

U N A D O P T E D M I N U T E S

Of the Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
June 15, 2021

1. PRELIMINARY

1.1. Call to Order. President Baird called this meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

1.2. Roll Call

Minutes:

Board President, Trustee Baird, took Roll call at 4:31 PM. All Board of Trustees present as listed.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Jan Baird, President

Natalia Barajas, Vice President

Deborah Pacheco, Clerk

Sylvia V. Macias, Member

Elias Alvarado, Member

Minutes:

All Administrators and Staff present as listed for this meeting.

ADMINISTRATORS:

Dr. Gary Gonzales, Superintendent

Martha Mestanza-Rojas, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services

Dr. Marti Tienda-Ayala, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources

Geta Woldie, Interim Chief Business Officer

STAFF:

Kurby Flores, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

2. CLOSED SESSION

Minutes:

By general consent, the Board adjourned to Closed Session at 4:32 PM.

2.1. Conference with Agency Labor Negotiators: South Whittier Teachers Association and California School Employees Association. Agency Negotiators: Dr. Gary Gonzales, Dr. Marti Tienda-Ayala, Martha Mestanza-Rojas, Geta Woldie (Government Codes Section 3549.1 and 54957.6)

2.2. Classified - Public Employee Appointment/Employment/Evaluation

2.3. Classified - Public Employee

Dismissal/Release/Discipline/Transfers/Reassignments/Retirement

2.4. Certificated - Public Employee Appointment/Employment/Evaluation

2.5. Certificated - Public Employee

Dismissal/Release/Discipline/Transfers/Reassignments/Retirement

2.6. Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code Section 54957.6) District Designated Representative: Board President Jan Baird. Unrepresented Employee: Superintendent.

3. OPEN SESSION

Minutes:

By general consent of the Board, the Board reconvened to open session at 6:01 PM.

3.1. Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jan Baird, Board President.

3.2. Mission and Vision

Minutes:

President Baird read out the Mission and Vision for South Whittier School District.

3.3. Report on Closed Session Items

Minutes:

Motion Passed:

Superintendent Gonzales reported that no action was taken in closed session.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion Passed:

The Superintendent recommends approval of the June 15, 2021 Agenda as presented.

Motion: ____ Seconded: ____ VOTE: YES 5 NO ____ Abstain ____ Absent ____

Passed with a motion by Sylvia Macias and a second by Elias Alvarado.

- Yes Sylvania Macias
- Yes Jan Baird
- Yes Natalia Barajas
- Yes Deborah Pacheco
- Yes Elias Alvarado

Minutes:

No Discussion

5. COMMENTS BY TRUSTEES

Minutes:

Trustee Pacheco had no comments.

Trustee Macias wanted to wish everyone a great summer break and that we will see everyone in August.

Trustee Barajas also congratulated everyone that promoted from Elementary to Middle school along with everyone from the Middle school promoting into High School. Given all of the circumstances that occurred this year she is very proud of all of them. She also reminded everyone to keep safe and hydrated as a heat wave has hit out area.

President Baird wished everyone a great summer and luck in their future educational endeavors. She was pleased with how the promotion ceremonies turned out at Graves Middle School. She was only able to attend one promotion ceremony but it was very well done and kept everyone safe. She was very glad she went.

Trustee Alvarado also wanted to compliment Graves Middle School staff and students for such a great event. He was glad to be part of the event.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Minutes:

No public comments submitted.

7. CONSENT

Motion Passed:

The Superintendent recommends the Board of Trustees review and approve Consent agenda items 7.1 through 7.8 as presented.

Motion: ___ Seconded: ___ VOTE: YES 5 NO ___ Abstain ___ Absent ___

Passed with a motion by Elias Alvarado and a second by Sylvia Macias.

