

**San Mateo-Foster City School District**  
**Minutes**  
**CLOSED SESSION/REGULAR MEETING~BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
January 21, 2021, 6:30 PM

Teleconference Meeting via Zoom –  
Closed Session Begins at 5:30 pm -- <https://zoom.us/j/97516233062> -- Zoom ID: 97516233062

Regular Board Meeting Begins at 6:30 pm  
<https://zoom.us/j/97336947291> -- Zoom ID: 97336947291

To listen to the meetings: One tap mobile +16699009128,,97336947291# US (San Jose)

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

**2. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

**2.1. GOVT. CODE 54957.6 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR(S) Agency Designated Representative: Dr. Joan Rosas. Employee Organization: SMETA, CSEA and/or SMEAA. 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 convened at 6:32 pm.

**3.1. Report out of Closed Session**

**3.2. Flag Salute**

The Flag Salute was led by Trustee Kenneth Chin.

**3.3. Roll Call**

All Board Members were present:

Kenneth Chin

Noelia Corzo

Alison Proctor

Lisa Warren

Shara Watkins

**3.4. Approval of Agenda: January 21, 2020 (v)**

Board Item 6.1 New School in North Central San Mateo - Introduction of Team & Presentation was removed from the Agenda as the team was unable to attend.

The Agenda was approved as amended.

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Shara Watkins and a second by Noelia Corzo.

Yes Kenneth Chin

Yes Noelia Corzo

Yes Alison Proctor

Yes Lisa Warren

Yes Shara Watkins

**3.5. Approval of Minutes (v):**

**3.5.1. December 8, 2020 -- School Visitations - Borel MS and Baywood ES**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Lisa Warren.

Yes Kenneth Chin

Abstain Noelia Corzo

Yes Alison Proctor  
Yes Lisa Warren  
Yes Shara Watkins

### **3.5.2. December 9, 2020 - Regular Board Meeting**

### **3.5.3. December 14, 2020 - Special Board Meeting**

Trustee Warren asked to make the following correction that she and Trustee Corzo were assigned to the SEDAC Committee, not Trustee Proctor as was stated on the draft minutes of December 14, 2020.

Minutes for December 9 and 14 were approved as amended in one motion.

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Noelia Corzo.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Yes Noelia Corzo  
Yes Alison Proctor  
Yes Lisa Warren  
Yes Shara Watkins

## **4. STATEMENTS**

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

Public Comments:

Randi Paynter, a parent, was inspired by the inauguration of the new President and referred to song lyrics from Johnny Nash regarding seeing clearly and seeing obstacles. She then made an observation regarding the board and obstacles stating that the board is not clearing obstacles but instead using them as a reason for driving to a single predetermined plan. She would like to see real accountability and straight talk regarding providing a safe workspace for educators and transparent reporting of student data. She quoted Amanda Gorman and asked the Board to consider the words imparted by her.

Marcella McCollum expressed appreciation for the teachers and asked that the Board focus on creating spaces to have these important conversations not only at the middle school level, but districtwide. She also invited the District to engage in discussions to support the teachers in efforts to provide adjusted anti-racist education to develop students as critical thinkers and strong advocates for a just society. She especially appreciated her student's 6th grade teacher for encouraging the viewing of the inauguration in Spanish. She felt that civics can start earlier in the curriculum.

Joe Spina, a teacher at Bayside Academy, appreciated Dr. Rosas and the Board. He felt that teachers should only be in the classroom after vaccinations have been made widely available. He said that many teachers are a part of the vulnerable population or have family members that are a part of the vulnerable community. He shared that distance learning is going very well and that the teachers are adjusting and adapting, and doing a great job at it.

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

### **4.3. Foundation/Committee Reports**

Colleen Sullivan, President of the San Mateo Foster City Education Foundation, invited everyone to the virtual kickoff tomorrow night for the annual Read-A-Thon taking place from Jan 22 to Feb 5. The focus is on culturally relevant literature. She provided updates on grants, stating that the first grant is \$500,000 made possible from Gilead and that a portion of the grant purchased 35 temperature scanners that have been distributed districtwide enabling staff and students to get into school as easily and safely as possible. The second grant was from Cal Water for \$6,550 to offset the cost of classroom HEPA Filters. A grant proposal has been submitted to Adobe, and in April the Foundation will learn if they have been successful in securing it. This particular grant is to support Special Education by addressing both student curriculum needs and staff training. She announced that the Education Foundation's Treasurer position is open and invited parents or community members with a background in finance to apply. Her email contact is [president@smfcedfund.org](mailto:president@smfcedfund.org). She appreciated the Board for their support and partnership.

#### **4.4. Announcements**

Trustee Chin appreciated the Education Foundation for the temperature scanners and thanked Gilead and the Education Foundation for the coordination. He had a chance to experience the scanner and said how much faster and less intimidating it was compared to the hand held thermometers. He wanted to do some public education about it; indicating a short video may be suitable. He said having the temperature scanners will take some of the pressure off the teachers and staff to monitor the temperatures.

Trustee Warren, reported on attending two meetings. The first was SEDAC and she heard Marcy Eucker from the Family Resource Center speak. They discussed IEPs and how parents can support their learners. The second was LMI (Labor Management Initiative) where staff talked about the re-opening and what that may entail.

Trustee Corzo reported that the Equity Task Force met and the discussion centered around events that took place on January 6. During breakout sessions, they were able to have meaningful and open conversations and continue action planning. She also attended the Sanctuary Task Force and they looked at re-distributing information on eviction prevention and discussed how to communicate proactively with the families.

Trustee Proctor attended the San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation and said that President Sullivan gave a complete report of the meeting. She also attended the LMI meeting and shared that members also discussed the events of January 6. They talked about how teachers dealt with the challenges of answering student questions and concerns during Distance Learning as a result of the event. She thought that more time is needed for listening sessions.

