



BENICIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
GOVERNING BOARD

Notice of Regular Meeting  
September 02, 2021 6:00 PM

Benicia Unified School District Board Room 350 East K Street Benicia, CA 94510. This meeting will be in-person and masks are mandatory. For those not in-person, we will continue to Livestream and it will be recorded via the BUSD YouTube channel.

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

Present:

Diane Ferrucci  
CeCe Grubbs  
Gethsemane Moss  
Sheri Zada

Absent:

Mark Maselli

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

Minutes:

President Zada called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

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

Quick Summary:

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

Minutes:

President Zada adjourned the meeting to closed session at 6:07 p.m.

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

Rationale:

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

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

Rationale:

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

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

Rationale:

The Governing Board will discuss student matters in the case of

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

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

Minutes:

President Zada reconvened the meeting to open session at 7:08 p.m.

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

Minutes:

There was nothing to report from closed session.

#### **5.2. Announcement**

Quick Summary:

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

### **6. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Minutes:

The pledge of allegiance was led by President Zada.

### **7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Gethsemane Moss and a second by CeCe Grubbs.

Yes Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs

Absent Mark Maselli

Yes Gethsemane Moss

Yes Sheri Zada

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

### **8.1. Student Reports**

Minutes:

This evening we had Ally Ballinger, ASB President and Marie Markus, ASB Vice President to provide update on what has taken place at Benicia High School and upcoming events/activities.

### **8.2. Superintendent Report**

Minutes:

Dr. Young once again welcomed and thanked everyone for being or tuning in to tonight's meeting. He shared that we are finishing our third week of school and he is happy to see that we are continuing to adapt, responding strongly, and support each other on behalf of our kids. We are also continuing to enhance and adapt our practices, as they are needed. A few of them include the weekly COVID testing on Friday's that has been implemented, the addition of a COVID dashboard on the website, and the lunch times at the Elementary schools were modified to lessen the amount of groups out during lunch. Another thing that we did and he thank Mr. Alfredo Romero, Director of Maintenance, Operations & Facilities for responding quickly with his department for the need of for putting together many additional needed outdoor picnic tables and shade structures for the Elementary schools. School is in session, kids are engaged and happy to be back. He also noted that in looking at the data it does not appear that COVID is spreading within our schools. The cases that are showing up are being contracted outside of school. He gave a big thank you to all staff in the district. He is so proud of everybody that works in this district. Everyone is so dedicated to our students so thank you! He also thanked all of our families for participating with us as we come together as one be Benicia community on behalf of our kids. He reminded everyone in that October 15 is when the Governor's office said that all staff in Education have to show proof of having the vaccine or be tested weekly. Lastly, he thanked Frist 5 Solano who donated books for our TK and Kindergarten to support literacy. With that, he concluded his Superintendent report.

### **8.3. Board Reports**

Minutes:

-President Zada shared that he had not spoken of this before at any meeting, but wanted to inform everyone that there was an attempt to recall two board herself and Trustee Maselli and the effort failed for lack of signatures. She is very happy to be able to move forward and continue serving the BUSD students and community. Lastly, she shared with Dr. Beatson how amazed, grateful, and proud of how much work she is putting in to communicating the contact tracing that is

taking place within the district along with Teri Deane. It is very much appreciated as it gives everyone the opportunity to handle it the best way we can.

-Trustee Ferrucci, took the opportunity to thank everybody for the amazing work at our sites. She had the privilege of visiting classrooms on the first day of school. To see staff there excited and happy to be there and especially to see the students laughing and walking the halls. It was just an amazing feeling to see schools back in session and wanted to share on behalf of the board.

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

Minutes:

A few community members present to submit public comments and several left them via the public comment voicemail line.

Quick Summary:

PLEASE NOTE: BUSD has moved to in-person Board meetings. We ask that members of the public, who wish to attend, including those who wish to address the board, wear a mask at all times. For those who do not wish to attend the meeting but would like to submit a public comment, we have opened the "Public Comment" voicemail line again. Comments can be submitted between 5:00-7:00 p.m. by calling 707-748-2787 (one comment per person, per item limited to 3 minutes) on the day of the meeting. Please remember to state your name and item you wish to address. If your comment is for "closed session," please be sure to state that at the beginning of your message so that it can be addressed prior to "closed session." Members of the public may address the Board at a meeting on any item within the Board's jurisdiction. Those in person are asked to fill out a speaker card, available at the back table, noting the item they wish to speak to. Please submit speaker cards to the Board Secretary. The Board President will call all the "open session" public comments not on the agenda (Gov. Code Section 54954.3) during the public comment item. The comments for items on the agenda will be called during the specific item. Comments are limited to no more than three minutes per speaker or the board may limit the total time to 20 minutes per item. By law, no action may be taken on any item raised during the public comment periods and matters may be referred to staff for placement on a future agenda of the Governing Board. Please be reminded to keep your comments respectful as students may be watching the board meeting, thank you.

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

Minutes:

Trustee Ferrucci was disconnected from the zoom link therefore was unable to vote and was marked absent for this item.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of the Consent Calendar as presented Passed with a motion by CeCe Grubbs and a second by Gethsemane Moss.  
Absent Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs  
Absent Mark Maselli  
Yes Gethsemane Moss  
Yes Sheri Zada

Quick Summary:

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

**10.1. Minutes for the Meetings of: August 12, 2021**

**10.2. Approval of Personnel Action List**

**10.3. Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 21-22-06, Declaration of Obsolete E-Waste**

Rationale:

Declaration of e-waste: These are a surplus of PCs, Laptops, Chromebooks, Projectors, and Monitors that are ready to be recycled. List is attached.

