

**San Mateo-Foster City School District**  
**Minutes-Draft**  
**REGULAR MEETING~BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
February 18, 2021, 6:30 PM

Teleconference Meeting via Zoom

Closed Session Begins at 5:30 pm - <https://zoom.us/j/92835070198> - Zoom ID: 92835070198

Regular Board Meeting Begins at 6:30 pm - <https://zoom.us/j/92452151637> - Zoom ID: 92452151637

To listen to the meetings: One tap mobile +16699009128,,92452151637# US (San Jose)

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

**2. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

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

**2.2. GOVT. CODE 54957.6 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR(S) Agency Designated Representative: Dr. Joan Rosas. Employee Organization: SMETA, CSEA and/or SMEAA. If these discussions are not completed before 6:30 p.m., the Closed Session will continue following the regular meeting.**

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

**2.4. Conference with Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation (Government Code 54956.9): Student v. San Mateo-Foster City School District, OAH Case #2020100850.**

**2.5. COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN: TACTICAL PORTION (Education Code section 32281(f) and GOVT. CODE section 54957(a)). If these discussions are not completed before 6:30 p.m., the Closed Session will continue following the regular meeting.**

**3. RECONVENE TO REGULAR MEETING**

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

**3.1. Report out of Closed Session**

Trustee Chin reported that by unanimous vote, eighteen temporary certificated employees will be released effective the end of the 2020 - 2021 school year.

**3.2. Flag Salute**

The Flag Salute was led by Trustee Proctor.

**3.3. Roll Call**

All Board Members were present:

Kenneth Chin  
Noelia Corzo  
Alison Proctor  
Lisa Warren  
Shara Watkins

**3.4. Approval of Agenda: February 18, 2021 (v)**

Item 3.5.4. - February 4, 2021 Draft Minutes were removed from the Agenda and will be presented at the March 11 Board meeting for approval.

The Agenda was approved as amended.

**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

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

The Minutes were approved in one motion, excluding Item 3.5.4 - February 4, 2021 – Draft Minutes.

**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

**3.5.1. January 21, 2021 - Regular Board Meeting**

**3.5.2. January 30, 2021 - Board Study Session**

**3.5.3. January 30, 2021 - Special Board Meeting**

**3.5.4. February 4, 2021 - Regular Board Meeting**

**3.5.5. February 5, 2021 - Special Board Meeting**

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

Ian McCullough thanked the teachers for their cooperation and work to return to the classrooms and added that he would like to see the community and the District working toward hiring high quality educators. He encouraged the Board to consider offering the option of job sharing. He said that there is an interest in the community should the District offer this option. The thought of spending more time with their own families and teaching in the community is appealing to teachers.

Marcella McCollum appreciated the effective communications from Dr. Rosas. She asked to build a FAQ page in the District website for families to obtain information. She also asked for extra support opportunities for students in addition to summer school and a stronger curriculum designed specifically to help students.

Julia Horak, a science teacher, shared that she volunteers on Wednesday academic cohort and takes teaching very seriously. She described her online teaching style and the ways she supports her students, including one-on-one conversations with them. She is concerned that some students don't have the same level of academic discussions with their teachers. She urged the Board to consider alternative solutions that would offer full engagement in the classes.

Carrie Attel, a teacher, expressed her concerns with returning to school unvaccinated. She also advocated for students that need extra academic support after school and requested Learning Support Hubs. She too requested to reopen on March 8 as she would like to have the time to adequately administer reading assessments, complete report cards, give the math tests and provide meaningful input to parents.

Rena Korb pointed out that emotions run high these days and said that in addition to everyone's mental health and the academics, she is also concerned about the impact that the current situation would have in the District and in the community. She asked for more transparency and communications so parents are properly informed of what is going on in the District.

AHP explained the difficulties that the Hybrid schedule poses for his family as working parents and wished that the Hybrid model would offer a full day schedule, adding that it will be difficult for him to pick up his children during lunch time. He asked for other options.

Julie MacArthur, SMETA President, agreed with what her colleague Carrie Attell said. In addition, Ms. MacArthur wanted to point out that the term school reopening is misused because schools have been open all this time. She expressed concerns about the most vulnerable students adding that they will need support, in addition to Hybrid learning. She urged the Board to keep vulnerable students in the forefront of the discussion.

