

LYNWOOD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Education Center 11321 Bullis Road, Board Room B-105, B-106, Lynwood, California, 90262
March 11, 2021

MINUTES

1. IMPORTANT ADVISORY REGARDING PUBLIC MEETING (COVID-19)

The public meeting was held at 11321 Bullis Road, Lynwood, CA 90262 and via teleconferencing in accordance with the Governor's Executive Orders N-25-20, dated March 12, 2020 and N-29-20, dated March 17, 2020.

Important information on how to participate in the public meeting and submit public comments were outlined on the agenda.

2. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education, held on March 11, 2021, was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by the President, Mrs. Lopez, to conduct a closed session. Superintendent Crosthwaite took the roll.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Maria G. Lopez, President
Ms. Alma-Delia Renteria, M.Ed., Vice-President
Mr. Alfonso Morales, Esq., Clerk (*Arrived during Closed Session.*)
Mr. Gary Hardie, Jr., Member
Dr. Alma Carina Castro, Member (*Participated remotely.*)

Legal Counsel, Mr. Terence Gallagher of Olivarez Madruga Lemieux O'Neill, LLP was also present.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON MARCH 11, 2021

Motion by Ms. Renteria; Seconded by Mr. Hardie.

Individual votes by roll call:

Mrs. Lopez – Yes
Ms. Renteria – Yes
Mr. Morales – Absent
Mr. Hardie – Yes
Dr. Castro – Yes

Item passed with 4–0 votes.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT/COMMUNICATIONS - *None.*

6. GOVERNING BOARD - Recess to Closed Session at 5:33 p.m.

7. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION/CALL TO ORDER

The Board reconvened into open session at 6:33 p.m. The Superintendent took the roll.

8. ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Maria G. Lopez, President
Ms. Alma-Delia Renteria, M.Ed., Vice-President
Mr. Alfonso Morales, Esq., Clerk
Mr. Gary Hardie, Jr., Member
Dr. Alma Carina Castro, Member (*Participated remotely.*)

Legal Counsel, Mr. Terence Gallagher of Olivarez Madruga Lemieux O'Neill, LLP was also present.

9. FLAG SALUTE by Marshall Elementary School

Ms. Deete Clay, Principal at Marshall Elementary School, introduced Madeline Garcia Malvaez. Madeline aspires to attend Harvard University in the future.

10.B. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Crosthwaite is very proud of the Lynwood staff and the community for coming together to support each other and for always focusing on the best interest of the students and the community through these difficult times.

Superintendent Crosthwaite shared information on Chris Gardner's visit to Lindbergh Elementary. Mr. Gardner, who addressed the students and staff, is a motivational speaker and was an inspiration for the movie *The Pursuit of Happiness*.

Superintendent Crosthwaite thanked Buena Park Unified School District's Superintendent, Principals and Elsie Briseno, Director of Student Services, for welcoming Lynwood's staff during a visit to Gilbert Elementary and Buena Park Middle School to observe and discuss the safe reopening of schools.

Superintendent Crosthwaite announced that about 1,700 staff members have either received the vaccine or have been offered appointments to get vaccinated. He shared that with the partnership with St. John's Well Child and the Family Center, the remainder of the District's staff, which includes custodial, security, District Office, as well as elementary and secondary teachers, will have the opportunity to schedule their vaccination appointment.

10.B.1. Presentations: (Complete presentations available on District website.)

Facilities Update

Mr. Fromm, Chief Business Official, shared information on the resolution adopted on February 11, 2021 for the emergency repairs at Lynwood High School which are as follows:

- Enable Timely Transition for Relocating Lynwood High to Lynwood Middle Campus
- Repair/Replacement of Facilities
- Procurement of Equipment and Services
- Necessary Relocation of Students/Operations

Mr. Fromm shared updates of:

- Testing on first story buildings is complete
- Testing at the G building on the main structural building support elements is complete
- G building testing of secondary structural components are underway (floor slab connects to beams)
- Costs estimation is underway for the G building and first story building

Second Interim Financial Report

Mr. Fromm shared information on the Second Interim Financial Report. Highlights include:

- Public Disclosure of Financial Status:
 - Budget by July 1
 - Two Interim updates by December 15 and March 15
 - Interims provide opportunity to reflect on changes
- LUSD now Certifies as a Positive Financial Condition, which means the District will meet financial obligations in the current and two subsequent fiscal years.