- Yes Sylvia Macias
- Yes Jan Baird
- Yes Natalia Barajas
- Yes Deborah Pacheco
- Yes Elias Alvarado

Minutes:

No Discussion

- 7.1. Approval of Minutes – May 18, 2021 Regular Board Meeting**
- 7.2. Approval of Minutes – May 22, 2021 Special Board Meeting**
- 7.3. Approval of Minutes – June 3, 2021 Special Board Meeting**
- 7.4. Purchase Order List # 12**
- 7.5. Contract/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) List # 15 (FY 2020-21)**

CONTRACT/MOU LIST NO. 15 FY 20/21		June 15, 2021		
NUMBER	CONTRACTOR	SERVICE	DURATION	COST TO DISTRICT/ BENEFIT TO THE DISTRICT
20-21-102	ISA- REACH	To provide Assistive Technology Services.	5/11/2021-6/30/2021	\$660.00
20-21-103	East Whittier City School District - Step Program	Student Individual Service Agreement. This contract assists the district in meeting the provisions of services as outlined in the student's IEP. The non-public school specializes in working with students with emotional disabilities, including highly aggressive students with psychiatric disorders.	7/1/2020-6/30/2021	\$17,000.00
20-21-105	Jennifer M. Bliss	Credentialed School Librarian will provide assistance with special services and advice related to library functions, including but not limited to with selection and ordering of school library books and consulting with district staff regarding school library activities.	6/16/2021-6/30/2022	\$2,000.00
20-21-106	Leadership Associates	Provides Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Search. Consultant will identify potential candidates, posting of recruitment materials, position description, recruit, comprehensive reference and background check.	5/24/2021-7/30/2021	\$15,000.00
TOTAL				\$34,660.00

7.6. Contract/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) List # 3 (FY 2021-22)

CONTRACT/MOU LIST NO, 3 FY 21/22		June 15, 2021		
NUMBER	CONTRACTOR	SERVICE	DURATION	COST TO DISTRICT/ BENEFIT TO THE DISTRICT
21-22-004	LACOE (PBIS)	Positive Behavior Interventions and Support.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$31,500.00
21-22-005	School Services of California	Assistance regarding issues of school finance, legislation, school budgeting, and general fiscal issues.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$4,430.00
21-22-006	Step By Step Pediatric Therapy, Inc.	Consultant to render its services for Independent Educational Evaluation ("IEE") for occupational therapy and IEP meeting attendance for student #7532090267 for the fiscal year 2021-2022.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$1,500.00
21-22-007	Help for Brain Injured Children, Inc. (The Cleeta Harder Developmental School)	Non-Public School to provide special education and/or related services to students with exceptional needs.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$0.00
21-22-008	DR. Robin Morris Dba RBy5Psychological Services	Consultant to render its services for an Independent Educational Evaluation ("IEE") for student #7532090267 for the fiscal year 2021-2022.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$5,000.00
21-22-009	Lifetouch Inc.	School photography services for district students and staff.	7/1/2021-6/30/2024	\$0.00
21-22-010	Cleeta ISA for Student ID 3486808956	Non-Public School to provide special education and/or related services to students with exceptional needs.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$68,400.00
21-22-011	East Whittier City School District- S,T,E,P Program	This contract assists the district in meeting the provisions of services as outlined in the student's IEP. The non-public school specializes in working with students with emotional disabilities, including highly aggressive students with psychiatric disorders.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$0.00
21-22-013	Arcadia Audiometric Associates Inc.	Perform hearing screening on all Kindergarten, first, second, fifth, eighth, and tenth grade students plus referral students identified by district.	8/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$4,300.00
21-22-014	California Consulting, Inc.	Grant research, targeted grant research on projects specifically identified by SWSD, identification of funding opportunities, and grant writing services at direction of SWSD. Monthly retainer rate of \$4,250 monthly.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$51,000.00
21-22-015	Capturing Kids' Hearts (The Flippen Group)	Provide strategy visits, and comprehensive, ongoing support to leaders and staff.	8/2/2021-6/3/2022	\$30,000.00
21-22-016	East Whittier City SD ISA for Student ID: 204000119	Student Individual Service Agreement. This contract assists the district in meeting the provisions of services as outlined in the student's IEP. The non-public school specializes in working with students with emotional disabilities, including highly aggressive students with psychiatric disorders.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$40,000.00
21-22-017	East Whittier City SD ISA for Student ID: 204000135	Student Individual Service Agreement. This contract assists the district in meeting the provisions of services as outlined in the student's IEP. The non-public school specializes in working with students with emotional disabilities, including highly aggressive students with psychiatric disorders.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$40,000.00
21-22-018	East Whittier City SD ISA for Student ID: 204000104	Student Individual Service Agreement. This contract assists the district in meeting the provisions of services as outlined in the student's IEP. The non-public school specializes in working with students with emotional disabilities, including highly aggressive students with psychiatric disorders.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$42,329.00
21-22-019	East Whittier City SD ISA for Student ID: 204000123	Student Individual Service Agreement. This contract assists the district in meeting the provisions of services as outlined in the student's IEP. The non-public school specializes in working with students with emotional disabilities, including highly aggressive students with psychiatric disorders.	6/3/2021-6/30/2022	\$41,671.00
21-22-020	East Whittier City SD ISA for Student ID: 204000112	Student Individual Service Agreement. This contract assists the district in meeting the provisions of services as outlined in the student's IEP. The non-public school specializes in working with students with emotional disabilities, including highly aggressive students with psychiatric disorders.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$40,000.00
21-22-021	East Whittier City SD ISA for Student ID: 204000137	Student Individual Service Agreement. This contract assists the district in meeting the provisions of services as outlined in the student's IEP. The non-public school specializes in working with students with emotional disabilities, including highly aggressive students with psychiatric disorders.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$40,000.00
21-22-022	East Whittier City SD ISA for Student ID: 204000139	Student Individual Service Agreement. This contract assists the district in meeting the provisions of services as outlined in the student's IEP. The non-public school specializes in working with students with emotional disabilities, including highly aggressive students with psychiatric disorders.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$40,000.00