Summer Letcher-Smith, a School Psychologist in the District, provided her perspective with a mental health lens and said that children are resilient by nature and can adapt to situations provided they are given the right tools. She went on to say that there are many feelings around transitioning back to school and that all perspectives are valid. She talked about what the student experience would be like in the learning models and that the change might be scary for them. She encouraged parents having a conversation with their children about the changes and to explain to them why they chose a particular model so they can be prepared for the change. She asked parents that if they notice their children having signs of anxiety as a result of the changes or showing distress, to reach out to the school for mental health and support.

Fernando Lorenzo, substitute teacher, supported Ms. Attel's statement about delaying the reopening. He also supported the comment from Psychologist Ms. Smith, and added that he would like more support for teachers as well.

Sivan Hecht wanted to know more about the plan for reopening. She mentioned that other nearby districts such as Palo Alto and Hillsborough have fully opened with few exposures. She found no reasons to delay it. She pointed out that parents are moving to other districts in the Bay Area that are having in-person classes. She also expressed concerns for students in Distance Learning who might need extra support.

Randi Paynter did not want to see public comments at the Board meetings be reduced. She continued her comments by referring to an article released on December 1 by a multidisciplinary group of medical experts, educators, scientists where they addressed recommendations on what is needed to get through the pandemic for students and schools. Ms. Paynter described the recommended implementations from the article and encouraged the Board to check it out.

Arleen Agricola requested that the Board Agenda be up on the screen so everyone can view it and comment on the appropriate Board item.

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

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

Trustee Proctor reported that she attended the San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation where they revealed the great news that read-a-thon was a success raising over \$100,000 and that they are now looking for members to serve on their Board and volunteers. She also attended the City of Foster City Liaison meeting with Richa Awasthi and Patrick Sullivan. The new City Manager was also in attendance. They discussed the Measure X and T projects.

Trustee Watkins attended the Equity Task Force earlier this week. The group continues to work in subcommittees in the areas of instruction, LGBTQ, and staffing.

Trustee Corzo attended the Sanctuary Task Force meeting and announced that they have been nominated for the Kent award for the work in supporting the most vulnerable students. The group discussed questions and shared feedback around the process for a search for a new superintendent.

Trustee Warren also attended the Sanctuary Task Force where they talked about the Asian community and how they are considered a hidden equity group.

Trustee Chin attended the PTA Council meeting where they discussed tools for school reopening. He and Trustee Proctor are the liaisons for the Ad Hoc Superintendent Committee for the search of a superintendent and gave a report on what the Committee has achieved this far. He and Trustee Proctor attended the County Electeds call where they hear the most recent information about COVID-19 and how the County is dealing with the pandemic. He was proud to announce that San Mateo is the number one County in California in COVID-19 testing. SFO offers vaccinations and will open up more floors as supply increases. Check out [smchealth.org](https://smchealth.org) for more information.

Trustee Corzo provided additional information for COVID-19 testing and vaccination:

- North Central San Mateo is conducting testing at St. James Church every other Wednesday, 4-7 pm
- Golden Gate Regional Center is offering vaccinations for people with special needs on February 22-24 by appointment only

#### **4.4. Announcements**

None.

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

Dr. Rosas announced that the San Mateo Rotary and the Sunrise Rotary started their annual dictionary giveaway for selected third grade classes in San Mateo.

Dr. Rosas introduced Charen Yu as the new Director of Fiscal Services and welcomed her to the District.

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

Board Item 5.2.6 - Solar Feasibility Study was removed from the Consent Agenda to allow comments from the Board.

The Consent Agenda was approved as amended.

**Motion Passed:** Consent Agenda approved as amended. Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Shara Watkins.

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

#### **Item 5.2.6. Solar Feasibility Study**

Trustee Chin was very excited to see the Net Zero Energy project moving forward as former Trustee Rebecca Hitchcock and he were very keen on going solar in the District. He wanted to point out that some sites may not be able to produce solar energy due to their size. He also pointed out that the consultant has done work locally and is familiar with the area. He had questions about energy battery storage systems. He requested to include the Measure X Phase II buildings in their scope of work.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of Item 5.2.6. Solar Feasibility Study. Passed with a motion by Kenneth Chin 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. Non-Public Agency (NPA) Contracts**

#### **5.1.2. Comprehensive School Safety Plans: Non-Tactical Portion**

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

#### **5.2.1. Abbott Middle School New Gym and Classroom Project - Amendment No.2 for Inspector of Record - CAS Inspections Inc.**