Trustee Watkins announced the birth of her daughter Kennedy Jade Watkins. She was born on December 24. She indicated that her camera may be off intermittently during Board meetings going forward to tend to certain needs but that she is present and will continue to be present.

#### **4.5. Superintendent Report**

Dr. Rosas explained that the elementary class assignments had been completed for re-opening, noting that 179 classes will stay in Distance Learning and 141 will move to the Hybrid Model. She expressed her appreciation to the Principals who worked diligently on the class assignments for all the elementary schools. Dr. Rosas continued her report by announcing her retirement. She shared that she will stay with the District through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. She has worked in education for 38 years with 27 of them in this District. Her announcement at this time will allow time for the Board to select a search firm, collect information on the qualities desired in the next superintendent, interview and select a candidate.

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

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Lisa Warren.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Yes Noelia Corzo  
Yes Alison Proctor  
Yes Lisa Warren  
Yes Shara Watkins

#### **5.1. EDUCATION/STUDENT SERVICES**

##### **5.1.1. Middle School English Language Development Instructional Materials Adoption**

##### **5.1.2. Approval of School Accountability Report Cards (SARCs)**

##### **5.1.3. Williams Quarterly Report**

#### **5.2. BUSINESS/FINANCE**

##### **5.2.1. Abbott Middle School- District Wide Shade Structure Project- Community Playgrounds Inc. (Installation Only).**

##### **5.2.2. Abbott New Gymnasium/Classrooms Project - Change Order No.7 Rodan Builders Inc.**

**5.2.3. Notice of Completion - Bayside Stem Academy Existing Gym Heating Project - G.Y. Engineering Company Inc.**

**5.2.4. Beach Park Elementary- New Elementary School- Palace Business Solutions**

**5.2.5. Beach Park Elementary School - Overaa Change Order No.008**

**5.2.6. George Hall- Multipurpose Building Project - HMC Architects**

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

**5.2.8. Listing of Payments to Meet District Expenditures**

### **5.3. HUMAN RESOURCES**

**5.3.1. Assignments Noted for Individuals Listed**

**5.3.2. Resignations, Releases, and/or Retirees**

## **6. SUPERINTENDENT SERVICES/BOARD**

### **6.1. New School in North Central San Mateo - Introduction of Team & Presentation**

This Item was moved the February 4 Board Agenda.

### **6.2. Reopening Update: Testing and Vaccination**

County Superintendent Nancy Magee presented an update on the new California Department of Public Health (CDHP) guidance, COVID-19 testing for staff and students, as well as vaccinations for education staff.

The Board asked various clarifying questions.

#### **Public Comments:**

Hannah Whiteside, a parent, wondered about diminishing returns of returning to school. She asked if it makes sense for the students to return to campus even if it is very late in the school year. She shared that she is in favor of a Hybrid experience for her child.

Fernando Lorenzo, a guest teacher in the District, appreciated Dr. Rosas for her work in the District. He shared his concerns and reservations about going back onto the school campuses and wondered what the expectations would be for guest teachers as the District works towards school reopening.

Joy Shmueli congratulated Dr. Rosas on her retirement. She wondered if the classrooms can accommodate the 6 feet apart rule of social distancing and if this issue could be addressed prior to returning in August.

Jayne Congdon, a parent of an elementary student and a pediatrician, told the Board that there is reassuring data from schools that have been open for much of the school year that it can be done safely with all of the safety measures in place. She wondered if the current slow and incremental process could be political rather than evidence-based. She felt that this slow incremental reopening is having a negative impact on mental health and equity as well.

Sandi Arata, a parent, asked that the Board look at the evidence and not base decisions on fear. She also asked that the Board reopen the schools regardless of how late it is in the school year as there would still be benefit to the students seeing their teachers.

Yvonne DiMatteo, a parent, asked about the plan to address the stress, anxiety, emotional and psychological issues that students have experienced the past year. She said that the District is likely to see new and additional behavioral issues in the students.

Robert Hanson, a parent with two students in the District, voiced that he is in favor of reopening in a responsible way. He stated that the Board should review their mission statement, which advocates for the students; however, many of the meetings to date have emphasized safeguards from the teacher's

perspective. He stated that the Board should look at data from other school districts that have reopened safely. He reiterated that a responsible Hybrid learning opening should be considered. He was displeased at comments made by school staff and Board members that other counties are funded better and noted that the SMFCSD's most recent Bond Measure passed was the fourth largest in the country.

Randi Paynter, a parent, made two points. The first point was to leverage expertise from stakeholders, parents, and subject matter experts. She said that this has been brought forth to the District repeatedly. The second point she made is in regards to teachers. Blame should not be placed on the teachers but on the District for not providing a safe enough workspace for them to return to classrooms. She shared that she personally knows of one teacher that resigned because she had to return to the classroom in the Hybrid Model, and that the resignation is a real loss to the school community. She concluded that there should be accountability from the leaders of the District.

Julie MacArthur, SMETA President, wondered if clarity could be provided regarding the Purple Tier and how it may affect the reopening of schools. She stated that even with a reopening plan in place, it might not be up the District since the County restrictions will supersede. She shared that the Menlo Park School District has reopened but they had to shut down several times and had to go back and forth, which could have an effect on the students academically and emotionally.

Gen, a parent with children in the District, was not in favor of reopening because of safety for family and family members with existing health issues. She told of reports of schools that have reopened then due to positive COVID-19 cases from students they had to shut down, go to Distance Learning, and then go back to in-person. She said that it seems unreliable for the students. She stated that even with safety protocols in place many schools that have reopened have had positive cases.

Joe Spina, a teacher, highlighted his earlier point that teachers must have both rounds of vaccinations to feel safe in the classroom. He said that it is the only responsible approach for teachers to enter back into the classrooms.

