Yes** Rebecca Hitchcock  
**Yes** Alison Proctor  
**Yes** Shara Watkins

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Board Secretary

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