Mr. Fromm provided an update regarding COVID-19:

- Response Funding and expenditures
- Areas of significant budget impact

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Superintendent Crosthwaite assured the community that the input provided by the community, stakeholders, and staff is taken into consideration. The District will be extra cautious and responsible with the distribution of funds to ensure that the District is aligned with the District's mission and the strategic plan.

Ms. Renteria inquired, on behalf of the community, as to why the Early Childhood Education (ECE) funding is always so low. She shared a question from the community on how can the community have stakeholder input when the budget is being created. Ms. Renteria would like the District to do a better job at publicizing the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) committee.

Superintendent Crosthwaite shared that the LCAP committees are announced and are open to the public. Surveys are sent out to the households asking the community for their input in terms of how to better use State funds to support the needs of the students. He informed that seniors are surveyed in terms of what the needs are for graduation, student needs, and what their options are for college. Superintendent Crosthwaite shared information regarding a survey that is being circulated in the community in regards to the parents' options for in person instruction or the continuation of distance learning.

Dr. Shawna Dinkins, Assistant Superintendent of Education, informed that a recent LCAP meeting was held March 11, 2021 with representation from the teachers' union, site representatives, parents, and students. She shared that the next scheduled meeting is March 25, 2021.

Ms. Renteria suggested using all means necessary, be it regular mail, additional surveys, and also having the community liaisons as a source in reaching out to the families to ensure the community has the information necessary to participate in the committees made available to them.

Mr. Morales shared his concern on the sustainability of the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) and State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) due to the increased costs we continue to have.

Mr. Fromm advised that after the May Revision report coming out in May, the District will see the projected numbers for the upcoming year. He stated that this is not only a Lynwood challenge but that it is a concern faced by all districts required to increase payments to employees' retirement systems.

Mrs. Lopez asked to add to the retreat agenda the topic of a plan to save money due to the information presented of the decrease in enrollment and the increase of expenditures in 2023.

Dr. Castro would like to see a video produced in multiple languages about the eight state priorities and/or a webinar on how the community can give input. She would like to see the LCAP calendar on the District's website where parents can easily view meeting dates and times. Dr. Castro would like to see a draft of the survey before it is submitted on July 1.

Reopening Video

Superintendent Crosthwaite shared a video on the reopening of schools. Highlights of the video included safety preparations and guidelines for the safe return of staff and students.

Mr. Hardie expressed his appreciation for the video. He shared that the community is experiencing a sense of anxiety over the reopening of schools. He would like to reassure the community that the District's plan is not to rush to open but to open when the conditions are right for the safety of the students and staff.

College and Career Updates

Dr. Dinkins gave a "shout out" to all our counselors and college and career technicians at Lynwood HS, Firebaugh HS and Vista HS. Highlights of the presentation included:

- A-G Rates
- Four Year College or University FAFSA Applications
- Dual Enrollment

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Superintendent Crosthwaite acknowledged staff for not lowering expectations and for continuing to advocate for students to continue taking advantage of resources, despite the challenges endured this year. He also thanked Cerritos College and Compton College for their support through this process.

Mrs. Lopez acknowledged the presence of Council Member Jose Luis Solache and the family of Ms. Renteria. Mrs. Lopez recommended that the Board continue with the special recognition for Ms. Alma-Delia Renteria.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Superintendent Crosthwaite announced a special recognition for Ms. Alma-Delia Renteria's years of service as a Board member. He presented a special framed resolution in her honor, a bouquet of flowers, and a special gift from the Lynwood USD administrators. The administration and Board of Education prepared a special video for her that highlighted her commitment and dedication to the Board of Education and the Lynwood Unified School District. Ms. Renteria's family presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

GOVERNING BOARD - Resolutions/Proclamations/Appointments

12.A. Request Approval of Resolution No. 20-21/35 – In Recognition and Appreciation of Alma-Delia Renteria, M.Ed.

Motion by Mr. Hardie; Seconded by Mr. Morales.