Nicola Cadenas, parent of two students in the District, felt that the Board is working on a Hybrid model that was designed for the summer before we had all the data. She said that the data now shows the incredibly low risk of transmission between students and between students and teachers. She shared that most of the cases of COVID in students have been from the home. She asked the Board to consider different hybrid models.

Colleen H., a parent, requested for more clarity on the protocol when a student that tests positive for COVID-19. She asked if the entire campus would shut down or only the affected classroom would quarantine, including people through contact tracing. She said that it seems sensationalized to talk about closing down schools.

Roseanne Wong, a teacher at Foster City Elementary School, shared how incredibly disruptive it is to go into Hybrid learning. She said the students will be reassigned between the Hybrid and Full Time Distance Learning classes. She felt that changing teachers in the middle of the school year is not a good thing.

Suzanne, a middle school and elementary school parent, provided additional information regarding the situation at the Menlo Park School District and stated that entire schools do not shut down with a positive COVID-19 exposure but only the cohorts of the affected students. The threshold to shut down an entire school is a 5% positivity rate. She shared that the Menlo Park School District has very strict parameters for families to follow regarding potential exposure, self-reporting, and self-quarantine. She said that the COVID-19 half-life is short and that the Board needs to revisit some of the plans regarding the cleaning protocols. Since teachers will be getting the vaccines and children have less receptors, students are not likely to spread it to each other; but masking and distancing still has to be in place.

#### Board Comments:

Trustee Chin wanted clarification from Superintendent Magee on a couple of questions. First, he wanted to know what the metrics are for reopening in the Purple Tier. Second, what are the procedures for closing down a school? Superintendent Magee explained that the current guidance for reopening schools in the Purple Tier is to have all the plans approved and posted. Regarding cohorting, she explained that the County has seven public schools in Hybrid learning. She agreed that reported transmission of the virus within a school community has been minimum and that people who have tested positive are usually getting

their exposure within the family or in their communities. She noted that the Four Pillars (Masking, Physical Distancing, Health & Hygiene, and Limiting Gathering) protect people from transmission of the virus. Schools are doing a great job at following the Four Pillars; therefore, the transmission rate is very low in the County. She added that if a student or teacher tests positive in a classroom, the cohort would quarantine for 14 days.

Trustee Warren gave her perspective as a pediatric nurse at Lucile Packard on COVID-19 cases noting that she has seen the whole spectrum of the virus and the effect on babies. She said that the virus is real and that once you have witnessed patients battling the virus, it is not easy to forget. She expanded her comments on the limited amount of vaccine available but was glad to know that educators will be next in line to be vaccinated. In addition, she thought that there should be a discussion with parents, Board members, and Union representatives about their limits of acceptable risk and review the data provided by the County Superintendent Magee.

Trustee Watkins expressed her appreciation for the educators and staff for their flexibility and said that parents had options on choosing an education model; however, educators and staff did not. She too is glad that educators will be the next on the roll out for the vaccination, as the vaccine will provide them with some level of safety. Trustee Watkins wanted to know if there is COVID-19 testing for students. County Superintendent Magee said that currently, students can obtain their test through community testing and families are encouraged to utilize the test centers for the vaccine. She added that the CDPH guidance expects that all students take the test but it cannot be mandatory. She added that some parents are not comfortable with their children taking the test. Trustee Watkins also asked about the frequency for testing for staff in the schools that are allowed to reopen. County Superintendent Magee shared that school staff at the San Mateo County Office of Education are tested once a week.

Trustee Corzo wondered whether the counties are encouraging Districts to take into account cases by city and zip code. She asked if the schools that wish to reopen have the same protocols. County Superintendent Magee explained that the San Mateo County Office of Education provides technical assistance to the districts with their particular needs and advocates for the Four Pillars and the CDPH guidance for a safe reopening. The school Boards determine their metrics for reopening based on their own communities.

Trustee Chin thanked County Superintendent McGee for attending the Board meeting and for sharing valuable information. He expressed appreciation for her leadership and expertise during the pandemic.

### **6.3. Reopening Update: Site Preparation**

Lori Fukumoto, Principal on Special Assignment-Prevention Services, and Amanda Goll, Assistant Principal, presented information on the site preparations for school reopening. Their presentation included classroom configuration and setup of classrooms, and other key areas; markings and signage for the entry, classrooms, hallways and restrooms areas; and distribution of air purifiers.

Trustee Chin thanked Ms. Fukumoto and Ms. Goll for their presentation.

The Board asked clarifying questions.

#### **Public Comments:**

Marcella McCollum, a parent, stated that the Site Preparation presentation only addressed one aspect of site preparation and wanted to know more about the preparation teams and the meetings that took place. She shared that she is part of a site reopening team and is still waiting for the Handbook. She wished that this information had been presented earlier. She questioned why it has taken the District so much time to share these basic requirements and added that businesses and corporations were able to put these together within a couple of weeks. She wondered how ready and how involved the schools are.

Randi Paynter, a parent, questioned how much time principals and their site teams had to implement the reopening instructions given the distribution of the Handbooks. She recollected that the District Reopening Handbook was supposed to be distributed on December 18 but was late. She also questioned how aligned the Site Handbooks are with the District's version since they came afterward; it may put the sites at a disadvantage. She shared that she spent time researching ventilation in the schools and the portable air cleaners that have been purchased and she noted that the portable cleaners need to be set at the maximum levels to be effective. This information was not included in the instructions.

Leslie Thompson, an elementary school teacher, shared that she is excited about coming back to teach in the Hybrid model and expressed her appreciation for Dr. Rosas, Lori Fukumoto, Suzi Riley, Sue Wieser, and Principals Amanda Driscoll and Dr. Becky Stephan as she feels very safe and cared for and is ready to teach in person. She said that the children need to go back to school. She felt that there is a fit for all families with both the Distance Learning and Hybrid models.