#### **5.2.2. Abbott Middle School New Shade Structure - Community Playgrounds Change Order No. 1**

#### **5.2.3. Prop 39 District Wide Lighting Project - Vitality Construction Inc.- Change Order No. 3**

#### **5.2.4. Notice of Completion- Prop 39 District Wide Lighting Project- Vitality Construction Inc.**

#### **5.2.5. HVAC and Air Filtration Report and Next Steps**

#### **5.2.6. Solar Feasibility Study**

#### **5.2.7. Designating Signatures**

#### **5.2.8. Resolution No. 22/20-21 - Orders Drawn on District Funds**

#### **5.2.9. Resolution No. 23/20-21 - Authorizing Signatures Bank Clearing Account**

#### **5.2.10. Resolution No. 24/20-21 - Authorizing Signatures/LAIF**

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

#### **5.2.12. 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. Update on Elementary and Middle School Reopening Plan (v)**

Dr. Rosas gave an update on the school reopening plan, specifically about the following: COVID-19 statistics, COVID-19 testing, Vaccination, Reopening for in-person learning, and considerations related to the March 1 reopening date.

The Board asked various clarifying questions.

#### **Public Comments:**

Leslie Thompson, first grade teacher, shared that she is excited to go back to school in the Hybrid model but wanted to make the Board aware of the following dates: Asynchronous Learning days are February, 25 and 26, Professional Development is on March 3, and report period ends on March 5. The tentative agreement MOU calls for two days to prepare for classes. She felt that reopening on March 1 would be a difficult transition for teachers and students and asked the Board to consider reopening on March 8.

Molly, spoke on behalf of teachers at George Hall, she felt that reopening on March 1 was unrealistic as the teachers and students need transition time with their new teachers. She asked to consider reopening on March 8 and presented the same reasons as Ms. Thompson for changing the date, adding that everyone would be returning from spring break, allowing to finish the second trimester. Reopening on March 8 would allow smooth transition.

Carrie Attell asked for clarification on the timeline for ending the trimester, report cards, and completion of the MOU. She felt that reopening on March 8 would allow teachers finish the report cards and start the new classes.

Desiree Labeaud identified herself as a pediatric infectious disease physician from Stanford and shared that she feels disappointed and concerned about the District inability to reopen on March 1. She worries that there will be other events that will prevent from reopening in March and asked the Board not to delay the process and maintain March 1 as the reopening date. She is concerned about the mental health of the children and noted that children are severely impacted by the virus. She added that using proper PPE and following the safety guidelines work.

Randi Paynter appreciated the comment from Dr. Labeaud and talked about the most recent guidance and how these should be incorporated in the reopening criteria. She commented that parent experts haven't had the opportunity to participate on the developing of the plan. She had questions on plan that was presented this evening related to the cost of testing and the results. She suggested the Board to look into surveillance testing of the AB cohorts to increase frequency of the testing.

Joy Shmueli asked clarifying questions about the timeline and the amount of days students will have with their teachers before school reopens in Hybrid learning on March 1. She shared that her family chose Distance Learning; however, she favored reopening until teachers in Hybrid are vaccinated.

Ms. Shpizner (Karen), a teacher, spoke on behalf of a group of educators from her school and said that teachers want to come back to the classrooms but felt that they hadn't received adequate communications from the District since the day of the reopening was announced. She said that teachers have different ideas about the details of the reopening plan. She felt that March 8 is a better date as it would give teachers more time to prepare, work on the report cards, assessments, adding that the younger students are the ones that need more support for transitioning.

Rhianna Hansen (Robert) has two students in the District. He felt that teachers had enough time to prepare for the reopening. He said that the announcement of reopening on March 1 was communicated in the Principal's chats. He asked for additional parent surveys for to reassess parents' preference in the most recent environment.

Kumar, a parent, agreed with the teachers' concerns as they are the experts in the matter and that we should listen to their concerns and take their recommendations. She added the transition for both, teachers and students is important and supported the reopening on March 8 or after teachers have been vaccinated.

Leya Leydiker said that she wants school reopening full time per new CDC recommendations. She stated that other private and public education entities, including daycares have been opened since last summer with minimum outbreaks and wanted to know why the District continues to offer Hybrid learning as this model no longer reflect the current science.

Katherine Pratt, a teacher, explained why the schedule of classes would dramatically shift if we reopen on March 1. She agreed with selecting a date that will allow proper transition with a meaningful closure with the students and the production of report cards. She implored the Board to listen to the teachers, as they are the experts in education.

Julie Mamis, a teacher, agreed with colleagues and urged the Board to consider the reopening on March 8 as teachers still have questions about the MOU and want meaningful closure with their students.