Dr. Brian Lucas, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, read Resolution No. 20-21/35, which highlighted the initiatives and efforts championed by Ms. Renteria.

Mr. Morales expressed his appreciation for Ms. Renteria's involvement and interest in students attending college and the FAFSA process. He thanked Ms. Renteria for showing such leadership at such a young age and with that kind of leadership, he predicts she will become a school superintendent in the future.

Dr. Castro echoed the sentiments of Mr. Morales towards Ms. Renteria. She thanked Ms. Renteria for her passion and her expertise and wished her well in her journey.

Mr. Hardie shared that it was a pleasure growing in leadership with Ms. Renteria. He wished her well and thanked her for her role as a leader in the Board of Education. Mr. Hardie congratulated her and thanked her for being a friend.

Mrs. Lopez thanked Ms. Renteria for her leadership and wished her well in her new endeavor.

Mr. Solache thanked the Superintendent and his entire leadership team for getting the District through this year of crisis. He acknowledged the leadership of those who entered the partnerships with the City and St. John's to provide COVID-19 vaccinations for the Lynwood community.

Mr. Solache recognized Ms. Alma-Delia Renteria and presented her with an official Proclamation certificate on behalf of the Mayor, the City Council, and the residents of Lynwood.

Superintendent Crosthwaite presented Ms. Renteria with Certificates of Recognition on behalf of U.S. Congresswoman Nanette Diaz Barragán, California State Senator Lena A. Gonzalez, and California Assembly Member Anthony Rendon for the leadership she has demonstrated through her years of service to Lynwood.

Ms. Renteria thanked everyone and stated it has been an honor to serve the Lynwood community. She expressed her heartfelt sadness and informed the community that this has not been an easy decision. At the same time, Ms. Renteria expressed the need to groom the next leaders. Lynwood, she said, needs to welcome new and young leaders who can bring new and fresh perspectives. She encouraged students, starting from Transitioning Kindergarten to high school students, to envision the idea of one day being able to sit as a Board member with a clear focus on student needs. She stated her belief in having term limits for board members.

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Ms. Renteria thanked everyone and the Cabinet for being the rock stars of the team. She thanked her Board colleagues for their sacrifices and for being such respectable leaders.

Individual votes by roll call:

Mrs. Lopez – Yes

Ms. Renteria – Yes

Mr. Morales – Yes

Mr. Hardie – Yes

Dr. Castro – Yes

Item passed with 5-0 votes.

REPORTS

10.A. Student Reports (Reports available on website.)

10.A.1. Lynwood High School – Zayra Hernandez

10.A.2. Lynwood Community Adult School – Michelle Diaz

10.A.3. Pathway High School – Kimberly Hernandez

10.A.4. Vista High School – Nataly Aragon

10.A.5. Firebaugh High School – Leslie Benitez

10.C. Board Members' Reports

Dr. Castro shared that she walked the schools with Superintendent Crosthwaite in preparation for the safe reopening. She thanked our counselors and staff for their support with the FAFSA applications.

Mr. Hardie would like to hold a special meeting for the reopening of schools. He thanked the Cabinet, Dr. Dinkins, and Dr. Lucas for reaching an agreement with the Lynwood Teachers Association.

Mr. Hardie recognized our staff for working tirelessly to make sure we have equitable access to vaccines in the city of Lynwood.

Mr. Morales echoed Mr. Hardie's sentiment of gratitude toward the District staff and the City of Lynwood for bringing the vaccine site to the city of Lynwood.

Ms. Renteria thanked staff for assisting in the roll-out of the vaccines in the city of Lynwood. She reminded the community to work with the District as they have an amazing team.

Mrs. Lopez recognized the District's technology department for pulling through the challenges experienced during the Board meeting.

Mrs. Lopez recognized and celebrated all women in recognition of Women's Month.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT/COMMUNICATIONS - None.

14. PUBLIC HEARING - None.

15. ACTION ITEMS

15.A. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

15.A.1. Request Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education on February 25, 2021

Motion by Mr. Hardie; Seconded by Mr. Morales.

Individual votes by roll call:

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Mrs. Lopez – Yes
Ms. Renteria – Yes
Mr. Morales – Yes
Mr. Hardie – Yes
Dr. Castro – Yes

Item passed with 5-0 votes.

