



BENICIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
GOVERNING BOARD

Notice of Regular Meeting

February 04, 2021 6:00 PM

In Compliance with Executive Order N-29-20 and N-35-20 issued by Governor Newsom on March 12th and 21st, 2020 respectively, this meeting will be Livestreamed and recorded via the BUSD YouTube channel linked here:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/beniciaunifiedschooldistrict>

Meeting will be conducted via Zoom from the

Benicia Unified District Board Room

350 East K Street

Benicia, CA 94510

**Attendance Taken at 6:06 PM:**

Present:

Diane Ferrucci

CeCe Grubbs

Mark Maselli

Gethsemane Moss

Sheri Zada

**1. CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 p.m.**

Minutes:

The meeting was called to order by President Zada at 6:05 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

Quick Summary:

PLEASE NOTE: In an effort for our community's voices to be heard, BUSD has transitioned to accepting public comments via the "Public Comment" voicemail that will now be available. Members of the public wishing to address specific items on the Board meeting agenda are requested to call 707-748-2787 (one comment per person, per item limited to 3 minutes) on the day of the meeting between 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. Please note that no anonymous messages will be played. If your comment is for "closed session" please be sure to state that so that it can be addressed prior to "closed session." The

board clerk will play the recording of all the "open session" public comments to the specific items then being discussed by the Board (Board Bylaw 9323) during the public comment item. The Governing Board allows speakers to speak at regular meetings on agendized and non-agendized matters under public comment. Comments are limited to no more than three minutes per speaker at which time the voicemail will be cut off. By law, no action may be taken on any item raised during the public comment periods and matters may be referred to staff for placement on a future agenda of the Governing Board. Please be reminded to keep your comments respectful and that students may be watching the board meeting.

#### **4. CLOSED SESSION - 6:00 P.M.**

##### **4.1. Public Employment/ Action/ Appointment/ Discipline/ Dismissal/ Evaluation / Release**

Rationale:

Dr. Khushwinder Gill will present the Personnel Action List to the Board.

##### **4.2. Conference with Labor Negotiators**

Rationale:

The Governing Board will conference with Labor Negotiator, Dr. Khushwinder Gill, regarding Employee Organizations BTA, CSEA and unrepresented groups.

##### **4.3. Individual Student Matter(s)/ Student Need(s)**

Rationale:

The Governing Board will discuss student matters in the case of

The Education Code requires Closed Session in these cases to prevent the disclosure of confidential student information.

#### **5. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION - 7:00 P.M.**

Minutes:

President Zada reconvened the meeting to open session at 7:17 p.m.

##### **5.1. Report on Closed Session Items**

Minutes:

There was nothing to report from closed session.

Quick Summary:

## **5.2. Announcement**

Quick Summary:

This meeting is recorded for live-streaming and archiving on the District YouTube channel at [youtube.com/c/beniciaunifiedschoolsdistrict](https://youtube.com/c/beniciaunifiedschoolsdistrict) for your convenience.

## **6. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Minutes:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Maselli.

## **7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion Passed:** Approval of the agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Mark Maselli and a second by Gethsemane Moss.

Yes Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs

Yes Mark Maselli

Yes Gethsemane Moss

Yes Sheri Zada

## **8. HIGHLIGHT - 2020-21 Employee of the Year Recognition**

Rationale:

The Board and Staff will honor and recognize the Employees of the Year.

Minutes:

President Zada introduced Dr. Gill, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources to speak about the Employees of the Year recognition. Dr. Gill then had the pleasure of introducing each principal and director who shared a few words in recognition of each of their classified and certificated employee of the year recipients.

## **9. REPORTS - (NO ACTION REQUIRED)**

### **9.1. Student Reports**

Minutes:

Students Alice Wells from Liberty High School, Mikayla Moldero ASB President from Benicia High School, and

Madison Firle ASB VP shared the various events that are being planned and have taken place at their schools. One being the "You Are Not Alone" video to encourage all student during this time.