Marcella McCollum requested timely and effective communications with parents and teachers, specifically about the reopening for middle schools to rebuild the District community. She wondered what it takes teachers to prepare for the reopening, adding that communications continues to be an issue within the District.

Rena Korb wondered why Union negotiations did not start earlier. She expressed disappointment about delaying the reopening of the schools and said that parents are feeling left out and that makes them feel upset, terrified, and frustrated.

Stephanie, teacher, felt that there is disconnect between parents, teachers and the District. She shared that she would prefer to return to her classroom when she is fully vaccinated; however, she is ready to go back but agreed that teachers need time to prepare and to have a proper transition. She explained that half of her class will have new teachers and those two days of transitioning time would make a difference with the children. She requested to reopen on March 8.

Maria Ramirez, parent, shared that she initially had selected Hybrid learning but since there have been a few losses in the family due to COVID, she wishes to switch to Distance Learning and asked how to go about it.

Julia, parent, wondered what the next step would be if the SMETA MOU is not approved on February 26, adding that children eventually need to go back to school. She shared that her family opted to stay with the teacher for continuity.

Erin Fleming McCloskey, North Shoreview parent, said that she volunteers and donates a lot to her school. She agreed with a previous callers, including the pediatrician about listening to science. She shared that she will be moving out of the District had the feeling that many families will be doing the same.

Fernando Figueroa, a teacher and a parent in the District, said that he wants to feel safe. He appreciated the conversation about vaccination for the teachers. He would like to see communications go out to the parents letting them know of the progress on the vaccination for teachers.

Jayne Congdon, a parent at Parkside and a pediatrician, shared that she is part of the School Site Council. She said that children have been waiting for school reopening and she felt that the schools had all year to prepare for the transition. She supports vaccination priority for teachers but she believes that the vaccine shouldn't be a condition for them to return to school and agreed that is save to return the classrooms. Delays are hard on the students and families. She asked to start working on full reopening as it is safe and parents are willing to help

Julie MacArthur explained the reasons why teachers were confused about the reopening date being March 1 and noted that safety is no longer the issue since now there is a safety plan in place. She also shared the reasons why it took some time to ratify the MOU and it's because SMETA had to quickly pivot and start working on an MOU for middle school. She wanted to point out that the District has been working preparing for reopening by making sure that the health and safety protocols are in place for a safe reopening, thanks to the collaboration of teachers and the District.

Allen Martin expressed his appreciation for the teacher's professionalism and dedication to make Distance Learning work. He provided some COVID-19 statistics and said that the numbers of cases are fluid and that children do get infected. His prediction is that the number of infections will only go up.

Dr. Alesksey Lavery, neurosurgeon at Kaiser, said that students need to return to school since there will never be an easy transition. He is concerned about the brain health of the children. He is very appreciative of the teachers' commitment but said that parents have been planning for a reopening for a while. He added that the solution is following the safety guidelines not the vaccine. He would not want more delays in reopening.

L. Hamor, an elementary, middle, and high school parent and a teacher, thanked the Board for having the students' best interest at heart. She said that she was disheartened by the comments made this evening by parents about delaying school reopening. She asked the Board to respect the teachers' opinions and listen to their advice.

Leticia Avila is a parent of five children and two are in middle school. She too agreed that schools should reopen, especially for children who are struggling. She shared that Distance Learning has not been working for her youngest child and felt that there has been minimum support from the school. She acknowledged the hard work from the teachers but said that the students are struggling nationwide so they should be the main focus.

Vanessa Sewell, a mother of three children, was concerned because the schools haven't reopened. She quoted Dr. Rosas communications of February 5 about the targeted date for reopening of March for elementary school and February 10 for middle schools, adding that she wants her children back to school for social emotional. She wanted the schools reopened by March 1 and start the planning for next year.

Malini Ami said parents have been preparing for the transition of returning to in person classes since January so they are ready for March 1. She hopes that District and teachers continue to have students in the forefront when they worry about transitioning. She asked the Board to start planning for the fall as well.

Fernando Lorenzo shared that his parents were infected with COVID-19 and a relative died from the virus, adding that the suffering and trauma is unbearable. He shared that he is working even longer hours than before the pandemic. He also pointed out that returning to the classrooms is risky and it would only add to the grief and trauma that millions of people have been through as a result of the pandemic. Social emotional and mental health concerns are valid but they have existed even before the pandemic. For the stability of teachers and students, he asked the Board to consider staying in Distance Learning for this and not to force anyone to require returning to school in person until they feel safe.

