



BENICIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD

Notice of Regular Meeting
November 04, 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 6:01 PM:

Present:

Diane Ferrucci
CeCe Grubbs
Mark Maselli
Gethsemane Moss
Sheri Zada

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

Minutes:

President Zada called the meeting to order at 6:01pm

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 6:02 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 7:00 p.m.

5.1. Report on Closed Session Items

Minutes:

There was nothing to report from closed session.

Quick Summary:

5.2. Announcement

Quick Summary:

This meeting is recorded for live-streaming and archiving on the District YouTube channel at youtube.com/c/beniciaunifiedschoolsdistrict for your convenience.

6. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Minutes:

The pledge of allegiance was led by Clerk Moss.

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion Passed: Approval of the Agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Diane Ferrucci and a second by Gethsemane Moss.

Yes Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs

Yes Mark Maselli
Yes Gethsemane Moss
Yes Sheri Zada

8. HIGHLIGHT: Food Services

Minutes:

Dr. Young welcomed Tania Courtney, Director of Food Service & Nutrition to provide tonight's highlight.

9. REPORTS - (NO ACTION REQUIRED)

9.1. Student Reports

Minutes:

President Zada welcomed Alice Wells up first from Liberty High School to provide tonight's board update. Next, she welcomed Marie Markus Vice President of the ASB club at Benicia High School to provide tonight's student their board update.

9.2. Superintendent Report

Minutes:

Dr. Young welcomed everyone and thanked all of his staff for the phenomenal job they are doing to keep things going in our district. "Everyone is sincerely appreciated", he stated. Lastly, he shared that we were reengaging in our partnership with the City of Benicia in the relaunching the Benicia Reads Campaign that is very exciting for us.

9.3. Board Reports

Minutes:

Trustee Ferrucci shared that she attended along with President Zada the curriculum committee meeting this week and provided a few updates from that.

10. COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Minutes:

We had the following members of the community this evening to provide general public comments with specific questions for the Board and District in regard to the District's work with EPOCH on Equity & Inclusion:

1-Robert Johnson, 40 year Benicia resident that had 3 daughters go through the district.

2-Janie Vranicar-Lewis, 44yr Benicia Resident/retired 37 yr educator at the PK-12 grade levels as well as 15yr community college in the field of early childhood

education.

3-Kashanna Harmon-Lee, resident for over 13yrs w/5 children that attend BUSD schools.

4-Shon Henderson, parent of a middle school student and a recent BHS grad.

5-Laura Cohen, parent of two children @ RSE 1st & 4th grade.

6-Robert Crowley, citizen of Benicia.

7-Andrew Miller- concerned parent about the District's work with EPOCH and CRT and shared an article that he found in his research on the matter with the Board and staff.

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. All functions of the Board meeting, including public comments, will take place in person. Members of the public may address the Board at a regular meeting on any item within the Board's jurisdiction. Speaker cards are available at the back table. Please note the item you wish to speak to and submit a card 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. 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.

11. CONSENT CALENDAR - ACTION ITEMS

Motion Passed: Approval the Consent Calendar as presented Passed with a motion by Mark Maselli and a second by CeCe Grubbs.

Yes Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs

Yes 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.

11.1. Minutes for the Meetings of: October 21, 2021

11.2. Approval of Personnel Action List

12. COMMUNICATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

12.1. The Governing Board will be provided information on BUSD's District General Obligation (GO) Bond History and New GO Bond Program Analysis.

Rationale:

As the District approaches full expenditure of its locally-approved Measure S GO Bonds for BUSD School Facilities, and there remains school facility needs from the District's Facility Master Plan, the District is providing information on the District's GO Bond History and New GO Bond Program Analysis.

Minutes:

Mr. Tim Rahill, Chief Business Official introduced this item with a brief explanation of what it entailed along with an introduction of Mr. Jon Isom, BUSDs Financial Advisor to provide the presentation on it.