## **9.2. Superintendent Report**

Minutes:

President Zada introduced Dr. Young for this evening superintendent report. Dr. Young welcomed everyone this evening and as he does during every board meeting thank everyone with in BUSD who continue to do the hard work to keep us going during these hard times. On behalf of your superintendent know that he greatly appreciates everyone's hard work and he knows that the board feels the same. He also thanked for the work they are doing with him in making the hard decisions. He was thinking about how this new journey of our started almost a year ago in March and in it there certainly have been a number of challenges as well as a number of successes. With that he just wanted to put out to the community and to all of us that it is very important that we continue to promote a culture of inquiry and a culture where we model civil and respectful discourse with one another. Even when it gets challenging, even when we don't know what to do as we are working through things we need to be a space where we can agree to disagree in an always respectful manner. Every day when we come together the reality is that we are building culture together. It important to keep tending to this in ways that is respectful, that elevates everybody in the system and it takes mindfulness daily in our interaction and how we communicate with one another. This a way to model for our kids which the sole purpose that we are here. Lastly, what he wanted to say is that he and his wife were talking about Facebook and how Mark Zuckerberg had wrote something about it being 17 years old and that Facebook and social media can be a place that can be so powerful for humanity, but at the same time it is a place where we have to be very careful with the way conversations take place in that space. He can't think of another publication that is that young, but has had such an impact on society. So he just calls on all of us to be thoughtful stewards of how we use that powerful communication tool and how we want to use that great tool to benefit our kids.

## **9.3. Board Reports**

Minutes:

Trustee Ferrucci shared that she sat in on the LCAP and they reviewed their goals and visiting them to make them more reflective of all of the work that is being done. Dr. Beatson will be sharing more with everyone.

President Zada, wanted to let everyone know that in effort of wanting to get our kids back in the classrooms, she has reached out to Sacramento on behalf of the district. She reached out to the honorable State Superintendent Tony Thurmond, California State Senator Dodd, to our Solano Superintendent of Schools Lizette Estrella-Henderson, Monica Brown who's our County Supervisor for Solano County that represents our district all in an effort to open communication about we can go about getting our teachers vaccinated. Dr. Moss and President Zada

are planning a trip to Sacramento as soon as these appointments get scheduled to hopefully meet with them in person to be able to discuss different options. Right now we are at a cross roads and they want to see if they can reach the people that can make the changes happen that are needed.

## **10. COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Minutes:

Comments from the following people were submitted into public record via our new public comment voicemail:

1-Kaitlyn C.-In support of returning to in person small group learning

2-Andrea Schneider-Recall

3-Kellie Barragan-Recall

4-Steve Dale-Recall

5-Sarah Denton-Employee Recognition

6-Nancy Rothstein-Equity & Opportunity

7-Cara Bateman-Returning to in person small group learning

8-Katrina Monroe-Recall

9-Shelby Delaney-Equity & Opportunity

10-Celeste Monnette-Recall

11-Laura Cohen-Equity & Opportunity

12-Krista Heredia-Equity & Opportunity

13-Patty Hayes-COVID item

14-Kathleen Ruiz-In person small group learning

15-Brandon Greene-Equity & Opportunity

16-Ric Small-Coordinator of Mentoring program would like to find a classroom at each campus for mentors to meet in person.

17-Robert Crowley-Equity & Opportunity

18-Sarah Ferrucci-In support of returning to in person small group learning

19-Andre Stewart-Equity & Opportunity

20-Gia Quinn-In support of returning to in person small group learning

21-Brittany Sapien-In support of returning to in person small group learning

22-Karen Dillon-In support of returning to in person small group learning

23-Jimmy Ferrucci-In support of returning to in person small group learning

24-David Sells-Equity & Opportunity

25-Andrew Barratt-Recall

26-Maria Socorro-Recall

27-Jennifer Lollipedit-Recall

28-Leah Wilson-Equity & Opportunity and in person small group learning

29-Joan Westerman-Non agendized matter thanking all five board members to not bring back students to school.

30-Paige Allinger-Equity & Opportunity and Recall

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### **11. CONSENT CALENDAR - ACTION ITEMS**

**Motion Passed:** Approval of the Consent Calendar as presented Passed with a motion

by Diane Ferrucci and a second by Mark Maselli.

Yes Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs

Yes Mark Maselli

Yes Gethsemane Moss

Yes Sheri Zada

#### Quick Summary:

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered by the Board to be routine and will be approved by the Board in one motion. There will be no discussion on these items unless members of the Board, staff or public request specific items to be pulled and discussed.

