

## Board of Education Regular Meeting

January 28, 2021 7:00 PM

Via Zoom Teleconference

Closed Session 5:30 PM | Regular Session 7:00 PM

### Attendance Taken at 5:30 PM:

#### Present:

Melissa Aguirre

Enrique Diaz

Tuyen Fiack

Mark Good

Michelle Nelson

James Pace

Linda Piceno

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION: Notice is hereby given that a closed session of the Board of Education will be held under the general provisions of Govt. Code Section 54957. This opportunity is provided to allow the public to comment prior to the Board's consideration (Govt. Code Section 54954.3).

### 2. CLOSED SESSION (5:30 PM)

**a. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE (Government Code Section 54957[b])**

**b. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2)): 2 Cases**

**c. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9):**

**d. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code Section 54957[a])**

### 3. REGULAR SESSION (7:00 PM)

Board President, Mark Good called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**a. Pledge of Allegiance**

**b. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by James Pace and a second by Michelle Nelson.

Yes Melissa Aguirre

Yes Enrique Diaz

Yes Tuyen Fiack

Yes Mark Good

Yes Michelle Nelson

Yes James Pace

Yes Linda Piceno

**c. General Public Comment**

Members of the Public and GUSD staff addressed the Governing Board regarding the reopening of schools as well as the budget and negotiations.

**d. Report of Action Taken in Closed Session**

**2b. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2)): 2 Cases**

The Board approved two settlement cases to resolve educational claims.

**Motion Passed**

Yes Melissa Aguirre

Yes Enrique Diaz

Yes Tuyen Fiack

Yes Mark Good

Yes Michelle Nelson

Yes James Pace  
Yes Linda Piceno

#### 4. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT - Kathryn Yambao - Gilroy High School

Kathryn Yambao, Student Board Representative of Gilroy High School (GHS), reported on both GHS and South Valley Middle School:

##### *South Valley Middle School:*

- On October 23, they held a movie night, this was organized by ASB, and they watched Caroline.
- The week of January 18, they recognized honor roll students from last semester, both honor roll and principals list.
- They did Tiger Time twice a week during 8<sup>th</sup> period, students get to meet with other teachers, and they practice self and time management, and learn ways to focus on emotion and dealing with time at home.
- The counselors held an 8<sup>th</sup> grade zoom meeting and they talked about high schools and checking in with the students on graduation requirements.
- The ASB students meet weekly during Tiger Time.
- South Valley has a school wide google classroom where they post announcements.
- They do spirit days once a month.
- The students will soon have a student store.

##### *Gilroy High School:*

- Students have Mustang Media where they share announcements, and talk about activities coming up.
- Calendar of thanks happened during the month of November; they posted things that students can do as random acts of kindness.
- The students had a turkey contest on October 28; the winners received gift cards which were donated by the Parent Club.
- Kathryn shared a photo of the student of the week or month that were nominated by staff every week; they are posted on social media and on the Mustang Media announcements.
- They held an ornament contest in December; the categories were most creative and funniest. The winners received gift cards donated by Target.
- They had various activities such as Guess Who's, where they shared pictures of students and teachers and they all tried to guess who it was.
- The choir concert happened on December 11; they put videos together of previous performances and posted it.
- They held a Takko Machi virtual tour, which took place on December 16. The students from Takko and students from Gilroy High School held a zoom session and played games together.
- On January 16, 17 and 18<sup>th</sup>, they had finals.
- The Mustang Wellness Center which was created by Mr. Chris Leong, it has resources for students as well as workouts and meditations, tutoring and puzzles, this is linked on the GHS page.
- On January 7, they held a Dual Immersion (DI) information night for the middle school students. They covered what DI was about and shared a schedule of what classes would look like. They also had a presentation for them.
- There was a winter rally on January 8, the students had virtual games.
- With senior year coming to an end, the seniors are working on getting their quotes, as well as senior videos and their senior songs on Instagram.
- All of the classes designed class shirts, the pictures were shared on the presentation.
- Student Site Council had a meeting on January 12, there was a good turnout with about 24-28 families, during this meeting they approved the GHS safety plan, which has to do with emergency protocols and procedures.
- Last week they had honor roll recognition for students; this was organized by Parent Club, Rotary and ASB.
- Mustang Mania happened on January 27; they went over graduation requirements for incoming ninth graders and did a campus tour as well as performances. Link Crew also did activities with the students, which they do once a month.
- Coming up is creative writing, crocheting and knitting and more activities.