Martin Wiggins reflected on the public comments this evening and said that there is no ideal solution. He supports the teachers but having already chosen a date to return to the classrooms, he thought that the Board should maintain its decision.

Nicola Cadenas, a parent of two children in elementary school, expressed her frustration about the delayed reopening and said that it is safe to return. She would like to see an AM/PM program, five days a week and better communications. She thought that cleaning on Wednesday is no longer needed.

Bernadette Christensen thanked the Board their thoughtfulness and consideration and added that March 1 was selected randomly without having an MOU completed. She reminded parents that when children return to school in Hybrid, they may be disappointed, as it will look different from pre pandemic education.

Heather, an elementary school parent, said that her children are excited about returning to school. She was confused hearing the request from teachers needing closure as, in her opinion, some teachers already started the process for transitioning. She can't wait for her first grade daughter to start in Hybrid education on March 1.

Erik Malinowski, a Special Education parent, finds Distance Learning traumatic and can't wait for normalcy. He fully supports the teachers and felt that the Board should honor the extra week they requested for proper transition. He supported changing the reopening date to March 8.

J. Mayman (Jennifer), a Special Education parent, agreed with the previous caller about Distance Learning and how difficult it has been for her family. She too wants teachers to be successful in transitioning. She acknowledged that educators have been working long hours during the pandemic. She thought that reopening on March 8 makes sense.

Brandie, has a child in kindergarten, asked for a robust Hybrid model that includes 12 to 15 hours of in-person instruction. She wanted to know if parents can switch from models and how to go about it. She also asked for no more screen time during in-person learning.

Danielle McCarthy stated that she would like to see schools reopen soon, and hoped for a full reopening in the fall or at least an improved Hybrid model. She asked to start planning for the fall now.

Purnima appreciated the comments from teachers about their request to reopen on March 8 as their request is reasonable and is centered on children considerations. March 1 was arbitrarily chosen without teachers input. She too would like to see a plan started for the fall. She expressed respect for the Board, especially during these unprecedented times but would like to see them be more proactive rather than reactive.

Stephen Floor agreed with Purnima about reopening on March 8 and get started with a plan for the fall. He noted that many parents have been working full time in safe places during the pandemic so data shows that we can reopen safely, even without vaccination. He asked to move forward through communication and schedule a meeting with parents to talk about safety.

CB (Cristina), a preschool and first grade parent, stated her appreciation for the teachers and acknowledging their hard work. She shared that her preschool child has been receiving in-person education all this time and there haven't been infections reported at the school. She asked to keep March 1 as the reopening date. She also shared that she is a health care worker and worked with COVID-19 patients. She stressed that PPE works.

Windi Hazzard, a community partner with students in online learning, said that no decision will make everyone happy. She asked parents who are considering leaving the District to consider influencing positive change from students and community since not everyone has the same privilege of choice.

Dylan, a teacher at Fiesta Gardens International School, shared that he is ready to teach in Hybrid; however, he asked for the extra time to get used to the new Learning Management System, finish writing report cards, and learn how to administer the ELPAC. He hoped that we would reopen in the Red Tier.

Daniel Bird, a former teacher in the District, expressed appreciation for the Trustees and the teachers and supported the change for the reopening on March 8. He agreed with other callers and said that we are in a pandemic and the emotions are high. He reminded callers that teachers are the ones that hold the community together and unkind and disrespectful language does not help in the long term. One additional week would not cost extra harm.

Ebone, a parent, felt that there has been a lack of preparation for reopening. She expressed much disappointment at comments made this evening. She asked the Board to pick a date and continue with the plan, come together as a community and move forward because the current situation is taking a toll on the students emotionally and mentally.

Wohl, a parent, believed that many teachers and principals have been preparing for the reopening and that the group of teachers who called this evening do not represent the entire teaching community. She felt that report cards should be skipped for this year. She asked to keep March 1, listen to the CDC guidelines and fully reopen in the fall. Wednesday cleaning is no longer needed. She is concerned with parents threatening to leave the District.

Sandi Arata, a parent, asked to listen to the teachers' request to reopen on March 8.

Christie L, thanked the Board for embracing compassion. She also thanked the families for their support. She agreed with Trustee Watkins that we all need to pivot along the way. She explained the steps that the District has taken since last summer, the timeline of projects in order to have a plan ready, and the reasons why the District hasn't opened yet. She asked to consider reopening in the Hybrid model on March 8.

