

LYNWOOD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Education Center 11321 Bullis Road, Board Room B-105, B-106, Lynwood, California 90262
February 10, 2022

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education, held on February 10, 2022, was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by the President, Mr. Morales, to conduct a closed session. Superintendent Crosthwaite took the roll.

2. ROLL CALL

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

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

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
ON FEBRUARY 10, 2022**

Motion to approve the February 10, 2022 agenda by Mrs. Lopez; Seconded by Dr. Castro.

Item passed with 4-0 votes.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT/COMMUNICATIONS - *None*.

5. GOVERNING BOARD - Recess to Closed Session

The Board of Education recessed to Closed Session at 5:33 p.m. to consider the items listed below. Legal Counsel, Mr. Terence Gallagher, to provide a report at the end of the meeting.

5.A. Conference with Legal Counsel - Pending Litigation – Pursuant to GC § 54956.9(d)(1)

5.A.1. OAH Case No. 2021100757

5.A.2. WC Claim No. LYN060500076

5.B. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated/Potential Litigation – Pursuant to GC § 54956.9(d)(4)

5.B.1. Initiation of Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (4) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9:
One (1) Case

5.C. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation/Significant Exposure to Litigation Based on Existing Facts and Circumstances, the Legislative Body of the Local Agency has Decided to Initiate or is Deciding Whether to Initiate Litigation– Pursuant to GC § 54956.9(d)(4)

5.C.1. One (1) Matter

5.D. Public Employment/Public Employee Performance Evaluation/Public Employee Discipline
Dismissal/Release/Appointment (Pursuant to GC § 54957)

5.D.1. Acting Director, Special Education

5.D.2. Acting Assistant Principal, Adult School

5.D.3. Sixty-Five (65) Matters

5.E. Conference with Labor Negotiator Agency Designated Representatives Employee Organizations - CSEA, LTA, and SEIU

6. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION/CALL TO ORDER

The Board reconvened into open session at 6:19 p.m. Superintendent Crosthwaite took the roll.

7. ROLL CALL

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

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

8. FLAG SALUTE by Will Rogers Elementary School

Dr. David Morales, proud principal of Will Rogers Elementary School, introduced two of his scholars, Montserrat Monreal and Dahlia Ramirez, to lead the flag salute. Montserrat, a first-grade dual-immersion student, would like to attend Firebaugh High School and become a singer. Dahlia, a fifth-grade student, would like to attend Harvard and become an artist.

Posthumous Resolution in Honor of Ms. Shirley Davis

Mr. Morales moved Agenda Item No. 10.A., posthumous resolution in honor of Ms. Shirley Davis.

10.A. Request Approval of Resolution No. 21-22/37 - Posthumously Recognizing Ms. Shirley Davis' Years of Service

Motion by Mrs. Lopez; Seconded by Mr. Del Real-Calleros.

Mr. Morales expressed his sentiments regarding Ms. Davis. Mr. Morales thanked Ms. Davis' family for sharing her with the Lynwood family for so many years. Mr. Morales shared a story about Ms. Davis, where she asked for prayers for the district and the community. This act was reflective of who she was and the love she had for the Lynwood community. Ms. Davis was positive, kind-hearted, loving and always willing to help the Lynwood students. Ms. Davis will be so deeply missed.

Superintendent Crosthwaite expressed his gratitude for everything that Ms. Davis did for the community, but most importantly, for leaving a positive impact in everyone's lives. He shared a story about the first time he met Ms. Davis, and how she welcomed him to the Lynwood family with a warm hug. Superintendent Crosthwaite proceeded to instruct Dr. Brian Lucas, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, to read the resolution in honor of Ms. Davis.

Dr. Lucas read the entire resolution and thanked Ms. Davis' friends and family for their contribution in developing the resolution.

Mr. Morales shared encouraging words with Ms. Davis' daughter, Emmanuella "Emani" Pluton, and motivated her to be strong and live her life to the fullest just like her mother would have loved her to do.

Superintendent Crosthwaite presented the resolution to Ms. Pluton on behalf of the District and the Board of Education.

Ms. Pluton thanked everyone for honoring her mother. She acknowledged that her mother was a beautiful human being. Ms. Pluton hopes that all of the energy and love that Ms. Davis poured out to the Lynwood community will be equally returned.