## 5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Dr. Deborah Flores

Superintendent, Dr. Deborah A. Flores, reported on the following:

- In the last two weeks, she had the pleasure of making a presentation to both the noontime Rotary on January 19 as well as the Sunrise Rotary on January 26. She shared with them a presentation about distance learning and about all the things that the staff has done since March as a result of the shelter in place. It was well received and they asked some good questions. Melanie Corona, the PIO, assisted Dr. Flores with the presentation.
- Inauguration Day was quite a momentous day with some great performances, particularly the student poet.
- The Reopening Planning Committee met on January 21. She talked about this later during the board meeting.
- On January 22, there was a staff development day with lots of great activities for staff. The surveys following the staff development indicated that the workshops were very helpful.
- Jan. 27 was the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school. Many schools participated and did really fun things.
- Jan. 26, 27 & 28 was the ACSA Annual Superintendent Symposium. This event usually takes place in Monterey but was virtual this year. Dr. Flores' favorite topic is about school finance. Top experts in the state attend the symposium/ Superintendents got to hear directly from School Services, Capitol Advisors and ACSA as they talked about the state budget. Presenters in other workshops talked about the impact of COVID19 on employees. The Governor participated in the symposium as well. Wes Smith, the Executive Director of ACSA, asked him a series of questions. One of the most interesting points in this dialogue, which was back and forth, was about vaccines. As Board is aware, the Governor is pushing districts to reopen schools. One of the questions had to do with the role of vaccines. Wes Smith was raising some of the issues that Superintendents across the State are dealing with e.g. vaccines for employees. The Governor said if school districts are waiting for vaccinations this year, then they will not be opening this year. Superintendents are concerned that districts may end up paying for vaccines and/or testing for staff which is just unrealistic. He made a number of interesting comments. She did appreciate that he came to talk directly to the 300-400 superintendents at this conference.
- Dr. Flores continues to send out Friday letters to staff and parents; the last one was on Jan. 15 and one is coming out soon.
- She and the Ed. Services team continue to conduct APS visits. Recently, they visited El Roble and Eliot Elementary schools virtually. New Board Member Michelle Nelson joined them. Dr. Flores continues to be so impressed with the great job that the teachers are doing with so many challenges in the virtual learning environment. There are so many good things happening. Most students are engaged and learning. The teachers are using a lot of different strategies to address engagement. The middle schools visits are coming up on February 2, 4 and 9, and then she will transition to her Spring Visits. She reminded the Board Members they are welcome to join her on the Spring Visits.
- The meetings of superintendents from the county with the Public Health Department, SCCOE and the EOC each Tuesday afternoon have continued and they have been very helpful.
- She has attended many other meetings and there are a number of meetings coming up - the Facilities Subcommittee, Principal and Non-Site Management, and SPAC meetings.

*Coming up:*

- No school for students on February 15-19.
- Read Across America on March 2 (virtually)
- Run for Fitness, which is one of her favorite events will be done virtually this year (March 13).

## 6. CONSENT AGENDA

**Board President Mark Good called out item 6e. as the Superintendent made comments on this item.**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Michelle Nelson and a second by Linda Piceno.

Yes Melissa Aguirre  
 Yes Enrique Diaz  
 Yes Tuyen Fiack  
 Yes Mark Good  
 Yes Michelle Nelson  
 Yes James Pace

Yes Linda Piceno

**a. Personnel Items**

**b. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes: January 14, 2021**

**c. Monthly Donations Report January 2021**

**d. September 2020 Quarterly Investment Report**

**e. Board Approval to Amend the Effective Date of the "Change of Fiscal Agents for the Cal-SOAP Program" from March 1 to April 1, 2021**

Superintendent, Dr. Deborah A. Flores, reported on the following:

- At the previous Board Meeting, Dr. Flores gave a report on the transition of the fiscal agent for Cal-SOAP.
- Cal-SOAP has been around for almost 20 years, and they have provided wonderful services to students in our district and three other districts. As a result of the services many high school students are able to go to college.
- Due to rising costs associated with running the program, another fiscal agent was sought.
- The new fiscal agent is Rebekah Children's Services (RCS) and it is anticipated that they will do a great job as the new fiscal agent.
- There has been a series of meetings but more time is needed. This transition cannot be accomplished by March 1 and it is likely it will occur in early April.
- Dr. Flores checked with legal counsel to see if it is possible to amend the item that went to the Board on January 14. Legal counsel indicated that the item could be amended to reflect the new transition date in April.
- She recommended that the item be amended to reflect the date of the change of fiscal agent from March 1, 2021 to a date April set by the Superintendent in consultation with RCS.
- The exact date is unknown at this time as there are a number of tasks that have to be completed before this transition occurs.