Minutes:

Trustee Ferrucci was disconnected from the zoom link therefore was unable to vote and was marked absent for this item.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of Resolution No. 21-22-06, Declaration of Obsolete E-Waste per attached list Passed with a motion by CeCe Grubbs and a second by Gethsemane Moss.

Absent Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs

Absent Mark Maselli

Yes Gethsemane Moss

Yes Sheri Zada

**10.4. Resolution No. 21-22-07, Establishing Appropriations Limit Pursuant to Article X111-B of the California Constitution and Adopting the 2020-21 Actual Appropriations Limit and the Estimated 2021-22 Appropriations Limit (Gann Limit)**

Rationale:

Tim Rahill, Chief Business Official, is asking the Governing Board to approve Resolution No. 21-22-07. Article XIII B to the California Constitution, popularly known as the Gann Initiative, placed limits on the growth of expenditures for publicly funded programs. Division 9 of Title 1, beginning with Section 7900 of

the Government Code, was then added to law to specify the process for calculating state and local government appropriation limits and appropriations subject to limitation under Article XIII B of the Constitution.

Minutes:

Trustee Ferrucci was disconnected from the zoom link therefore was unable to vote and was marked absent for this item.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of Resolution No. 21-22-07, Establishing Appropriations Limit Pursuant to Article X111-B of the California Constitution and Adopting the 2020-21 Actual Appropriations Limit and the Estimated 2021-22 Appropriations Limit (Gann Limit) Passed with a motion by CeCe Grubbs and a second by Gethsemane Moss.

Absent Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs

Absent Mark Maselli

Yes Gethsemane Moss

Yes Sheri Zada

## **11. COMMUNICATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **11.1. Enrollment Update**

Rationale:

District staff will provide an update on student enrollment which is currently 88 students lower than projected.

Minutes:

Tim Rahill, Chief Business Official provided an Enrollment update for the board.

### **11.2. Independent Study Update**

Rationale:

Staff will provide an update on the program. The purpose of the report is to provide information regarding: long-term independent study requirements, the process, current enrollment, the instructional program and monitoring.

Presentation

Minutes:

Dr. Leslie Beatson, Director Corona, and Principal Lewis provided an Independent Study update for the Board.

### **11.3. Equity Update**

Rationale:

Dr. Khushwinder Gill, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Dr. Leslie

Beatson, Assistant Superintendent of Ed. Services, and Mrs. Stephanie Rice, Director of Ed. Services will provide an update on the work the District is engaging in to forward their commitment to equity. The presentation will focus on providing information regarding: California Common Core State Standards & Frameworks, current curriculum & supplementary materials, BUSD's curriculum adoption process, professional learning, and staffing & recruitment.  
Presentation

Minutes:

Dr. Beatson, Dr. Gill and Director Rice provided the Board an Equity update.

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

### **12.1. Consideration and Approval of the Certificated Substitute Teachers Pay during the 2021-22 School Year**

Rationale:

The Benicia Unified School District (BUSD) recognize that the COVID-19 pandemic has made it difficult to recruit and hire certificated substitute teachers to cover classes during a teacher's absence. To continue providing uninterrupted education to students, certificated substitute teachers are essential. Staff is requesting for the certificated substitute teachers' pay to be increased as an incentive to recruit and hire additional employees as explained in the attached document. The Daily and Hourly Rate increase is non-precedent setting on a one-time basis only for the 2021-2022 school year, effective from September 6, 2021-June 30, 2022, due to impacts from COVID-19. On July 1, 2022, the Daily and Hourly Rates will revert back to the previous pay rates from the 2020-21 school year pay rate. Staff recommends that the Governing Board approve the 'Certificated Substitute Teachers' pay increase for the 2021-22 school only.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of the 'Certificated Substitute Teachers' pay increase for the 2021-22 school only as written, with the recommendation from the board that staff do a cost analysis before next year and be presented and revisited as part of the yearly budget development process to better know what can be done to support the substitute salary increase the following year Passed with a motion by Diane Ferrucci and a second by CeCe Grubbs.

Yes Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs

Absent Mark Maselli

Yes Gethsemane Moss

Yes Sheri Zada

### **12.2. Consideration & Approval of Temporary Department Office Technician Position for the Health Service Department during the 2021-22 School Year**

Rationale:

In order to adhere to the updated CDPH guidelines for school districts and the increase of responsibilities and workload for the Health Services Department, staff is requesting to add an additional 'Department Office Technician Temporary Position' for the 2021-22 school year only. These updated requirements necessitates significant modifications and documentation to minimize the health risks associated with COVID-19 infection for students, staff, and their families while also providing equitable access to education for students.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of the Temporary Department Office Technician Position for the Health Service Department during the 2021-22 School Year as presented Passed with a motion by CeCe Grubbs and a second by Gethsemane Moss.

Yes Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs

Absent Mark Maselli

Yes Gethsemane Moss

Yes Sheri Zada

### 13. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

President Zada wished everyone well and with that adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Clerk

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Secretary