21-22-023	Summit Speech Pathology Service Inc	Consultant to render its services for Speech and Language Pathology for the fiscal year 2021-2022.	7/1/2021-6/30/2022	\$201,375.00
-----------	-------------------------------------	--	--------------------	--------------

		TOTAL		\$681,505.00
--	--	-------	--	--------------

7.7. Travel and Conference Report # 1 (2021-22)

7.8. Express Voucher Report May 1, 2021 to May 31, 2021

8. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD

No written communication submitted for this agenda.

9. GOVERNING BOARD

9.1. Approval of Fourth Amendment to Employment Agreement of Superintendent

Motion Passed:

Approve the amended employment agreement between South Whittier School District and the Superintendent. Prior to a vote on this item, the Board President will read an oral report of the salary and compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits in the proposed amendment, as required by Government Code section 54953.

Motion: ___ Seconded: ___ VOTE: YES 5 NO ___ Abstain ___ Absent ___

Passed with a motion by Sylvia Macias and a second by Deborah Pacheco.

- Yes Sylvia Macias
- Yes Jan Baird
- Yes Natalia Barajas
- Yes Deborah Pacheco
- Yes Elias Alvarado

Minutes:

President Baird read the following oral report:

We now come to Item 9.1 on the agenda. Prior to taking final action on an employment agreement, the Brown Act requires the Governing Board to orally report a summary of a recommendation for the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits for local agency executives. The Superintendent is a local agency executive and a proposed contract amendment is before us this evening.

The amendment extends the Superintendent's current contract by one-year from June 30, 2023 to June 30, 2024. It also advances the Superintendent to Step V of the Salary Schedule, making his base salary for the 2021-2022 school year \$232,723. There are no other changes to the Superintendent's contract. The Superintendent will continue to receive 24 days of paid vacation each year; the same health and welfare benefits provided to other certificated management employees; a right to post-separation health benefits coverage; a fully paid term life insurance policy of \$150,000; a \$600 monthly car allowance; and payment of dues and expenses for professional meetings.

No further discussion from the Board.

9.2. Resolution No. 20-21-029: Resolution for Board Compensation for Missed Meeting

Motion Passed:

The Superintendent recommends the Board of Trustees review and approve Resolution No. 20-21-029 as presented.

Motion: ____ Seconded: ____ VOTE: YES 4 NO ____ Abstain 1 Absent ____
Passed with a motion by Elias Alvarado and a second by Natalia Barajas.

Yes Sylvia Macias
Yes Jan Baird
Yes Natalia Barajas
Abstain Deborah Pacheco
Yes Elias Alvarado

Minutes:
No Discussion.

10. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF BOARD POLICIES, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS, AND BOARD BYLAWS (SECOND READING)

Motion Passed: The Board of Trustees will conduct a Second reading and possible approval of the following proposed Board Policies and Administrative Regulations agenda items 10.1 through 10.3. The Superintendent recommends the Board of Trustees review and approve the Board policies and Administrative Regulations as presented.

Motion: ____ Seconded: ____ VOTE: YES 5 NO ____ Abstain ____ Absent ____
Passed with a motion by Sylvia Macias and a second by Elias Alvarado.