15.B. HUMAN RESOURCES – CERTIFICATED

15.B.1. Request Approval of Resolution No. 20-21/34 for the Non-Reelection of Probationary Certificated Employees

Motion by Mr. Morales; Seconded by Mr. Hardie.

Individual votes by roll call:

Mrs. Lopez – Yes
Ms. Renteria – Yes
Mr. Morales – Yes
Mr. Hardie – Yes
Dr. Castro – Yes

Item passed with 5-0 votes

15.C. FACILITIES – (Measure K and Measure N Projects)

Mr. Hardie motioned to approve Action Item No 15.C.1. through 15.C.7.; Seconded by Ms. Renteria.

Individual votes by roll call:

Mrs. Lopez – Yes
Ms. Renteria – Yes
Mr. Morales – Yes
Mr. Hardie – Yes
Dr. Castro – Yes

Items passed with 5-0 votes.

15.C.1. Review of Emergency Repairs and Consideration of Need for Continued Action at District Middle School Sites in Relation to the Transition of Moving Lynwood High School to Lynwood Middle School Campus

15.C.2. Request Approval to Enter Into an Additional Service Agreement with TYR, Inc. for DSA Inspection Services in Conjunction with CM-62020, Fire Alarm Replacement Project at Abbott Elementary School

15.C.3. Request Approval to Enter Into a Service Agreement with JER Engineering for Surveying Services in Conjunction with the Displaced Student Housing Project at Cesar Chavez Middle School

15.C.4. Request Approval of Change Order No. 1 with Interior Demolition, Inc. Regarding CM-132020, Auditorium Demolition at Lynwood Middle School

15.C.5. Request Acceptance of Completion of the Secure Entrance Project at Lincoln Elementary School as Completed by Caltec Corporation

15.C.6. Request Acceptance of Completion of the Auditorium Demolition at Lynwood Middle School as Completed by Interior Demolition, Inc.

15.C.7. Request Acceptance of Completion of the Emergency Plaster Soffit Removal at Lynwood High School (Plan A – Building G) as Completed by AP Construction, Inc.

16. CONSENT AGENDA

All items on the Consent Agenda, which are not debatable and which require a unanimous vote for passage, will be approved with one motion. Any member of the Board, the Superintendent, or the public, may request an item to be removed from this section and placed in the regular order of business following the approval of the Consent Agenda.

Superintendent Crosthwaite pulled Agenda Item No.16.A.12. for a separate vote.

Ms. Renteria motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, with the exception of Agenda Item 16.A.12; Seconded by Mr. Hardie.

Individual votes by roll call:

Mrs. Lopez – Yes

Ms. Renteria – Yes

Mr. Morales – Yes

Mr. Hardie – Yes

Dr. Castro – Yes

Items passed with 5-0 votes.

16.A. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

16.A.1. Request Approval to Enter Into an Agreement with Pine Forest Healthcare, Inc., DBA Camino Healthcare, for the 2020-2021 School Year

16.A.2. Request Approval to Enter Into a Clinical Partnership with Chamberlain University to Provide Internship Opportunities for Lynwood Community Adult School Medical Assistant and Licensed Vocational Nurse Students from May 3, 2021 to June 26, 2021

16.A.3. Request Approval to Enter Into an Agreement with Beets & Produce, Inc., to Provide Video Recording and Editing Services for the Lynwood High School Dance Program Spring Showcase from March 2021 to June 2021

16.A.4. Request Ratification of an Agreement with Inspiration 52, Guest Speaker Jerome Carter, for the 2021 Virtual Black History Student Forum held on February 24, 2021

16.A.5. Request Ratification of an Agreement with Cinnamon Hills Youth Crisis Center in St. George, Utah, to Provide Services for Students with Specific Academic and Behavioral Needs from January 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021

16.A.6. Request Ratification of Agreement with Elizabeth Gallardo, an Independent Evaluator, to Conduct Independent Educational Evaluations for Students with Special Needs for the 2020-2021 School Year

16.A.7. Request Approval to Attend the Lee Silverman Voice Treatment (LSVT) LOUD Virtual Workshop on March 11-12, 2021