**7. ACTION/INFORMATION ITEMS**

**a. Update on District's Preparations for the Reopening of Schools When Conditions Permit It**

Superintendent, Dr. Deborah A. Flores, reported on the following:

- Dr. Flores made some opening comments before proceeding with the item.
  - There is much interest in the topic about opening schools, not just in Gilroy but also across the Nation.
  - She also knows there are many different opinions about when and if the schools should reopen.
  - Dr. Flores said the safety of the staff, students, and families, has been the top priority throughout this process, and will continue to be the most important factor in the decision making process.
  - When the County made the decision on March 13, 2020 to implement the shelter in place and close all schools in the County, we could never have imagined it would last almost a year. Overnight, the district converted from brick and mortar to working from home and continuing to provide the same range of services to students, that the district had always provided.
  - The transition to distance learning has had its challenges, especially last Spring (2020) when the transition happened overnight. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the staff, the distance learning program has worked well this year and it is getting better all the time.
  - In May, Dr. Flores formed a planning committee to advise the District and the Board about issues related to the school closure, to help the district prepare for reopening schools and to make a recommendation about reopening schools.
  - The Reopening Planning Committee is comprised of 30 individuals, that represent all bargaining units (employee unions) and hold various positions in the district, some of which are parents in the district. Later in this presentation, she will share a recommendation regarding reopening schools.

- Dr. Flores thanked the committee for their time and willingness to attend so many meetings.
- The Reopening Planning Committee, the District's leadership, and the Board are data driven, the COVID19 data especially for Gilroy, has to have a prominent role in the decision making process.
- Gilroy has had the most COVID19 cases of any city in the County per 100,000. There have been 6,559 cases of COVID19, which is a rate of 11,813 per 100,000. Gilroy's cases represent almost 7% of all cases in the County. Gilroy's case rate is almost twice as high as the next two highest cities, Morgan Hill and San Jose.
- There have been 40 deaths in Gilroy. She said her heart goes out to the families and friends of the Gilroy families that have lost a loved one, and to over 1,300 families in our County who also lost a family member.
- She also expressed support for the staff that have tested positive, exhibited symptoms and have had to quarantine due to someone in their household testing positive or sick. Since Thanksgiving, there have been almost 60 cases in the district.
- Dr. Flores thanked Board Members, James Pace and Enrique Diaz, for providing some of the slides shared in the presentation. They have been tracking Gilroy's data during the pandemic. She also thanked Janet Lee, a science teacher at Gilroy High School and one of the members of the Reopening Planning Committee, for sharing data about the deaths.
- Dr. Flores shared information from the COVID19 Dashboard - the 7-day Rolling Average, was 893 that means over the past 7 days the average number of cases was 893. The cumulative deaths was 1314.
- Gilroy's case count was 6,559 and the rate per 100,000 population was 11,813.
- She displayed a chart of the percent infected, in comparison to the United States, California, and Santa Clara County.
- She shared the rates by city information - Gilroy is almost twice of San Jose's.
- Looking at the age groups, one can see that the percentage of deaths increased by age. The reason that is relevant is because GUSD has about 150 staff who are 60 and older.
- The number of cases under 19 are about 18% of the cases in the County - she showed the breakdown by age.
- She displayed a chart with the same data for California. The number of cases of COVID19 in California in this age group was over 400,000, 12.7% of all cases.
- Two weeks ago, the California Department of Public Health, released a document called Framework for Reopening, COVID19 and Reopening in-Person Instruction Framework & Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California, 2020-2021 School Year.
- She shared a link to the 50+page report. The report supersedes the two prior reports from Santa Clara County and the State. Now the districts are required to follow the guidance in this document. She has been in several meetings where the requirements have been discussed.
- The document has a chart that talks about the State's Tiers. The stay-at-home order has been lifted. Santa Clara County is still in the Purple Tier, grades 7-12 cannot reopen until case rate is below seven, which would mean the GUSD would have to be in the Red Tier if that happened.
- K-6 is different. In the guidance, if the case rate in the County is below 25 then the elementary schools can reopen. However, there are many other provisions in the report that have to be considered. The county case rate is dropping and it could potentially drop to 25 anytime in the near future.
- In the category of face coverings, in prior reports face coverings were not required for K-2. This report requires all students TK-12 and staff to wear a mask unless there is an exception.
- In the stable groups section, the consistent requirement for elementary students is that they remain in stable cohorts all day. At the middle and high school level, they are recommending several different ideas - stable groups with teachers moving or block schedules where we reduce the number of classes and stability of teachers.