### **11.1. Minutes for the Meetings of: January 14, 2021**

### **11.2. Approval of Personnel Action List**

### **11.3. Acceptance of Gifts to the District**

### **11.4. Board Resolution AUTHORIZING COMPETITIVE NEGOTIATION FOR E-RATE PRIORITY**

#### **ONE DATA CIRCUITS (PUBLIC CONTRACT CODE SECTION 20118.2)**

##### Rationale:

The district would like to procure and implement the installation and lease of data circuits through a competitive negotiation process in compliance with Public Contract Code section 20118.2. Following the bid process, the Superintendent, or designee, shall recommend to the Board a qualified bidder for award of a contract for the installation and lease of data circuits, which contract(s) will be the most advantageous to the District with price and all other factors being considered.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of referenced Board Resolution AUTHORIZING COMPETITIVE NEGOTIATION FOR E-RATE PRIORITY ONE DATA CIRCUITS (PUBLIC CONTRACT CODE SECTION 20118.2) on a roll call vote of 5-0 passed with a motion by Diane Ferrucci and a second by Mark Maselli.

Yes Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs

Yes Mark Maselli

Yes Gethsemane Moss

Yes Sheri Zada

## **12. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **12.1. COVID-19 and Related Data Update**

Rationale:

Dr. Matyas will be providing a COVID-19 and related data update to the district.

Minutes:

President Zada reached out to Dr. Matyas to provide an update and take questions regarding the cases in our county tonight as well as vaccinations. Prior to moving on to the question for Dr. Matyas, President Zada requested a vote be taken to continue our meeting past 10 p.m.

**Motion Passed:** Approval for our meeting to go past 10 p.m. was requested by President Zada Passed with a motion by Diane Ferrucci and a second by CeCe Grubbs.

Yes Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs

Yes Mark Maselli

Yes Gethsemane Moss

Yes Sheri Zada

### **12.2. Governor's January Budget Proposal for 2021/22: The district will provide information from the Governor's January Budget Proposal for 2021/22**

Minutes:

President Zada turned it over to Tim Rahill, CBO to provide an update on the Governor's 2021-22 budget proposal.

### **12.3. Equity and Opportunity Update**

Rationale:

Dr. Leslie Beatson, Assistant Superintendent of Education Services, will provide an update on the equity and opportunity work happening in the District. The report will focus on a review of data that underscores a need to continue to focus on equity and opportunity, a summary of the activities engaged in since the last Board meeting, and upcoming plans for furthering the work. PRESENTATION

Minutes:

President Zada introduced Dr. Beatson, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services to provide an Equity and Opportunity update.

## **13. NON-CONSENT ACTION ITEMS**

### **13.1. Minimum Hourly Wage Compliance- Consideration and Ratification of revised CSEA Chapter #1096 2020-2021 Salary Schedule**



Rationale:

The CSEA Chapter #1096 2020-2021 salary schedule has been amended to be in compliance with the California Minimum Wage requirement of \$14.00 per hour effective January 1, 2021. The changes are in Range 20, Step 1 on both the hourly and monthly schedules. Currently, no employees are placed in Range 20, Step 1, therefore it does not impact any employee's actual salary. CSEA and BUSD agreed to discuss and alter rest of the salary schedule as needed during regular negotiations.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of CSEA Chapter #1096 2020-2021 Salary Schedule as presented Passed with a motion by Mark Maselli and a second by Diane Ferrucci.

Yes Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs

Yes Mark Maselli

Yes Gethsemane Moss

Yes Sheri Zada

### **13.2. Consideration and Approval In-Person Small Group Instruction**

Rationale:

Dr. Leslie Beatson, Assistant Superintendent of Education, will report on options for returning for in-person small group instruction in the purple tier. The report will focus on the possible structures for in-person small group instruction and a review of current data.

#### **PRESENTATION**

**Recommendation:** The Board engage in a discussion with a possible consideration of returning for small group instruction.

Minutes:

Dr. Young made a "bold" statement and asked that the board name it and claim it if indeed nothing will be taking place as far in person learning until the teachers are vaccinated. He stated that we need to stop spinning our wheels to get schools reopened if that is indeed the case. Dr. Moss asked that specifics (i.e the number of teachers that are willing to volunteer etc.) of the plan be brought back to the board for further consideration and Trustee Grubbs agreed that things were just not clear now.

**Motion Withdrawn:** The request for the board to engage in a discussion with a possible consideration of returning for small group instruction was withdrawn by Mark Maselli.

#### **14. ADJOURNMENT**

Minutes:

President Zada adjourned the meeting at 11:57 p.m.

Quick Summary:

Next Regular (Virtual) Meeting will be Thursday, February 18th

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Clerk

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Secretary