Yes Sylvia Macias
Yes Jan Baird
Yes Natalia Barajas
Yes Deborah Pacheco
Yes Elias Alvarado

- 10.1. E 4161.8 Family Care and Medical Leave (SECOND READING)
- 10.2. AR 4161.8 Family Care and Medical Leave (SECOND READING)
- 10.3. BP 4119.41 Employees with Infectious Disease (SECOND READING)

Minutes:
No Discussion

11. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

11.1. PRESENTATION: Overview of Wellness Services

Minutes:

Martha Rojas introduced Cynthia Casebere who is the Licensed Clinical Social Worker for our district as she will be presenting to the Board.

Mrs. Casebere began her presentation by acknowledging the Board, Administrators and Zoom guests. Mrs. Casebere then went on to present on the Wellness Services Program in South Whittier and covered all of the Program Goals, MTSS wellness services available, Care Solace participation data, some barriers faced, staff supports, the California Healthy Kids Survey results and data, staff development opportunities,

and additional services provided to our staff and families. Full presentation details can be found on our website at swhittier.net and through Agenda Online at Agendaonline.net.

Trustee Alvarado wanted to know how the Wellness Program ties in with our current Board policies and Administrative Regulations to make sure they are more supported and in sync with everything the District is offering. He wanted to know if there were any needed areas of attention.

Mrs. Casebere shared that she has reviewed some of the specific Board Policies and believes they are well written. She did mention that there is an upcoming Board Policy to support LGBTQ+ community. She will be paying close attention to this Policy when it is released.

Trustee Alvarado wanted to highlight some nationwide catastrophic events such as earthquakes and hurricanes along with social issues such as racism and other sensitive issues. He asked for Mrs. Casebere to comment on this topic.

Mrs. Casebere shared that this is something that is fresh on her mind and frequently thinks of. She participates in round table discussions that encourage conversations in our classrooms and school but it is something new that needs special and well thought out discussion.

Trustee Alvarado recommended a schedule or timeline be created so that these specific items do not get over looked in the future with everything else that may be going on.

Trustee Barajas wanted to comment and thanking Mrs. Casebere for her work because academic performance is dependent on the social and emotional well-being of our students. Her follow up question is in regards to those students and families deny services, how are those students still receiving these necessary services?

Mrs. Casebere shared that parents and families have the right to deny services. With that said, in the upcoming school year she hopes to increase parent engagement where families are more open to accept these generational patterns that may be keeping parents from accepting services. Mrs. Casebere wants to focus on how to have that narrative when presenting ideas to parents for services.

Trustee Macias asked about summer workshops highlighted in her presentation.

Mrs. Casebere shared that these workshops are offered through Pacific Clinics to support our students returning to school.

Trustee Macias also wanted to ask about the letters that were not responded to. How is the district following up?

Mrs. Casebere shared that depending on the severity of the issue, home visits have taken place to follow up with our community and families.

Trustee Macias recommended that a roundtable take place with the Board to go over these wellness services.

President Baird also wanted to thank Mrs. Casebere for her great work. She has seen the work that has been done because she is part of the Wellness Committee. She is thankful for her work. Her major area of concern for our community is that of suicide and believes Mrs. Casebere has done amazing work.

Superintendent Gonzales also wanted to thank Mrs. Casebere for her great work and shared that the district intends to grow our program by hiring an additional LCSW. The intent is to continue to have our community and students feel more connected to school.

11.2. Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Executive Summary 2021

Minutes:

Martha Rojas covered the Executive Summary graphic document that was provided in the agenda. This covered the LCAP Goals, State Priorities, Stakeholder engagement, LCAP Basics, and the overall district Overview. This document can be found on our website at swhittier.net and through Agenda Online at Agendaonline.net.

Trustee Macias appreciated that this documented consolidated all of the information into one sheet.

11.3. PUBLIC HEARING: Annual Update, Local Control Accountability Plan / Learning Continuity Plan & 2021 Local Control Accountability Plan

Minutes:

President Baird convened the public hearing to receive public testimony concerning the Annual Update, Local Control Accountability Plan / Learning Continuity Plan & 2021 Local Control Accountability Plan.

President Baird opened the hearing at 7:04 PM.

No comments were submitted to the Board for the public hearing.

President Baird closed the hearing at 7:05 PM.