- The physical distance requirements are for everyone. They require they be 6 feet apart, it limits or prohibits volunteers, minimizes congregated movements, staggered start times, have one way directional, that the meals be outdoors and limit sharing of objects.
- Ventilation has become a high priority for the California Health Department and the Santa Clara County Public Health Department. Dr. Flores, along with Alvaro Meza, CBO and Dan McAuliffe, Maintenance Manager, attended a webinar a couple of months ago. The recommendation was to hire outside experts and assess all HVACs in the district. Shortly after, the district hired a team of experts to assess and repair all HVAC units in the district. This process began in December and they have finished one high school and are almost done with the second high school. They are going to do the seven elementary schools next. Based on the number of HVAC systems that they need to assess – 1200, staff and the experts anticipate that it is going to take a few months to complete this job. The PHDs also recommend keeping windows and doors open and using fans to blow air out of the classroom. The district purchased Heppra filters for classrooms that cannot provide adequate ventilation.
- There has been such an intense focus on disinfecting from the outbreak by public health experts. More recently, the experts have reached the conclusion that all the disinfectants being used are bad for children and staff. Now, they recommend just cleaning with soap and water and detergents, which are not harmful. The district will need to make some big changes, as we ordered thousands of dollars worth of disinfectants and hand sanitizers, and now they are being told they cannot use them.
- The Health and Wellness Subcommittee includes two nurses and they are working very hard on the procedures for what to do if a student arrives sick on campus. They have already developed some good protocols on how to deal with the situations that might arise at school. Another committee has worked on a lot of HR procedures, Dr. Paul Winslow is in charge of reporting cases that have to be reported to him, which ones have to be reported to Public Health and procedures of dealing with staff that are quarantined for ten or more days. Before reopening, trainings on procedures and protocols and how we are going to do things safely will need to be provided for staff, students and parents.
- Dr. Flores shared a picture of what the classrooms would look like with all desks 6 ft. apart. The district is doing this currently at the distance learning access centers, which have been operating since the fall for students who do not have internet access at home.
- Dr. Flores said she appreciates everyone who is on the planning committee. They have worked hard on this and have deliberated a lot.
- There are many recommendations in this report from the state e.g. districts continue distance learning for students and families when requested and that the districts phase in their offerings when they are ready for students to return. The Teaching and Learning Committee has been talking about various scenarios for months.
- They meet as a whole Planning Committee, and have been doing so since May, there are 30 members, and represent various roles, they work hard and review a lot of reports, articles she sends them. Sometimes the subcommittees meet following the regular committee meet and sometimes they meet at other times.
- Before schools can reopen, districts have to develop and submit a COVID19 Safety Plan to the Santa Clara County Public Health Department. Districts need to consult with various groups such as the unions, and parent committees. Once the plan is approved by the Board, they will have to post the plan on the GUSD website and each school's website.
- She mentioned Governor Newsom's proposal, called the Safe Schools for All. This proposal caused quite a lot of media coverage. It is an incentive based program, in which districts will be provided with financial incentives to reopen. The first date in the plan was Feb 15, this requires case rates of less than 25/100,000; it also requires approval from 2/3 of the State Legislature. All the major educational organizations are opposed to it. It would take Prop 98 money away from schools to implement this plan. At this time, the GUSD is not eligible for the money even if the plan was approved.



- Dr. Flores read the Reopening Planning Committee's recommendation into record.
- Basically the Committee is saying until Gilroy gets to Red Tier and the cases drop significantly, the committee and the district believe we are not prepared to reopen. The committee will be happy to share recommendations about how to bring students back when the district gets to that level. The committee and district staff are concerned not only about the case rate in Gilroy, but a lot of other issue e.g. issues surfacing now about contact tracing and testing.
- Some reports have recommended weekly testing of students and staff. There are also concerns about staff being vaccinated. There are just so many issues that need to be addressed before the committee and district staff can recommend that the students and staff return to school safely.
- Dr. Flores attended a training where she was told that each test would cost \$100-150; GUSD has 11,000 students and 1,000 employees. How will this be funded, who will administer the testing program and how often is it going to be done? Those are major issues that have to be resolved.