Mr. Del Real-Calleros took a moment to recognize Ms. Davis for her service and the impact she has had on the Lynwood community. He extended his condolences to her family.

Item passed with 4-0 votes.

9. REPORTS

9.A. Student Reports

Firebaugh High School by Nathalie Olloqui.

Lynwood Community Adult School by Miguel Conejo.

Vista High School by Danna Castaneda. (*Pre-recorded Video*)

Lynwood High School by Zayra Hernandez. (*Pre-recorded Video*)

Pathway High School by Jasmine Corona. (*Pre-recorded Video*)

9.B. Superintendent's Report

9.B.1. Presentation:

Superintendent Crosthwaite announced that the District is celebrating Black History Month during the month of February. He emphasized the importance of celebrating Black History throughout the school year.

9.B.1.1 Facilities Update

Superintendent Crosthwaite provided an update regarding Resolution No. 20-21/24 related to the relocation of Lynwood High School. He stated that this should be the last board meeting with the facilities update and agenda items related to the Lynwood High School transition.

Superintendent Crosthwaite acknowledged all of the hard-working and dedicated counselors across the District. He shared that he visited all of the secondary school sites to recognize the counselors during the National School Counseling Week.

Superintendent Crosthwaite acknowledged the celebration of the 100th day of school, which was celebrated on February 9, 2022. He emphasized that the schools are safe and the District is happy to see the students back in person. Superintendent Crosthwaite thanked everyone that supported the event and activities.

9.B.1.2 Reopening Updates

Superintendent Crosthwaite was happy to announce the reopening of our schools in January, which was a challenging month for districts throughout the county. The District was able to follow health protocols, which are the strictest in the nation. Dr. Crosthwaite urged the community to continue to get vaccinated and was happy to see that transmission rates have decreased.

In regards to the confusion with masking requirements, Superintendent Crosthwaite emphasized that our District is still continuing with masks indoor and outdoor and encouraged everyone to keep getting vaccinated. He informed the community about the vaccination clinic open to everyone five and older, which occurs every Monday and Wednesday.

Budget Committee

Superintendent Crosthwaite shared that he participated in a budget committee meeting and submitted a letter advocating to increase school funding.

Lynwood Partners Educational Foundation (LPEF) Fundraiser

Superintendent Crosthwaite announced the upcoming Lynwood Partners Education Foundation fundraiser on Friday, April 8, 2022. LPEF will be hosting a Virtual Magic Show presented by The Academy of Magical Arts. He encouraged the community to visit the Foundation's website for more information.

Superintendent Crosthwaite thanked Dr. Shawna Dinkins, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, and Dr. Patricia Brent-Sanco, Director of Equity, Access, Instructional Services, for their work in obtaining a grant to support the A-G effort. Thanks to their work, the District was awarded more than \$1M dollars to support these efforts.

Superintendent Crosthwaite met with the Teacher Advisory Committee on Tuesday, February 8, 2022. The teachers provided important feedback and shared their present concerns. He thanked everyone for their support during these tough times.

Superintendent Crosthwaite called on Dr. Patrick Gittissboongul (Dr. Gittis), Assistant Superintendent of Technology and Innovation, to provide the SiFi Fiber-Optic Networks update.

9.B.1.3 SiFi Fiber-Optic Networks

Dr. Gittis shared important information regarding the SiFi Fiber-Optic Networks in relation to Resolution No. 21-22/20, to support the City of Lynwood in establishing Fiber City.

Dr. Gittis emphasized the importance of focusing on Digital Equity and access in the District with the following three areas being the main focus throughout the District:

- Internet access at every home
- Availability of devices and technical support
- Training of staff, students and parents

Dr. Gittis shared a timeline of activities the District engaged in to develop this resolution. He acknowledged Mr. Jose Luis Solache, Mayor Pro-Tem, Ms. Rita Soto, Council Member, and City of Lynwood staff for their support.

A summary of the key benefits of this resolution was provided, including:

- \$0 municipal taxpayer dollars towards construction of the network
- All permits, inspections, city staff and third-party support costs paid by SiFi Networks
- Robust, city-wide fiber network to remove digital divide

Dr. Gittis informed the community that it will take approximately four years to build, nevertheless, the District is excited to address all of the digital needs of the community and to also strengthen the relationship with the city.