Jayne Congdon found the details from the presentation helpful knowing that the team based recommendations from best practices across California. She wondered about the recommendations on surface cleaning since they were based on information from the summer and so much has changed since then. She questioned whether it is necessary to close down the sites on Wednesdays for the deep cleaning between group A and group B and asked for a reassessment on this protocol. She also asked if the scheduling could be revised based on the additional data received on family preferences, specifically, could the separate groups on campus stay a full day or perhaps to develop a plan that includes lunch outdoors, or on a staggered schedule. She would like to see the students get a full day of school.

Mrs. Morinishi, a teacher, thought that the presentation was great and appreciated the work done thus far for reopening the schools. She especially thanked Lori Fukumoto for her involvement. She is hopeful that the reopening will be done with the proper protocols in place. She advocated for District communications in multiple languages, and for equity mindset, specifically for non-native English speaking families. She further spoke about the closing of the water fountains at the schools and how the District can be supportive of students that may not have access to a water bottle. She asked to continue the work with equity at the forefront.

Martin Wiggins, a parent, appreciated all the work that has been done on school reopening. He stated that information on the ventilation system was requested in early December but was not received until mid-January and that the information is critical since so much is now known about COVID-19 being an aerosol and respiratory disease. Additionally, he thought that the information was not site specific. He said that the upside is that now permission has been granted to go onto the campuses. However, an assessment on ventilation should have been done months ago as part of the plan for a safe return.

Jen Kawakami questioned how equitable it is to allow the same community member comment more than once in one Board meeting and wondered if that is something that can be considered in the future. She said that it is important to remember that other Districts that have reopened successfully have done so with incredible resources beyond the SMFCSD budget. She reminded everyone that it is important to compare things fairly. She appreciated all for working on this difficult task and thanked the families for their support, kindness, and patience.

Colleen H., a community healthcare worker, asked whether the break rooms and school offices would also be getting air filters. She is aware that Santa Clara County has closed down break rooms and that she does not have access to break rooms at her workplace in a hospital. She was curious to see if that will be something that will be an ongoing consideration given the science that talks about transmission being at a higher risk for adults and teens than it is for younger children.

Jessica W., a parent, thought that the presentation was very basic and similar to the signage that can be found in hospitals and other private sectors. She felt that the presentation could have been drafted in a shorter amount of time and that it didn't provide information that would make the schools feel safer for children. Following the safety measures of best practices of mask wearing, hand washing, social distancing are protocols that are already out in the public. She shared that she had signed up for the Task Force but she has not been contacted to date.

Jessica appreciated Ms. Goll and Ms. Fukumoto for the presentation and said that she liked having protocols laid out that will be consistent District-wide. She congratulated Dr. Rosas on her retirement and thanked her for her dedicated and strong leadership in the District. She also congratulated Trustee Watkins on the birth of her baby.

Julie MacArthur appreciated the presentation. She said that anybody that knows the inner workings of a school will recognize the complexity and that some things are not just common sense, certainly not when you deal with the students and their inclinations for wanting to socialize and be together. She said that a lot

of forethought needs to be considered and commended the presenters for taking on the enormous task. She supported and appreciated the hard work.

Sandi Arata appreciated the work and the effort of bringing students back to school and said that she would like to see Learning Hubs be expedited. She further clarified that the public can make comments for each pressing item on a Board and it is not a matter of equity. Should a person have a comment for multiple sections of the agenda, they could do so.

#### Board Comments:

Trustee Watkins signed off for the rest of the meeting to attend to baby Kennedy.

Trustee Warren commented on the unprecedented circumstances and said that this is a complicated issue as districts try to figure out how to bring back students during the pandemic. She commended the District for its commitment to bringing students back on campus. She also appreciated ensuring a safe return as the process can be overwhelming. She provided examples of health and safety protocols that her hospital has in place, adding that the signage are big size-wise and suggested that the signs at the sites could be enlarged for easy reading. She was pleased to hear that the site preparations presented this evening are being implemented with the Learning Hubs.

Trustee Proctor thanked Ms. Goll and Ms. Fukumoto for the presentation, adding that the systematic marking is very much needed. She thought that it would be more meaningful once the individual sites see their signage and she requested the roll out of the Handbook promptly for families to feel that we are on the right track. She also brought up the request of seeking parent expertise such as medical or ventilation to volunteer at the site level. Parents have expressed anxiety over what the classrooms would look like when the children return and she thought that the presentation addressed those safety concerns. Dr. Drinkwater shared that the District Safety Guidelines were made available to families and that site leaders are currently working on the Site Handbook.

Trustee Corzo liked the visualization provided in the presentation and found it helpful and important to have this information beforehand. She suggested creating an interactive children-friendly video in different languages, use it in the Distance Learning classrooms and share it with the families ahead of time and as part of the safety education and preparedness. She thanked the team for the presentation and said that she is looking forward to the Site Handbook. She shared her thoughts and personal decision-making of signing up for Hybrid learning and the challenges due to the constant change in COVID-19 infection rate but appreciated the information brought up this evening as well as the constructive feedback.

Trustee Chin thought that producing a video to show the safety and site preparations is a great idea to show families what their campus will look like when they return to school and what areas would be accessible and what would not. He was very appreciative of the hard work that went into the site preparation for a safe return.

#### **6.4. Middle School Reopening Plan (v)**

David Chambliss, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, presented a plan for reopening the middle schools in the District with the goal of providing information to the Board and to receive direction for the staff on Strategic Support Cohorts and a Hybrid Model. He reviewed the three following areas: current middle school planning for the spring; what middle school families should expect when they return to school in the Hybrid model in the spring or when is allowed by the California Department of Public Health; planning for the middle school in the Hybrid Model in the fall of 2021.