**Motion Passed:** Board approval is requested of the Reopening Planning Committee's recommendation in regards to reopening of schools. Passed with a motion by Enrique Diaz and a second by James Pace.

Yes Melissa Aguirre  
 Yes Enrique Diaz  
 Yes Tuyen Fiack  
 Yes Mark Good  
 Yes Michelle Nelson  
 Yes James Pace  
 Yes Linda Piceno

#### **b. Update on the Governor's January Budget Proposal for 2021-22**

Alvaro Meza, Assistant Superintendent presented the following:

- On January 8, the Governor released the state budget proposal. During the press conference, they made it a point of saying that the \$85 billion allocated for grades K-14 was the largest in history.
- This omits critical details that brings into context the amount, and diminishes this history in education. The proposal lacks the legislative authority to allocate funds; it is just a proposal at this point.
- Mr. Meza shared the slide, which depicts the State budget development process. At this point in time, the Governor's January budget proposal has been released. There have been a couple of budget development hearings. We should expect some key elements of the proposal to change.
- There are many initiatives the Governor has included in the budget. The key element for the district is the cost of living adjustment (COLA). The COLA is zero for this year and it remains zero even in his proposal. It compounds the COLA so next year, we will receive two years of COLA. The Governor is pushing aside and delaying paying that 2.31%, adding the estimated COLA of 1.5%, the total will change, and we will not know that until May. They have discussed the \$2 billion grant, it has an ambitious timeline, there is a significant \$4.6 billion one time investment and instruction of developing time. The \$9.2 billion in deferrals, these are just cash payment delays. The highlight there is zero COLA provided to all districts in California this year.
- The Governor and his office the Department of Finance, are agreeing to what the State source can or cannot do, this says they are in agreement with the exception of \$3 billion or so. Prop 98 gives you a life and indication what the Government is doing. The \$2.3 billion that is added on as a one-time investment to Prop 98. With Prop 98 it is really K-14 that he highlights for the press, it is \$88 billion that is highlighted. Look at K-12 share and look at what the actual proposals are doing and impact of our district.
- The Governor and Prop 98 spending plan is that it does not address deferrals, in total is \$13 billion is still in place this year.
- Remember \$2.3 billion, is the disappointing development to the proposal, one that eats away as making historic investments in education.

- Under the current 2020-21 it created an obligation for the State to “pony up” an additional \$12.4 billion in education and it did that in two elements; to share in revenue which are based on taxes, but it also sets a benchmark so that we in education continue to grow our share of the budget, currently it is in 38% and this will increase to 40%. This proposal turns that upside down and says I have a \$12.4 billion obligation, but going to sell up to a \$2.3 billion payment.
- In special education there are some other areas that are positive, the Governor reflects the struggle in discuss for stress relief.
- SELPA are funded based on these new higher regional rate, this will continue to be because the COLA of 3.84% does not get applied to the little help we get from the State.
- Gone is the 2.31% that we were owed this year, here is continuing \$30 million ongoing.
- \$250 million for education effectiveness block grant, these are all one time, the teacher pipeline is \$225 million between three categories including credentialing program for classified workers. This is mean to address bilingual.
- Proposal makes good on promise, that while the Governor vetoed that earlier in the year AB1835, that he would roll that up into the proposal what this is all about is we have a share of supplemental concentration funds that are part of the district's to meet the needs of students, now we are looking at treating them more like categorical. Any carryover will have additional oversight, from County Office, going to be treated more as categorical. The completely funding model is called Local Control Funding Formula that meant the local boards should decide flexible.
- The new COVID Federal stimulus, in December the Federal stimulus signed into law by former President Trump. \$2.3 trillion dollars called consolidated appropriated acts, on the slide he shared of the Elementary Secondary School Emergency Funds, for the Nation. California is estimated to receive \$6.8 billion.
- The ESRA funds were based on Title I funding, they already heard many Superintendents talk about is that really fair, they don't all qualify. Expected that \$7 million number estimated for GUSD will change, will hold up based on Title I, that might be deferring back average daily attendance.
- What is not included in the budget is fund for COLA for this year. There is not extension of those waivers coming into next year; there is no COVID liability coverage in fact rather than setting.
- Getting back to hold harmless provisions for declining enrollment districts. There is no more one time discretionary.
- There are two key components, the COLA and then they have a hold harmless protection, while they are declining enrollment.
- The district is declining enrollment, projecting to decline about 150 next year.
- The \$4 million dollars in one single year of ongoing revenue and that is catastrophic unless they plan for that there is a positive element to this proposal. You can see that the COLA, if your ADA and enrollment stays the same, when you have a drop and it is going to be the feeling of two years, the district is not getting paid for students it does not have this year. The point is when they are at that trajectory level, the district declined over 600 students in 2016, there is a reason to believe because of birth rates and furthermore the LAO and the Department of Finance, both agreed there is looking deficit in the fiscal year.
- Next steps, the Demographer's updated enrollment projection, continue efforts to reach agreement with bargaining units, focus on the reopening plan, impact of Biden's administration and further stimulus, May Revision, update multi-year projection as necessary.