Mrs. Lopez commended Dr. Gittis for his efforts to obtain the grant and for his dedication to this project. She also thanked Superintendent Crosthwaite for his great leadership and for putting the community's and students' needs first. Mrs. Lopez stated that this has been the best leadership the District has had in many years.

Mr. Morales acknowledged Dr. Gittis and District staff for working on this project and for going above and beyond to bring resources to the community. Mr. Morales shared that for years, Lynwood residents have not been able to access high speed internet due to the limited infrastructure in the city. This will be a great resource for the community.

9.C. Board Members' Reports

Mrs. Lopez wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day. Mrs. Lopez would like to see students throughout the District creating cards for their loved ones to celebrate this holiday. Mrs. Lopez honored the teachers, students, parents and staff for their hard work throughout this pandemic. Mrs. Lopez addressed the safety concerns going on around the community. She urged the parents to instruct their children to stay vigilant. Mrs. Lopez asked for more support from local law enforcement to patrol the city.

Dr. Castro thanked our educators for hosting parent conferences and thanked families for participating. Dr. Castro thanked staff for helping students with their FAFSA and college applications. She also commended staff for their contributions and events being hosted to celebrate Black History Month. Dr. Castro thanked the counselors for all they do for our children.

Dr. Castro shared that she was invited to participate in Vista High School's English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) meeting to review their school's Safety Plan. Dr. Castro thanked the Educational Services department for

working on the Comprehensive School Safety Plans and School Accountability Report Card (SARC) reports for our District. Dr. Castro also discussed recognizing the linguistic talent of the students through Biliteracy recognition.

Dr. Castro shared various projects she is working on to benefit the Lynwood community, including a possible partnership with California State University of Los Angeles for a Teacher Residency Capacity grant, Dual Language Immersion grant, and establishing an educator academy for the Lynwood classified staff wishing to pursue a teaching career. Dr. Castro thanked staff for recognizing seniors with the seal of biliteracy and announced that the District is working to include all students in K-12. Dr. Castro participated in sessions with colleagues in an additional study session to address other areas including facilities, Proposition 98, education budget, and other areas. She shared other partnerships with institutions including San Diego State University to offer professional development for classified staff interested in becoming certificated staff.

Mr. Del Real-Calleros shared that he visited two campuses, Lugo Elementary and Firebaugh High School. He was able to witness the great work of teachers and was happy to see safe learning environments. Mr. Del Real-Calleros acknowledged Black History Month and commended teachers for working on lesson plans. Black History Month should be more than a month and should extend throughout the year.

Mr. Del Real-Calleros acknowledged Ms. Davis' service and shared that the best way to honor her is to continue the hard work throughout the District. Mr. Del Real-Calleros reiterated Mrs. Lopez' concerns regarding student safety. He would like the District to seek support from law enforcement. He urged school administrators to advise their students to remain vigilant and not have valuable possessions out in the open.

Mr. Del Real-Calleros shared that he received an email from a former professor at California State University of Dominguez Hills (CSUDH), inquiring about the dual immersion program in the District. He was excited to see that the District has a strong program and continues to grow. He hopes the District will establish a partnership with CSUDH to expand the dual immersion program.

10. GOVERNING BOARD - Resolutions/Proclamations/Appointments

- 10.A Request Approval of Resolution No. 21-22/37 - Posthumously Recognizing Ms. Shirley Davis' Years of Service

The Board considered this item after the flag salute.

- 10.B. Request Approval of Resolution No. 21-22/38, to Temporarily Limit Occupancy in Board of Education Meetings

Motion by Dr. Castro; Seconded by Mr. Del Real-Calleros.

Item passed with 4-0 votes.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT/COMMUNICATIONS

Stephanie Aguon, sixth-grade teacher at Will Rogers Elementary School and the secretary of the Lynwood Teachers Association (LTA), spoke on behalf of colleagues in regards to the lack of support and multitude of assessments. She stated that many teachers have voiced their concerns via emails and messages with no response. Ms. Aguon stated that the amount of assessments has placed more stress on students and teachers during these difficult times. On behalf of the Lynwood Teachers Association, Ms. Aguon urged the District to pause benchmarks/assessments. Ms. Aguon stated that teachers do not have the additional support they need.