Kate referred to an email sent by Superintendent Dr. Rosas to teachers on February 1 informing them the reopening dates for elementary school and SDC, which was in March. She wondered how some teachers might have missed Dr. Rosas communications about the approved reopening date.

Colleen would like to see a plan for spring and fall. She shared that next school year she will have two children in middle school and said that this year she is not interested in report cards. She asked everyone to be flexible and move forward with the plan. She also requested another parent survey and parent workgroups for middle school. She wants to volunteer.

Stephanie shared that her family has been doing very well in Distance Learning and was happy with the work of the teachers. She said that her youngest child is anxious to start in Hybrid; however, her family understands the circumstances and they support to start on March 8.

#### Board Comments:

Dr. Rosas wanted to clarify that the District announced March 1 as the date for reopening the schools, however, there is a conflict. She noted that a move forward with the March 1 date would require work with staff leaders.

Trustee Warren opened her remarks by appreciating the different perspectives. She shared her experience as an acute nurse with baby patients with COVID-19 and confirmed that children can get the virus; however, she felt we are ready to reopen as the current recommendations from the CDC and CDPH say that is safe to return to schools. She talked about levels of risk that families need to consider when they choose a learning model and brought up the types



of vaccinations available. She pointed out that science shows that schools are not super spreader locations, so she wanted to reassure teachers that it should be safe to return to the classrooms. She reiterated her concern for the mental health of the students and their learning and to rebuild trust, she maintained her vote for March 1 as the reopening date.

Trustee Corzo wanted to clarify that the Board listens to the community, weighs on their perspectives, and acts on the information they have. This time, she felt that she needed to listen to the educators about their request to extend the reopening date. She pointed out that the report cards and assessment are needed in order to address the achievement gap and determine who are the students that need extra support. Based on the teachers' input this evening, Trustee Corzo agreed that reopening on March 8 would allow teachers be better prepared. She addressed the comments made comparing the District to other districts, including private schools, by saying that our district is diverse and that other districts are wealthy and may have an even lower COVID-19 transmission rate in their communities. She also addressed the letters and comments the Board received via email and reminded everyone what school will look like when students return to the classrooms. She talked about the Board's work ethics and found some of the public comments made this evening disrespectful. She offered one-on-one communication with the parents to listen to their concerns. She asked for respect and kindness as we are role models to our children. She encouraged parents, teachers, and staff to work together and to value each other even despite the difference in opinions.

Trustee Watkins was grateful for the Tentative Agreement. She pointed out that while the plan is not perfect, it is what was collaboratively negotiated. She noted that the pandemic has affected us all and that the challenges we face are not unique. Board members, administrators, teachers, and staff are working hard while also worrying about our own families. She agreed with Trustee Corzo about of treating each other with respect and working together collaboratively during this pandemic. She also supported the decision of reopening on March 8 and explained the basis for her conclusion, agreeing that we trust our teachers' expertise and that the pandemic keeps us making continuous adjustments in such fluid environment. She requested a timeline that would be accessible to everyone. She too expressed concerns with the most vulnerable students and wanted to make sure that they continue to be a priority; she requested data and updates these concerns would be addressed as well as what is working for them. She addressed comments that she found disheartening and divisive and asked everyone to be supportive and respectful one another.

Trustee Proctor extended her gratitude to SMETA leadership, teachers, classified staff, and administration for their hard work during the pandemic; moreover, during the recent months working hard at bringing students back to the classrooms. She asked parents to keep in mind that teachers and staff have been working nonstop supporting the students since the pandemic started. She too addressed public comments made but more specifically about supporting the reopening on March 8 and said that she respects their voices and it seemed reasonable to her to change it to March 8. She added that we need to listen to the teacher's request, as they are the educators, experts in the field, and we want them to stay with the District. Therefore, she supported the additional week to wrap up assessments, report cards and transition back to their classrooms. She asked if Special Day Classes could go back to the classrooms earlier.

Trustee Chin began his remarks by thanking stakeholders for reaching out. He reflected on the amount of work that the pandemic has created and how challenging and frustrating it has been and continues to be for everyone. He spoke about the constant flow of information coming to the District and the Board and how that affects their ability move on quickly. He thought that schools are not super spreaders. He found validity on the majority of the comments from families and teachers and clarified that we never closed the schools as we have been providing education since the pandemic, just in a different learning system. He was grateful for the vaccination for teachers and for the upcoming MOU. He was conflicted with changing the reopening date to March 8, since it had already changed a few times. He said that a plan is needed for the fall; however, we need to focus on the now. He shared that he respects the teachers request to extend the date to March 8. He felt that we need to heal as a District, reopen on March 1, and move on. He commented on the schedule of the Hybrid classes and the Professional Development days taking place before the reopening.