#### Public Comments

Anise Graham, a middle school parent, expressed concern regarding delays on a plan for middle school students to go back on campus. She stated that the District appears to be lagging behind compared to other California School Districts. She further shared a statistic that child abuse reporting rates are down 70% and how alarming that should be to the community. These vulnerable students are at home with no one to help them. A path forward needs to be forged between the District, teachers and parents with transparency and communication in order for a successful transition back to on-campus learning.

Rena Korb, a parent at Abbott Middle School, reminded the Board that a call for a Middle School meeting was requested in December but it did not take place. She shared dismay that the vote appears to be for a Hybrid model for the fall and that there are a lot of excuses and little leadership. She wondered if



adherence to the Master Schedule is hampering creativity and flexibility on ways to get the students back onto the campus. She is asking if the adults can show the type of resiliency and creative thinking that we are asking of the students during this pandemic. She highlighted that a different cohort model was suggested several times of grouping the same kids into the classes but have received no response as of yet. She stated that the students deserve to be in school.

Julie MacArthur stated that the Wednesday plan was developed without teachers' or parents' input despite their desire to participate and provide creative thinking to meet the needs of the students. She also thought that the Wednesday plan was developed without a real understanding of the root causes of what is affecting the students and thought that all issues, discussions, chats and questions brought up during the meetings were ignored. She commented that the Hybrid plan has not been modified to accommodate safety issues and that no work has been done to bring down the 120 contact points for the teachers. She shared that teachers want to meet the needs of the students and want to be with them but that requires confidence that the District will take steps to develop a plan that includes all stakeholders' input.

Dena Heinze, a North Shoreview Montessori parent, stated that there are only roughly 100 students in their entire middle school. She is concerned that these 100 students will be lumped in with the middle school Hybrid program of 1000+ students. She asked that when looking at the Hybrid models to keep in mind that the North Shoreview Middle School is much smaller and it should not be under the same parameters as the larger middle schools.

Marcella, a middle school parent, appreciated that the District is looking at things with an equity lens. She would like to see the District work with others to construct surveys going forward. She felt that the previous survey did not allow parents to indicate what it would take them to come back. Additionally, she wanted more clarity on the Tiers. She would like to see an anonymous survey go out seeking feedback from students and for them to self-identify their issues, especially the grade 6 students. She further proposed a modification to the master schedule with some classes online and some in-person instruction to reduce the number of contacts. She then invited the Board to direct the District to explore other potential Hybrid models for next year with parents and staff and involve parents in the discussion.

Randi Paynter shared that a Nov 12 Washington Post article written by Joseph Allen and Sarah Blake indicated the 6 feet rule of social distancing could be reduced as long as attention is paid to masking and good ventilation. She would like to see a different model for parent engagement. She also reiterated previous parent speakers in regards to the planning for the fall and specifically if the District would be making a decision for the entire year or would the District pivot.

Karina Wilhelms, a 6<sup>th</sup> grade parent, stated that the statistics of 120 contacts could be inflated since the same student in multiple classes is counted multiple times. She asked if the District could get a more granular insight into a precise contact count. She re-iterated another parent's suggestion for modifying electives to be online to reduce the contact points.

Pearce, a teacher, brought up his concern about the current plan for the Wednesday Hub because the students that are in the academic hubs are the ones that need to see a credentialed teacher.

Suzanne, a sixth grade parent, wanted more clarification on the Wednesday activity day. She was less concerned about which classes are online and which are in person. Nevertheless, she wanted to highlight the need for students to have social interaction with their peers. She suggested rethinking the way the Wednesday hub would be rolled out.

Colleen, a parent of a fifth and seventh grader, spoke about the Wednesday schedule and the need for programming. She also echoed that the cohort groups need reconsideration as another parent suggested. She highlighted the need for the students to get back onto campus so there is a semblance of their regular educational experience. She felt that a middle school meeting is essential to start work on the cohorts and number of contacts, and to make improvements to the current Hybrid plans.

Amy Platz said that it is time to act. The Board has heard from all the stakeholders and she felt that no more discussion is needed. Teachers and students that would opt for Distance Learning can do so and in the same way that students and teachers can choose to be on campus. She showed concern regarding the Wednesday activity and the limited amount of time the students will have. She further urged the Board to hold the District accountable and to give them guidelines and deadlines.

Jason Bell, a parent, shared that there is a lot of confusion among the parents and that there is a lack of communication. He asked for flexibility and questioned why the Board has to adhere to a master calendar that has been created with limited information. He did not favor having students back in school full time until 2022 or when everyone has been vaccinated.

Jenna Carson, a high school teacher and parent, shared that in the July meeting it was decided that students would be in full Distance Learning with a plan that allows students to move in a phased approach to a full return to campus. However, there has been no implementation of Learning Hubs, no urgency with enrichment or work towards equity since no newcomers are on campus. She told the Board that there are surrounding school districts with students returning to campus without changing the master schedule or the students' schedules.

Chelsea, a middle school parent, appreciated all the work that has been done to date on middle school. However, she is concerned that the 120 cohort number is too high and that it may be unsafe. She would like to encourage the Board to bring back the Wednesday plan and shared that her child is desperate to meet with her teachers and her friends in person. She expressed disappointment that middle school students are not yet back on campus. She wondered if implementation of the Wednesday plan is going to change the current schedule. She cautioned the Board about making decisions regarding the fall in this constantly changing environment and requested that the teachers and administrators communicate directly with the middle school students.

Heather Nayak, a 5th grade parent, asked that the Board keep fifth grade students in mind when planning for the fall. She questioned if the Wednesday plan is a good idea if it takes away a day of instruction from 75% of the students so that 25% who are struggling get a full day of instruction.

Kathleen Wells, an elementary and middle school parent, questioned why parents' concerns haven't been addressed by the District. She further questioned why the District does not have students on campus when other districts already do. She stated that the plan for the fall should not be based on the fact that some teachers choose not to be vaccinated. She urged the Board to make an informed decision.