No further comments or questions from the Board.

12. BUSINESS SERVICES

12.1. PRESENTATION: 2021-2022 Proposed Budget

Minutes:

Geta Woldie, Interim CBO, Business Services presented the 2021-2022 Proposed Budget to the Board of Trustees. Mr. Woldie highlighted several items in the presentation, focusing on changes, new programs, and next steps.

Presentation in its entirety may be located on SWSD website on Agenda Online.

Trustee Macias shared that she is always concerned with the amount of red numbers the presentation consisted of. How is the district going to handle the shortage?

Mr. Woldie went on to share how these numbers are calculated and stated that our revenue has been decreasing year after year due to decreasing enrollment. In addition to that, expenditures are always going up as well. COLA sometimes helps but it not given every year. Budget stabilization plans are intended to help balance the budget as best as possible. The best way to help these numbers is with increased enrollment.

Trustee Alvarado asked about the short and long term affects in the Monte Vista and Los Altos blend.

Mr. Woldie shared that projected savings are estimated at 1.2 million over three years and this will help significantly assuming things go as planned.

12.2. PUBLIC HEARING: 2021-2022 Proposed Budget

Minutes:

President Baird convened the public hearing to receive public testimony concerning the 2021-2022 Proposed Budget.

President Baird opened the hearing at 7:24 PM.

No comments were submitted to the Board for the public hearing.

President Baird closed the hearing at 7:25 PM.

No further comments or questions from the Board.

12.3. Resolution No. 20-21-030: Establishment of Fund 08.0 Student Activity Special Revenue Fund

Motion Passed:

The Superintendent recommends the Board of Trustees review and approve Resolution No. 20-21-030 as presented.

Motion: ___ Seconded: ___ VOTE: YES 4 NO ___ Abstain___ Absent 1

Passed with a motion by Elias Alvarado and a second by Sylvia Macias.

Yes	Sylvia Macias
Absent	Jan Baird
Yes	Natalia Barajas
Yes	Deborah Pacheco
Yes	Elias Alvarado

Minutes:

Board President Jan Baird disconnected from the meeting due to internet issues. Board Vice President Natalia Barajas took over the meeting in her place and continued with agenda item 12.3. No further discussion from the Board.

13. BOND MEASURE QS

Motion Passed:

The Superintendent recommends the Board of Trustees approve Bond Measure QS agenda item 13.1 as presented.

Motion: ____ Seconded: ____ VOTE: YES 4 NO ____ Abstain____ Absent 1
Passed with a motion by Sylvia Macias and a second by Deborah Pacheco.

Yes Sylvia Macias
Absent Jan Baird
Yes Natalia Barajas
Yes Deborah Pacheco
Yes Elias Alvarado

13.1. Purchase Order List # 11 (Bond)

Minutes:
No Discussion

14. HUMAN RESOURCES

Motion Passed:

The Superintendent recommends the Board of Trustees review and approve Human Resources agenda items 14.1 through 14.7 as presented.

Motion: ____ Seconded: ____ VOTE: YES 4 NO ____ Abstain____ Absent 1
Passed with a motion by Elias Alvarado and a second by Deborah Pacheco.

Yes Sylvia Macias
Absent Jan Baird
Yes Natalia Barajas
Yes Deborah Pacheco
Yes Elias Alvarado

- 14.1. Classified Personnel Report # 13
- 14.2. Certificated Personnel Report # 13
- 14.3. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) – SWSD & CSEA Roving Positions
- 14.4. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) – SWSD & SWTA Extended Day
- 14.5. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) – SWSD & SWTA Grade Span Adjustment (GSA)
- 14.6. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) – SWSD & SWTA Class Wallet
- 14.7. 2021-2022 Classified Calendar

Minutes:
No Discussion

15. BOARD OF TRUSTEES DISCUSSION TO GUIDE FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS

Minutes:
Trustee Macias requested that the Board get an update on the housing project near Carmela at our next Board Meeting.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

By general consent of the Board, Vice President Barajas adjourned the Board meeting at 7:31 PM to the next regularly scheduled Board meeting of June 22, 2021 at 4:30 PM, Via Zoom Conference.

Jan Baird, President

Attested By: _____
Deborah Pacheco, Clerk

As required pursuant to Education Code Section 15280, the minutes of this meeting will be posted on the District's internet web site agenda online.