The Board continued their discussion on the reopening, asked additional clarifying questions, and made the following motion: Grades TK-2 and SDC will reopen for in-person classes in the Hybrid Model on March 8, 2021 and Grades 3-5 reopening will be on March 15, 2021.

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

No Kenneth Chin  
Yes Noelia Corzo

Yes Alison Proctor  
No Lisa Warren  
Yes Shara Watkins

## 6.2. Update SMFCSD Equity Statement (v)

At the January 30 Board Study Session the Board reviewed and made changes to the language of the Equity Statement. Dr. Rosas presented the changes as highlighted below for Board adoption.

Educational equity means that each student receives what they need to develop to **their** full academic and social-emotional potential **as measured through multiple data metrics**.

Working towards equity involves:

- Ensuring equally high outcomes for all participants in our educational system; removing the predictability of success or failures that currently correlates with any social, cultural, **or racial** factor.
- Interrupting inequitable **policies and** practices while examining **and eliminating** biases to create inclusive multicultural school environments for adults and students.
- Discovering and cultivating the unique gifts, talents, and interests that every human possesses.

**Motion Passed:** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES REVIEW AND ADOPT AN UPDATED EQUITY STATEMENT FOR THE SAN MATEO - FOSTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT. Passed with a motion by Shara Watkins and a second by Lisa Warren.

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

Trustee Corzo signed off for the evening.

## 6.3. CSBA Delegate Assembly Election (v)

Dr. Rosas presented the 2021 CSBA Delegate Assembly Ballot for sub region 5-B to the Board for a vote.

The Board voted for all three candidates running for election.

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

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

## 7. BUSINESS/FINANCE

### 7.1. Measure X Update

Tish Busselle, Consultant, provided an update on the work that is being done on Measure X Phase I & II. She noted that Phase I includes the building of the Beach Park Elementary and the new gyms, locker rooms, and additional classrooms at Borel and Abbott Middle Schools and the building of a new gym and locker room at Bayside Middle School. Phase II projects include the building of the New School in North Central San Mateo, new multipurpose buildings at George Hall and Sunnybrae and a new science and drama building at Bowditch Middle School.

Public Comments:

Randi Paynter wanted to hear an update on the Beach Park Elementary School, specifically about the reasons why the school did not open as of January 2021. She wondered why the District is building a new school in North Central since enrollment is decreasing. She thought College Park should be used instead as well as Knolls.

Board Comments:

The Board appreciated the presentation and thanked the administration, Ms. Busselle, and the Facilities team for the consistent and hard work. They were excited about the new gyms and to see Beach Park Elementary almost completed and how beautiful is looking. They liked the colors of the school and the natural light that the windows provide. They are anxious to see the new school and the rest of the projects in person and plan for ribbon cutting. They would like to see a timeline for the projects.

Trustee Watkins signed off for the evening. (at 10:27 pm)

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

Patrick Gaffney, Chief Business Official, presented the 2021-2022 Governor's Budget Proposal and shared that the Governor's budget is focused on the pandemic and other initiatives such as action to get young and vulnerable students back in the classroom. He continued his presentation and covered areas of the State Budget and the economy, the budget for education and its various program fundings, the 2021 political landscape in relation to COVID-19. He also gave a summary of the General Fund budget.

### **Board Comments:**

The Board appreciated the update and were glad to see different funds that is being set aside for Special Education.

## **8. HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **8.1. Calendar for 2021-2022 School Year (v)**

Sue Wieser, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented the Calendar for the 2021-2022 School Year. She noted that the calendar aligns with the San Mateo Union High School District's winter and spring breaks and asked the Board for approval.

### **Public Comments:**

Julie MacArthur, SMETA President, pointed out Jewish holidays has been taken in consideration when building the School Calendar to accommodate requests from teachers.

Colleen expressed appreciation for the new calendar, especially because it aligns with the one from the San Mateo Union High School District. At the same time, she said that it would be very helpful for her family to have a multiple-year calendar and asked if it is possible for the District to start working on one.

### **Board Comments:**

Trustee Warren agreed with Colleen and asked if a two-year calendar can be developed.

Ms. Wieser said that a multi-year calendar is normally produced but this year was different due to the pandemic.