Kim Chi Pham, a middle school teacher, shared that she is dedicated to her students. She shared about the loss of family members due to COVID and stated that returning to campus in 2021 may be premature. She provided information on vaccine timelines. She shared that families affected by COVID are not able to attend Board meetings to share their experiences due to the illness and asked the Board to keep in mind the long lasting effects of the virus when making decisions.

Jennifer, a middle school parent, urged the Board to vote for a safe Hybrid plan for the spring so that students could return to the school campus in some capacity by the fall.

#### Board Comments:

Trustee Proctor shared her thoughts and experience of having one child in middle school and one in 5th grade and her struggles with their rapid change. Although her children are doing well in school, she knows that her middle school child likes his school and wants to socialize with his classmates. She felt that puberty talk in middle school and in Distance Learning is awkward for the child and for her. She feels privileged but hopes that her family can survive Distance Learning. She referred to a section of the December 9 minutes about the Tier level for reopening the schools and the need for more data to see where middle school students are struggling the most as well as the need of another survey for parents. Trustee Proctor added that there is a need to engage families, as this is one area that is requiring more progress, in terms of finding the level of their needs, and how we can assist them. She felt that we need to explore all options through input from teachers and finding out their comfort level for coming back, including their opinion on how to make it work. She said that she relates to the frustration that the parents are going through and would like to see improvement in communication with middle school families. They need to know that there is a plan for them. She didn't think that the survey that went out covered enough information for the Board. She asked for a meeting dedicated to middle school families. She would like to see the middle school students back on campus and requested more information in order to be ready to make a decision for the fall, but now we need to concentrate on winter and spring.

Trustee Warren thanked Trustee Proctor for the heartfelt comment on her experience as a parent of a middle school student. She empathized with the families that are struggling as COVID-19 has brought much

anxiety and fear to all of us. She made reference to comments made about families that are impacted with the virus and agreed that there are a lot of families out there suffering and said that COVID-19 is a horrible virus. As a mother and Trustee, and a healthcare worker, she is concerned about the learning gap, which has become everyone's concern. She said that we need to take into consideration that Distance Learning is not for everyone, yet we can't even entertain the thought of returning fully in person until teachers feel safe to teach in schools. She agreed that the level of risk acceptance is different in every person and we need to find out what the risk level is. Therefore, she too thought that another survey is necessary to explore the risk tolerance level among middle school parents and teachers. The fact that educators are next in the list for the vaccine is encouraging. She encouraged families to participate in the vaccine trial for children of 12-16 of age. She expressed concern for the social emotional state of middle school children. She agreed with Trustee Proctor about the need for multiple plans.

Trustee Chin felt as if it were Groundhog Day as new guidelines are released regularly from Governor Newsom and the California Department of Public Health. He said that the inability to come up with a solid plan for middle school is stressful and frustrating and it is because the guidelines keep changing. He felt that we are back right into the summer when the Four Pillars were introduced and time and fear were the issue. We know now the Four Pillars truly protect us from being infected and that the vaccine would be available rather soon. He noted that he understands the complexities of teacher credentialing, the master schedule, and trying to bring middle school students back on campus and that other districts have already done it in different ways. He felt that we need to move forward with Hybrid learning when we are in the Red Tier and continue with the Learning Support Hubs. He explained the need of figuring out the fall schedule and to start planning now.

Trustee Corzo felt that some of the comments were harsh. She believes that every parent in this District cares deeply for their children and everyone is doing the best they can. The District and the Board has an obligation to care about all the students. The pandemic has created anxiety and confusion, yet we have the Four Pillars as guidance. The District is unique and it has its focus on equity but it requires that everyone be on-board. She continued her comments by saying that families are struggling with COVID-19 in different ways and shared that she and her own family were infected with the virus, experiencing that it has been scary for all. As a representative of her community, she doesn't want to see families struggling and fall behind, but added that she would opt for falling behind rather than dealing with the long term effects of the virus. She expanded on her thoughts around the school reopening and its complexity. She said that we need to move forward with a Wednesday schedule and that she would like to see students return to a Hybrid model even for any amount of time in the spring. She did not feel comfortable with the 120 contacts. She wants to see equity in the forefront. She reminded everyone that there are many families who have lost loved ones from the virus or are going through difficult times financially as a result of the pandemic and that they need support. She felt that they should be a priority.

The Trustees continued their discussion around the Hybrid Model options for the middle schools, focusing on Strategic Support Cohorts and a Wednesday schedule. They agreed that a survey needs to go out to parents and teachers, middle schools should start the Strategic Support Cohorts on February 10, and return in a Hybrid Model in the spring. They decided to continue the conversation on fall reopening at a later time.

The Board directed staff to move forward on the Strategic Support Cohorts starting February 10 and for middle school to return in the Hybrid Model after spring break.

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Lisa Warren.

Yes	Kenneth Chin
No	Noelia Corzo
Yes	Alison Proctor
Yes	Lisa Warren
Absent	Shara Watkins

At 12:24 am, the Board paused to review the Agenda and to decide whether to carry on with the meeting or resume the meeting the next day. The Board decided to continue with the meeting but to remove Board Items 6.7 and 7.2 from the Agenda and bring them back at the next Regular Board meeting.

Motion to postpone Board Item: 6.7. Events of January 6, 2021 and 7.2. 2021-2022 Governor's Budget Proposal.