**c. A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$33,000,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, APPROVING THE FORMS OF AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ONE OR MORE ESCROW AGREEMENTS, BOND PURCHASE AGREEMENTS AND CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATES, APPROVING THE FORM, AND AUTHORIZING A METHOD FOR**



**REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY MEMBERS OF SAID BOARD, OF ONE OR MORE OFFICIAL STATEMENTS, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND CERTIFICATES AND RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH**

Alvaro Meza, Assistant Superintendent/CBO, introduced Mr. Jon Isom, Financial Advisor of Isom Advisors:

- This is a resolution, it was written by legal bond counsel, what it means is that they have an outstanding bond, they have issued in the past, and they have the opportunity to lower those for cost for the taxpayers.
- This is just an information item and they will bring it back in February for Board approval. Should the Board approve these in a subsequent meeting, they are allowing \$3 million or so of these existing bonds. The \$33 million to refinance, they feel that is good, they have a transition already in place to fund the South Valley Middle School modernization project, which is over a \$90 million issuance, and the last series of Measure E.

**d. RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$94,680,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF BONDS OF THE DISTRICT BY A NEGOTIATED SALE, PRESCRIBING THE TERMS OF SALE, APPROVING THE FORM OF AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A BOND PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND A CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE, APPROVING THE FORM OF AND AUTHORIZING THE DISTRIBUTION OF AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT FOR THE BONDS, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND CERTIFICATES AND RELATED ACTIONS**

Alvaro Meza, Assistant Superintendent/CBO, introduced Mr. Jon Isom, Financial Advisor of Isom Advisors:

- This item is on the issuance of the bigger bond, last series E for the modernization of South Valley Middle School.
- The interest rates are incredibly low there is economic uncertainty global, not a lot of confidence among investors.
- We are at historic lows that is what presents this opportunity; there is one good thing, schools bonds.
- Been in this process of selling the last series from Measure E authorization almost \$100 million, the rates continue to get lower.
- Two types of borrowing, the COP obligated by general fund, there is a GO bonds, the district. The District voters have been very generous for supporting the District, and approved the bonds back in 2002, 2008, and 2016. Mr. Meza shared a table showing the specific issued and what is outstanding.
- About \$65 million has been sold, own to 60-61 million is about 41 million that can be refunded.
- The Certificate of Participation (COP), in 2016 they refinanced the 2008 COP to lower the interest rate and save money.
- The GO Bond has been a lot more information, the highlight here is 2016 they sold almost \$80 million dollar, \$94 million remains that is what is going to be up for issuance this year. The refunding saves the taxpayers money. The District has done an excellent job refunding when it presents itself. Initial over \$80 million is what the District has been able to save taxpayers through lower tax payments.
- The bond capacity is relevant because school districts in the State of California have a debt limit, which is statutory 2.5% of assessed value. A simple calculation, if a District is going to sell bonds that exceeds statutory limits, they need to get a waiver.
- Board Member Mark Good asked for a proviso in the information with a dollar amount certain that is a go or no go, so this way the Board knows what they are approving.

**e. Approval of the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Instructional Calendars and the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Gilroy Teacher's Association (GTA) Certificated Work Calendars.**

Paul Winslow, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, presented the following:

- This information was brought to the Board two to three years ago, the calendar committee, they wanted to get a two-year cycle.
- This year they were not able to due to COVID19.
- The committee did meet this month and gave him consent to come to the Board and present this item for approval.
- The first day of student instruction will be planned for Wednesday, August 18, 2021 and the following year will be on Wednesday, August 17, 2022.
- The only real move is that they did adjust one of the teacher professional development before the start of school, by anticipating some professional development.

