

LYNWOOD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING/REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Education Center 11321 Bullis Road, Board Room B-105, B-106, Lynwood, California 90262
December 17, 2021

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting/reorganization of the Board of Education, held on December 17, 2021, was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by the President, Mrs. Maria G. Lopez. Superintendent Crosthwaite took the roll.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Maria G. Lopez, President
Mr. Alfonso Morales, Esq., Vice President
Dr. Alma Carina Castro, Clerk
Mr. Gary Hardie, Jr., Member
Mr. Julián Del Real-Calleros, Member

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

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF THE SPECIAL MEETING/REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON DECEMBER 17, 2021

Motion to approve the December 17, 2021 agenda by Mr. Hardie; Seconded by Dr. Castro.

Item passed with 5-0 votes.

4. FLAG SALUTE led by Dr. Brian Lucas, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT/COMMUNICATIONS – None.

6. SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Superintendent Crosthwaite shared District highlights and accomplishments for 2021 under the presidency of Mrs. Lopez. Highlights include: (*Complete presentation available on District website.*)

- Re-opening Schools
- COVID Response
- Maintained Fiscal Solvency
- COVID Safety Services
- Technology and Innovation
- Community Meal Distribution
- Secured Entrances
- Community Support
- Lynwood High School Bullis
- Partnership with St. Anne's Center
- Parents and Families
- Grants
- Lynwood Champions – Lynwood High School Girls Basketball Team
- Students First

Superintendent Crosthwaite congratulated Mrs. Lopez for a very successful year.

Mrs. Lopez acknowledged the presence of the following individuals:

- Jorge Casanova, Mayor, City of Lynwood
- Jose Luis Solache, Mayor Pro-Tem, City of Lynwood
- Maricela Santana, Council Member, City of Lynwood
- Gabriel Camacho, Treasurer, City of Lynwood

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- Eric Washington, Field Representative, Assembly Member Mike Gipson
- Adrian Landa, Field Representative, Assembly Member Anthony Rendon
- Abigail Mejia, District Director/Representative, Senator Lena Gonzalez
- Zayra Hernandez, Student Board Representative, Lynwood High School

Mr. Morales acknowledged Mrs. Lopez for her service as Board President. He knows it is not an easy role to undertake. He commended Mr. Hardie for his service as president for two consecutive years. He applauded Mrs. Lopez as an individual and as a mother. Mr. Morales recognized her son, Mr. Adolph Lopez, in the audience for his accomplishments as a middle school teacher. He also recognized her daughter, Ms. Audrey Casas, high school teacher and founder of the organization, Mastering Hope, for all the great things she is doing for the community. He acknowledged that their great achievements stem from her parenting. Mrs. Lopez exhibited strong leadership during her term as Board President. As a leader, she would find opportunities to volunteer at school sites to help teachers, staff, and students. Mr. Morales commended Mrs. Lopez for her leadership and year of presidency.

Dr. Castro recognized Mrs. Lopez for her leadership during a very challenging year. She commended Mrs. Lopez for bringing the Board together during challenging times. She acknowledged Mrs. Lopez for her role in the successful transition of Lynwood High School to the Bullis campus. Dr. Castro thanked Mrs. Lopez for her guidance during her first year on the Board of Education.

Mr. Hardie acknowledged Mrs. Lopez for her leadership and service during her presidency. He shared that Mrs. Lopez often volunteered for community events and assisted wherever she was needed. Mr. Hardie commended Mrs. Lopez for her hard work during a challenging year. He appreciates the wisdom she has shared with him since he joined the Board. He also appreciates her standing up for what is best for the community. He commended Mrs. Lopez for being a champion for early childhood education and providing important resources for parents. Mr. Hardie thanked her for her leadership and partnership as well as everything she does for the community.

Mr. Del Real-Calleros thanked Mrs. Lopez for her leadership. He is grateful for her guidance as he navigated his first months on the Board. He appreciates all of the information she has shared with him regarding the role of a Board member. He commended Mrs. Lopez for her service to the community during a very challenging year.

Superintendent Crosthwaite presented a plaque of recognition and a bouquet of flowers to Mrs. Lopez for her service as Board President.

The following elected officials and field representatives presented Mrs. Lopez certificates of recognition for her service as Board President. They each took a moment to read the certificates being presented and expressed their gratitude for all of the great things the District has accomplished under her presidency. They thanked Mrs. Lopez for her leadership, dedication, and service to the Lynwood community.

- Mayor Jorge Casanova
- Eric Washington on behalf of Assembly Member Mike Gipson
- Adrian Landa on behalf of Assembly Member Anthony Rendon
- Abigail Mejia on behalf of Senator Lena Gonzalez
- Christina Lopez on behalf of Congresswoman Nanette Barragán (*Not present – Certificate read by Dr. Shawna Dinkins, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services*)

Mrs. Lopez thanked everyone for being present and expressed her gratitude for their kind words. She is honored to receive this special recognition. She is grateful for their service and commitment to the Lynwood community. She acknowledged and thanked her family and the Lynwood community.

7. ACTION ITEMS

- 7.A. Request Approval of the Tentative Agreement Reached for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Lynwood Unified School District (LUSD) and the Lynwood Teachers' Association (LTA) on December 10, 2021

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

Mr. Morales expressed his appreciation to the negotiating team for reaching an agreement with the Lynwood Teachers Association.

Mr. Del Real-Calleros is grateful that the District was able to reach an agreement. He acknowledged that the teachers deserve the one-time bonus especially since they have been working diligently throughout the pandemic.

Item passed with 5-0 votes.

7.B. Election of Officers of the Board of Education from December 2021 to December 2022

1. President

Mrs. Lopez nominated Mr. Morales for President; Seconded by Mr. Hardie.

Item passed with 5-0 votes.

2. Vice President

Dr. Castro nominated Mr. Hardie for Vice President. The nomination did not receive a second.

Mr. Hardie nominated Mr. Del Real-Calleros for Vice President; Seconded by Mr. Morales.

Item passed with 5-0 votes.

3. Clerk

Mrs. Lopez nominated Mr. Hardie for Clerk; Seconded by Mr. Morales.

Item passed with 5-0 votes.

4. Secretary to the Board

Mr. Morales motioned to approve Superintendent Crosthwaite as Secretary to the Board; Seconded by Dr. Castro.

Item passed with 5-0 votes.

The Board of Education repositioned themselves on the dais. Mr. Morales, Board President, presided the meeting hereon.

Mr. Morales thanked his colleagues for entrusting him with the upcoming year and all of the challenges we have to face as a school district. He is grateful for this role and looks forward to the next year. Mr. Morales thanked all of the District partners for being present. He looks forward to working with them to serve the Lynwood community.

7.C. Appointment of Representative to the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization for December 18, 2021 to December 31, 2022 per Education Code §§ 35023/72403

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Mr. Hardie nominated Dr. Castro as the voting representative to the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization; Seconded by Mr. Del Real-Calleros.

Item passed with 5-0 votes.

7.D. Request Approval of Certification of Signatures for 2021-22

Motion by Mr. Hardie; Seconded by Dr. Castro.

Item passed with 5-0 votes.

7.E. Request Approval of Appointment of Authorized Agent for 2021-22

Dr. Castro motioned to appoint Superintendent Crosthwaite; Seconded by Mr. Hardie.

Item passed with 5-0 votes.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hardie moved to adjourn the meeting; Seconded by Mr. Del Real-Calleros. The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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