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Noelia Corzo and a second by Alison Proctor.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Yes Noelia Corzo  
Yes Alison Proctor  
Yes Lisa Warren  
Absent Shara Watkins

**6.5. Reopening Update: Governor Newsom's Safe Schools for All Plan (v)**

Dr. Rosas gave an update on the school reopening - Governor Newsom's Safe School for All Plan and stressed that the plan presented has not been passed by the legislature and that aspects of the information were subject to change. She added that there is much conversation around this plan but the Legislature will not review it until January 25. However, Districts must apply by either February 1 or March 1. Districts that submit their application by February 1 receive an allocation of \$450 per pupil and districts that submit their application by March 1 receive \$337.50 per student. She added that the funds would be available for use until December 31, 2021. She explained what the funds can be used for and said that counties in Purple Tier with case rates above 25 may not reopen. Districts can still submit the required COVID-19 safety plan to apply but they wouldn't be permitted to resume until the adjusted case rate is 25 or less for five days. She provided further details about the requirements for the submission of the plan for February 1 and March 1, noting that the requirements are the same for both dates.

The Board asked various clarifying questions.

**Public Comments:**

Chelsea Bonini, a Trustee of the San Mateo County Board of Education, told the District that the proposal by Governor Newsom is to be an incentive to get students back into the classrooms; therefore, time frames are very short. She said that the legislature has been delayed by one week and there are many other proposals that the legislature has to get through that will also affect the timelines. She further shared confirmation regarding the case rate. Districts can apply if they can get everything together in time, less money is provided if you apply later; but the District can apply regardless of being within the case rate.

Marcella spoke up in support of submitting the application as early as possible. She believes that there is approximately a \$1.5 million difference between February 1 and March 1 and that the funds can be utilized to support equity, as the District seeks to recoup some of the education debt that has been accruing. She likes that the plan accommodates the case rates so schools can return when it is safe to do so. She also likes the priorities for equity groups, which is in line with the District goals. She knows that parents will be supportive.

Sandi Arata advocated for applying for February 1 now that we know the timeline and how the funds will support the students.

Robert was also in favor of the early date. He urged the District to adopt a plan to get the students back into school. He felt that the requests by parents to return to classes in person had been cast aside. He referred to Trustee Proctor's comments about the vaccine being rolled out and that teachers have been surveyed about the vaccine. In addition, there are students that are eager to return to school so the District should look into reopening and be ready.

Vy Vo said that the District should aim for February 1 reopening.

**Board Comments:**

The Trustees discussed submitting the application on February 1 based on the fact that the District has most of the requirements in line and they did not want to miss the possibility of receiving additional funding for the students.

**Motion Passed:** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES RECEIVE INFORMATION ON GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S SAFE SCHOOLS FOR ALL PLAN AND PROVIDE DIRECTION TO STAFF ON SUBMISSION OF THE GRANT.

The Board directed staff to submit the Safe School for All Plan on February 1, 2021. Passed with a motion by Noelia Corzo and a second by Lisa Warren.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Yes Noelia Corzo  
Yes Alison Proctor  
Yes Lisa Warren  
Absent Shara Watkins

#### **6.6. Resolution No. 21/20-21 Entering Measure T Election Results into the Minutes (v)**

Dr. Rosas presented Resolution No. 21/20-21 and explained the Resolution formally enters the results of the Measure T election into the minutes. The election was held on November 3, 2020 and was for the issuance of General Obligation Bonds (GOB) for various purposes, such as infrastructure work in the District for a maximum of \$409 million. Measure T was approved by more than 55% of the votes cast at the election and the proceedings have been accomplished, according to law. The adoption of this Resolution starts a 60 day period, by which time the District must establish a Citizens Bond Oversight Committee and have members appointed by the Board. Dr. Rosas recommended that the Board approve Resolution No. 21/20-21 as presented.

Trustee Corzo thanked the community for supporting Measure T and investing in the children and in the facilities. She noted that Measure T addresses COVID-19 facilities needs.

Trustee Chin expressed appreciation to the voters and said that the funds will help improve facilities.

**Motion Passed:** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 21/20-21 - ENTERING THE ELECTION RESULTS OF MEASURE T INTO THE MINUTES. Passed with a motion by Noelia Corzo and a second by Alison Proctor.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Yes Noelia Corzo  
Yes Alison Proctor  
Yes Lisa Warren  
Absent Shara Watkins

#### **6.7. Events of January 6, 2021**

This Item was moved to the February 4 Regular Board meeting.

### **7. BUSINESS/FINANCE**

#### **7.1. Measure T HVAC/Air Filtration Implementation Report**

Tish Busselle, Consultant, and Thang Do, CEO and Principal at Aedis Architects along with his team of experts in mechanical and electrical systems presented a study on HVAC, Air Filtration and implementation report that outlined the following:

- Analysis of existing Heating and Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems including electrical systems at all District sites except Bowditch which had a recent HVAC system upgrade in all of its facilities except two and which is slated for a rebuild/new build/renovation project for which planning will begin soon
- Recommendations for ways to achieve this Immediate Priority in the Facilities Master Plan at each District site
- Cost projections for the recommendations presented.

Ms. Busselle and the team explained the process for preparing the Study; the existing mechanical and electric conditions in the District, options and recommendations; a cost summary, a recommended implementation plan including packaging and bundling projects options; project scheduling; as well as solar energy options.

Ms. Busselle also outlined the District's recommendations regarding next steps and asked the Board for any directions that the Board wished to provide.

Public Comments:

Randi Paynter referenced a paper written by UC Davis titled "Proposed Ventilation and Energy Verification

Repair Program for School Reopening." She hoped that the District consulted with the CDPH Publication from their Indoor Air Quality section that was published on September 1, 2020, titled "The Role of Building Ventilation and Filtration in Reducing Risk of Airborne Viral Transmission in Schools, Illustrated with COVID." She also hoped that there would be a plan for accelerating the process and design to take advantage of the funds from AB841. She described the purpose for the Assembly Bill funds and said that applications for the grant are due on April 1, 2021. She thought that the District's timeline for the presented HVAC/Air Filtration Implementation project is well beyond the required deadline set by the AB841. She urged the Board to consider risk mitigation through ventilation now.