Questions/Statements from the board included the following:

Trustee Ferrucci expressed concern regarding the make-up of the community and the fact that many retirees on a fixed income as well as the timing for this to be considered because of being in a pandemic. Ending by stating that she will need to feel solid on the expenditures of the remaining monies in order to consider.

Mr. Isom explained that right now it is simply the idea of beginning the exploration process and putting out the survey for interest level within the community.

Trustee Grubbs asked a clarifying question in regards of it being a contingency exploration what the cost of this is to the District. She expressed she expressed that she was in agreement with Trustee Ferrucci's concerns. She also asked Mr. Rahill what the priorities would be and cost.

Dr. Young told the board the District would follow up with a board presentation of their concerns/request.

12.2. BUSD District-paid Benefits and Increase to School Board Stipend for School Board Members

Rationale:

Currently, a school board member may participate in the district benefit plans at his/her own expense, and is provided the statutorily-allowed school board stipend of \$240/month. It is at the school board's discretion to consider providing district-paid benefits and up to an annual 5% increase to the monthly school board stipend to its school board members. Staff will provide a presentation on the details regarding board benefits and stipend for possible action at the organizational meeting on December 9, 2021.

Minutes:

President Zada asked that at the December 9 meeting we act on just the 5% stipend increase and omit the Board benefit portion that was part of this item. She explained that after reviewing the cost of Board benefits she would prefer that money going back to the district. With that, President Zada invited Sue Wing, community member and Registrar at Benicia Middle School to provide a public comment on this item.

Ms. Wing expressed her support of the school board and her appreciation for pulling the benefit portion of it as it was the right thing to do.

13. NON-CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

13.1. Consideration and Approval of Resolution: "AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF 2021 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$9,000,000 TO REFINANCE OUTSTANDING BONDS OF THE DISTRICT, AND APPROVING RELATED DOCUMENTS AND ACTIONS"

Rationale:

The District wishes to initiate proceedings for the issuance of general obligation refunding bonds to refinance certain maturities of the District's outstanding General Obligation Bonds Election of 2014, Series A. The Resolution sets forth all of the terms and conditions of the issuance of refunding bonds to achieve interest rate savings. The Resolution authorizes the Bonds to be issued as traditional, federally taxable, general obligation bonds pursuant to the authority contained in the California Government Code, which will be payable from the receipts of ad valorem property taxes levied by the County on property within the District.

Motion Passed: Review and Approval of Resolution 21.22.13: "AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF 2021 General Obligation Refunding Bonds IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$9,000,000 TO REFINANCE OUTSTANDING BONDS OF THE DISTRICT, AND APPROVING RELATED DOCUMENTS AND ACTIONS" as presented Passed with a motion by Diane Ferrucci and a second by Mark Maselli.

Yes Diane Ferrucci

Yes CeCe Grubbs

Yes Mark Maselli
Yes Gethsemane Moss
Yes Sheri Zada

13.2. Consideration and Approval of the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators that was previously on the May 6, 2021 agenda under the Consent Calendar.

Rationale:

Each year prior to June 30, public school districts must file with the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) a declaration of need for fully qualified educators. The declaration provides the District's best current estimate of the number of emergency teaching permits and limited assignment permits it may need to appropriately staff its schools as well as local efforts it will undertake to certify, assign, and develop fully qualified certificated personnel for the pending school year. The signed, Board-approved declaration must be on file with the CCTC in advance in order for any emergency permits to be issued to certificated employees on the District's behalf. Action on this item was taken at the board meeting of May 6, 2021, however it was done under the Consent Calendar and the commission brought it to our attention that it must be acted on as a "Non-Consent" Action item; therefore, we are bringing it before the board once again to have it corrected. Thank you for your consideration.

Motion Passed: Approval of the Declaration as Presented Passed with a motion by Gethsemane Moss and a second by CeCe Grubbs.

Yes Diane Ferrucci
Yes CeCe Grubbs
Yes Mark Maselli
Yes Gethsemane Moss
Yes Sheri Zada

14. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

President Zada adjourned the meeting at 8:41pm.

Quick Summary:

Next Regular Governing Board Meeting is November 18, 2021

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Clerk

Secretary