**Motion Passed:** The Board approve the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Instructional Calendars and the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Gilroy Teacher's Association (GTA) Certificated Work Calendars as presented. Passed with a motion by Linda Piceno and a second by Michelle Nelson.

Yes Melissa Aguirre  
 Yes Enrique Diaz  
 Yes Tuyen Fiack  
 Yes Mark Good  
 Yes Michelle Nelson  
 Yes James Pace  
 Yes Linda Piceno

#### **f. Approval of Dr. TJ Owens Gilroy Early College Academy (GECA) 2021/2022 School Calendar**

Paul Winslow, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented the following:

- Unlike the regular calendars, GECA has to align with the Gavilan Community College calendar, so they cannot do a two year cycle for GECA.
- This is developed in a separate calendar committee, with Principals Flores and her team.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of the 2021/2022 Dr. TJ Owens Gilroy Early College Academy (GECA) school calendar is recommended. Passed with a motion by Michelle Nelson and a second by James Pace.

Yes Melissa Aguirre  
 Yes Enrique Diaz  
 Yes Tuyen Fiack  
 Yes Mark Good  
 Yes Michelle Nelson  
 Yes James Pace  
 Yes Linda Piceno

### **8. ACTION/INFORMATION ITEMS REGARDING FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE**

#### **a. Monthly Maintenance and Facilities Update January 2021**

Paul Nadeau, Director of Facilities:

- Mr. Nadeau shared a photo presentation of the Brownell Middle School Project.
- He talked about the progress, of the project.

Dan McAuliffe, Maintenance Manager:

- Shared the progress of the HVAC inspection and assessments.
- The HVA assessment that began on December 17 is comprised of a team of professionals. They have three different companies working on the HVAC.
- Christopher High School has been completed and Gilroy High School is 80% completed.
- On the February 11 Board meeting, he will be planning on going to the Board for approval on further testing on all sites.
- They have had some severe weather in the last few days, the sites faired pretty well, they only had 8 roof leaks reported, which is good, they used to get 30-40 during weather such as the one they had.

**b. Approval of a Contract Amendment with Colbi Technologies (not to exceed \$10,000)**

Paul Nadeau, Director of Facilities, presented the following:

- This is for additional services that Colbi Technologies offers for pre-screening of contractors.
- Prequalification of each contractor would take 3-4 hours.

**Motion Passed:** Board approval is recommended for this service. Passed with a motion by Linda Piceno and a second by Enrique Diaz.

Yes Melissa Aguirre  
 Yes Enrique Diaz  
 Yes Tuyen Fiack  
 Yes Mark Good  
 Yes Michelle Nelson  
 Yes James Pace  
 Yes Linda Piceno

**c. Approval of Contract with Dryco Construction, Inc., for Additional Fencing at the Pool at Gilroy High School (not to exceed \$44,529)**

Paul Nadeau, Director of Facilities, presented the following:

- This item is for additional fencing at Gilroy High School, this is part of the pool project, they are modifying school entry points to the pool area.

**Motion Passed:** Board approval is recommended for this contract. Passed with a motion by Linda Piceno and a second by Enrique Diaz.

Yes Melissa Aguirre  
 Yes Enrique Diaz  
 Yes Tuyen Fiack  
 Yes Mark Good  
 Yes Michelle Nelson  
 Yes James Pace  
 Yes Linda Piceno

**9. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

*Board Member Michelle Nelson*, thanked Dr. Flores and the Principals of El Roble and Eliot for allowing her to accompany them to the APS Visits. Other people have complimented teachers she said it is amazing as to what they have accomplished. She said the learning curve is huge for them and she understands. On January 29, she will be sitting in on interviews for GECA incoming freshman. She also met with the Luigi Aprea Principal and on Tuesday is going back to Eliot and visit to watch the SEAL strategy.

**10. UPCOMING AND NEW/REFERRAL AGENDA ITEMS**

*Board Member Tuyen Fiack*, said she received a report of the computer science program at Christopher High School as well as the Bio Science at Gilroy High, she would like to know the demographics of the students enrolled in these courses.

*Board Member Linda Piceno*, said she would like to add gender to this report as well.

**11. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**a. If necessary, the Board will adjourn to closed session to continue the discussion of items in Section 2 above.**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 PM.

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Superintendent