Eric Park agreed with the previous caller and added that AB841 also covers the cost of installing CO2 meters. He stressed that the CO2 meters in the classrooms are important as that is how is monitored whether the ventilation is properly working or not.

**Board Comments:**

Trustee Proctor asked if the process can be accelerated in order to apply for the AB841 funds. Ms. Busselle stated that the District is looking at all possible funding sources to free up Measure T funds and that an approved study would be advantageous for the District when applying for additional funding.

Trustee Chin requested that the revised PowerPoint presentation be uploaded on the District website. He appreciated the report and presentation and thanked the team for their work. He thought that the analysis and the project schedule were good. He was pleasantly surprised at the calculations and estimates and made further comments on the projected budget for the projects and how that should be reflected on the Facilities Master Plan (FMP). He appreciated the plan as it could allow additional funding through AB841. He wondered if the Measure T funds are readily available. CBO Gaffney confirmed that the closure of the funds for Measure T would be in March 2021. He pointed out that the District has other capital funds that could be used in the interim and could be replaced later when Measure T funds become available. His additional comments included looking for a County construction management firm and augmenting staff to accelerate the projects, thus taking advantage of the fact that classrooms are currently empty. He also suggested contacting the Legislators for help with influencing the acceleration of the DSA approval since the projects have to comply with COVID-19. He talked about Option Three, which includes Abbott and Borel Middle Schools, adding that the air conditioning should be prioritized since those are areas of concern from the teachers.

Trustee Warren thought that the recommendations brought this evening were good and that the report was phenomenal. She thanked the team for the thorough report. She agreed with Trustee Chin about the need for implementing the projects as quickly as possible in order to start bringing students back on campus in a safer environment. She also agreed that we should start with the filtration systems since it is a project easier to implement

Ms. Busselle took a moment to introduce the team.

**7.2. 2021-2022 Governor's Budget Proposal**

This Item was moved to the February 4 Board Agenda.

**7.3. Resolution No. 18/20-21 - A Resolution of the Board of Trustees authorizing the issuance of San Mateo-Foster City School District (San Mateo County, California) Election of 2015 General Obligation Bonds, Series B, and related actions (v)**

CBO Gaffney brought forward Resolution No. 18/20-21 and said that the Resolution is necessary for the District to proceed with the \$45 million related to Measure X Phase II Projects. He explained that the \$45 million is for the remainder of the \$74 million from Measure X. He asked the Board for authorization for the issuance of the General Obligation Bonds, Series B, and actions related thereto as presented.

**Motion Passed:** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 18/20-21 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT (SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA) ELECTION OF 2015 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES B, AND ACTIONS RELATED THERETO. Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Noelia Corzo.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Yes Noelia Corzo  
Yes Alison Proctor

Yes Lisa Warren  
Absent Shara Watkins

**7.4. Resolution No. 19/20-21 - A Resolution of the Board of Trustees authorizing the issuance of San Mateo-Foster City School District (San Mateo County, California) Election of 2020 General Obligation Bonds, Series A, and related actions (v)**

Mr. Gaffney presented Resolution No. 19/20-21 authorizing the issuance of School District. San Mateo County California Election 2020 General Obligation Bonds Series A and other related actions for an amount not to exceed \$100 million. He stated that this would be the first issuance and he recommended the Board move forward with approving the Resolution.

**Motion Passed:** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 19/20-21 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT (SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA) ELECTION OF 2020 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES A, AND ACTIONS RELATED THERETO. Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Lisa Warren.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Yes Noelia Corzo  
Yes Alison Proctor  
Yes Lisa Warren  
Absent Shara Watkins

**7.5. Resolution No. 20/20-21 - Designating a Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee for Measure T, Measure L and Measure X, and Approving Amended and Restated Bylaws Therefor (v)**

Mr. Gaffney presented Resolution 20/20-21 Designated Citizens Bond Oversight for Measure T, Measure L and Measure X, and approving the amended and restated bylaws thereof. He asked the Board for the approval of the Resolution.

**Motion Passed:** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 20/20-21 DESIGNATING A CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR MEASURE T, MEASURE L AND MEASURE X, AND APPROVING AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS THEREFOR. Passed with a motion by Noelia Corzo and a second by Alison Proctor.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Yes Noelia Corzo  
Yes Alison Proctor  
Yes Lisa Warren  
Absent Shara Watkins

**8. HUMAN RESOURCES**

**8.1. Renewal of Employment Contract for Patrick Gaffney, Chief Business Official (v)**

Sue Wieser, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented the renewal Employment Contract for Chief Business Official Patrick Gaffney and respectfully requested the approval of his contract renewal as presented.

**Motion Passed:** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES RENEW THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT OF THE CHIEF BUSINESS OFFICIAL. Passed with a motion by Noelia Corzo and a second by Alison Proctor.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Yes Noelia Corzo  
Yes Alison Proctor  
Yes Lisa Warren  
Absent Shara Watkins

**9. BOARD MEMBER STATEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**10. FUTURE MEETING DATES**

January 25, 2021	7:00 PM	Executive Council Meeting - PTA
January 26, 2021	9:00 AM	School Visitations - CP ES & Turnbull CDC
January 26, 2021	7:00 PM	SEDAC
January 30, 2021	1:00 PM	Board Study Session
February 4, 2021	6:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting
February 8, 2021	7:00 PM	SMFCSD Education Foundation
February 16, 2021	7:00 PM	Equity Task Force
February 18, 2021	6:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting
February 23, 2021	9:00 AM	School Visitations - Abbott MS & Highlands ES

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

### 11.1. Adjournment (v)

The Regular Board meeting adjourned at 2:18 am.

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Lisa Warren and a second by Alison Proctor.

Yes Kenneth Chin

Yes Noelia Corzo

Yes Alison Proctor

Yes Lisa Warren

Absent Shara Watkins

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Board Secretary

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Date