**Motion Passed:** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE DISTRICT CALENDAR FOR 2021-2022 AS PRESENTED. Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Lisa Warren.

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

### **8.2. Tentative Agreement with CSEA on Memorandum of Understanding for Return to Work (v)**

Ms. Wieser presented the CSEA Tentative Agreement MOU for the return to work. She said that this agreement addresses concerns around health and safety and that it was ratified by CSEA in January 2021. She asked the Board for their approval.

The Board was pleased that the MOU had been ratified. They had only words of appreciation for CSEA for all the work they do including stepping up to help during Distance Learning and in the Learning Support Hubs. One Trustee referred to CSEA members as the unsung heroes of the District.

Ms. Wieser also thanked CSEA leadership, including former Chapter 11 President Sue Olinger for the collaborative work and said that she is looking forward to working with the new President Alicia Aragon.

**Motion Passed:** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE TENTATIVE AGREEMENT FOR THE MOU FOR RETURN TO WORK WITH THE CSEA CHAPTER 411 AS NEGOTIATED. Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Lisa Warren.

Yes Kenneth Chin  
Absent Noelia Corzo  
Yes Alison Proctor

Yes Lisa Warren  
Absent Shara Watkins

### **8.3. Resolution No. 25/20-21 - Reduction in Particular Kinds of Services for 2021-2022 (v)**

Ms. Wieser presented Resolution No. 25/20-21 Reduction in Particular Kinds of Services for the 2021-2022 school year and noted that this a yearly requirement per Education Code 44955. It is for particular class service that will be reduced or discontinued. She provided information for the reductions and asked the Board for the approval of Resolution No. 25/20-21.

#### **Public Comments:**

Randi Paynter wondered if the ten teachers that are listed are related to decrease in enrollment and asked for more information on decrease of enrollment this year. She felt that we should be providing additional support in the classrooms.

Marcella McCollum had the opinion that the District would need more support due to the current environment and even more so when we reopen the schools. She provided additional reasons to increase support and said that she hopes that the District continues funding these positions.

Colleen had questions about the teaching positions that are being reduced and said that she agrees with Ms. Paynter about wanting to know about the decrease in enrollment. She was concerned with losing credentialed staff.

Diana Harlick was concerned that TOSAS are on the list given the fact that they provide training and coaching for the teachers. She would like to have more understanding around the language and literacy TOSAS and the reasons why the funding will no longer be available.

#### **Board Comments:**

The Board had questions about the funding of the positions listed and wondered if the PTA should be funding positions at all. They also asked about the Gilead grant that funded TOSAs. They felt that they needed information for a plan to properly staff for next year since we might need additional support as a result of the pandemic. They requested an update on PTA funded positions.

Dr. Rosas responded that the Gilead Sciences, Inc. grant ended and services funded by this grant were now planned to be provided by teacher leaders. She explained that the TOSAs would be assigned as needed.

Mr. Chambliss shared that Gilead is funding a second TOSA.

Ms. Wieser said that the District has to be fiscally responsible and as more funding is available the District starts bringing back positions.

**Motion Passed:** IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE RESOLUTION 25/20-21 TO REDUCE PARTICULAR KINDS OF SERVICES AND DECREASE A CORRESPONDING NUMBER OF CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES, AS NECESSARY, TO ADDRESS POSSIBLE CHANGES TO PROGRAMS AND FUNDING. Passed with a motion by Alison Proctor and a second by Lisa Warren.

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

### **8.4. Skipping and Tie Breaking Criteria**

Ms. Wieser presented for information the annual Skipping and Tie Breaking Criteria that is used if the District needs to reduce and eliminate particular kinds of services, and layoff associated certificated personnel.

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

Trustee Warren requested an update on the distribution of PPE for teachers.

Trustee Proctor and Trustee Chin acknowledged Black History Month and the Lunar Year and wished everyone a Happy Chinese and Lunar New Year.

## **10. FUTURE MEETING DATES**

February 23, 2021	9:00 AM	School Visitations - Abbott MS & Highlands ES
March 6, 2021	1:00 PM	Board Study Session
March 8, 2021	7:00 PM	SMFCSD Education Foundation
March 11, 2021	6:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting
March 15, 2021	7:00 PM	PTA Council Meeting
March 16, 2021	9:00 AM	School Visitations - Bowditch & Brewer Island
March 16, 2021	7:00 PM	Equity Task Force

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

### 11.1. Adjournment (v)

The Regular Board Meeting adjourned at 12:24 am.

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

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

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Board Secretary

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Date