16.A.8. Request Approval to Enter Into an Agreement with Disciplina Positiva to Provide Virtual

Parent Education Workshop Sessions to Migrant Education Parents and Families from March 2021 through May 2021

- 16.A.9. Request Approval to Adopt the Los Angeles County Plan for Expelled Pupils
- 16.A.10. Request Approval to Attend the California Speech Language Hearing Association (CSHA) Virtual Annual Convention on March 11-14, 2021
- 16.A.11. Request Approval to Enter Into an Agreement with Parent Empowerment to Conduct Two Parent Workshops with Translation Services for Parents at Rosa Parks, from March 2021 through April 2021
- 16.A.13. Request Approval to Enter Into an Agreement with Ochoa's Consulting, LLC to Provide Training for the Lynwood Special Education Advisory Council (LSEAC) Parents from February 2021 to May 2021
- 16.A.14. Request Approval to Enter Into an Agreement with Joe Quintero to Provide an Online Theatre Program at All Elementary and Middle School Sites from March 2021 to June 2021

16.B. HUMAN RESOURCES - CERTIFICATED

- 16.B.1. Request Approval of Certificated Personnel Report: Personnel Assignments, Employment, Leaves, and Separations
- 16.B.2. Request Ratification of an Agreement Between the Lynwood Unified School District and Los Angeles County Office of Education for the Clear Administrative Services Credential Program
- 16.B.3. Request Approval of the Tentative Agreement Reached for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Lynwood Unified School District (LUSD) and the Lynwood Teachers' Association (LTA) on March 5, 2021

16.C. HUMAN RESOURCES - CLASSIFIED

- 16.C.1. Request Approval of Classified Personnel Report: Personnel Assignments, Employment, Leaves, and Separations
- 16.C.2. Request Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between the CSEA and Lynwood Unified School District on Work during the Pandemic

16.D. BUSINESS SERVICES

- 16.D.1. Request Approval to Review and Ratify Purchase Orders/Contracts Transactions for Period Beginning January 1, 2021 through January 31, 2021 per Education Code 17605 and 42636
- 16.D.2. Request Approval of Warrant and ACH Schedule for the period of February 3, 2021 through February 16, 2021
- 16.D.3. Request Acceptance of Record of Collection #3 FY 2020-2021
- 16.D.4. Request Approval of the 2020-2021 Second Interim Report
- 16.D.5. Request Approval of Board Approved E-Rate Contracts from 2021-2024 School Years

16.E. ADMINISTRATION

- 16.E.1. Request Approval to Renew an Agreement with the Lynwood Partners Educational

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Foundation for the 2021-2026 School Years

ITEM PULLED FOR SEPARATE VOTE

16.A.12. Request Approval for Parents and Staff to Attend the California Association of Bilingual Education (CABE) 2021 Virtual Conference on March 23-27, 2021

Dr. Castro announced she is employed by the California Association of Bilingual Education. She stated she did not participate in the decisions made for this agenda item. Dr. Castro recused herself from voting on this agenda item and disconnected from the meeting.

Mr. Hardie motioned to approve Agenda Item 16.A.12; Seconded by Ms. Renteria.

Individual votes by roll call:

Mrs. Lopez – Yes

Ms. Renteria – Yes

Mr. Morales – Yes

Mr. Hardie – Yes

Dr. Castro – Absent

Item passed with 4-0 votes.

17. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

6.A. Conference with Legal Counsel - Pending Litigation – Pursuant to GC § 54956.9(d)(1)

6.A.1. OAH CASE NO. 2020110447

- With 5-0 votes, the Board approved a settlement with attorney fees in the amount of \$5,500.

6.B. Public Employment/Public Employee Performance Evaluation/Public Employee Discipline
Dismissal/Release/Appointment (Pursuant to GC § 54957)

6.B.1 Superintendent's Evaluation

- The Board received information; no final action was taken.

6.C. Conference with Labor Negotiator Agency Designated Representatives Employee Organizations - CSEA, LTA, and SEIU

- This item was not considered.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Lopez adjourned the meeting in honor of Ms. Alma-Delia Renteria at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gudiel R. Crosthwaite, Ph.D.
Superintendent & Secretary to the Board