Mr. Morales directed Superintendent Crosthwaite to provide the Board information regarding assessments. He would like to know if the assessments are mandatory and if there is anything the District can do to adjust.

Superintendent Crosthwaite stated that the main topic of discussion at the Teacher Advisory Committee was assessments. They discussed the importance of assessments and how they assist the District in supporting the students.

Superintendent Crosthwaite provided an update regarding the ESSER Plan that was recently submitted to the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) for approval. The funds are currently on hold, pending the County's approval. These funds are necessary to provide additional support for teachers and students.

12. PUBLIC HEARING – None.

13. ACTION ITEMS

13.A. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

- 13.A.1. Minutes - Request Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education on January 13, 2022

Motion by Dr. Castro; Seconded by Mrs. Lopez.

Item passed with 4-0 votes.

13.B. FACILITIES - (Measure K and Measure N Projects)

- 13.B.1. Review of Emergency Repairs and Consideration of Need for Continued Action at District Middle School Sites in Relation to the Transition of Moving Lynwood High School to Lynwood Middle School Campus

Motion by Mrs. Lopez; Seconded by Dr. Castro.

Mrs. Lopez inquired if this would be the last time this item appears on the agenda for the Board's consideration. Superintendent Crosthwaite confirmed that it would be the last time.

Item passed with 4-0 votes.

Action Item No. 13.B.2. through 13.B.6.

Mrs. Lopez motioned to approve Action Item No. 13.B.2. through 13.B.6.; Seconded by Mr. Del Real-Calleros.

Mrs. Lopez highlighted the Will Rogers ES HVAC project. She thanked the administration for initiating this project.

Items passed with 4-0 votes.

- 13.B.2. Request Approval to Enter Into an Additional Service Agreement with Converse Consultants for Geotechnical Services at Firebaugh High School

- 13.B.3. Request Approval to Enter Into a Structural Engineering Service Agreement with Petra Structural Engineers to Assess the Condition of the Lunch Shelter at the Lynwood High School Imperial Site

- 13.B.4. Request Approval to Enter Into an Additional Service Agreement with ADM Architects to Prepare Plans for Relocating the Rooftop Electrical System in Buildings A & B in Conjunction with CM-221105, Rebid of the HVAC Replacement Project at Will Rogers Elementary School

- 13.B.5. Request Approval to Enter Into a Professional Service Agreement with Sandy Pringle Associates, Inc. for DSA Inspection Services During the Construction Phase of the CM-221105, Rebid of the HVAC Replacement Project at Will Rogers Elementary School
- 13.B.6. Request Approval to Award CM-221105, Rebid of the HVAC Replacement Project at Will Rogers Elementary School to AP Construction Group

14. CONSENT AGENDA

All items on the Consent Agenda, which are not debatable and which require a unanimous vote for passage, will be approved with one motion. Any member of the Board, the Superintendent, or the public, may request an item to be removed from this section and placed in the regular order of business following the approval of the Consent Agenda.

Mrs. Lopez motioned to approve the Consent Agenda; Seconded by Dr. Castro.

The Consent Agenda items passed with 4-0 votes.

14.A. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

- 14.A.1. Request Approval to Renew an Agreement with NextGen Math, LLC to Provide Digital Licenses for All Students in Grades K-8 for the 2021-2022 School Year
- 14.A.2. Request Approval to Enter Into an Agreement with Marlen Barbee, Psy.D, Licensed Educational Psychologist, to Provide Services to Students with Special Needs During the 2021-2022 School Year
- 14.A.3. Request Approval to Enter Into an Agreement with Dr. Karina Quezada, Bilingual Educational Psychologist, to Provide Professional Development on Dyslexia for School Psychologists, Speech and Language Pathologists, and Parents
- 14.A.4. Request Approval to Attend the Computer Using Educators National Conference in Palm Springs, CA on March 16-19, 2022
- 14.A.5. Request Approval to Amend Agenda Item Previously Approved on July 22, 2021, Agreement with Maxim Staffing Solutions to Provide Nurse Coverage for the 2021-2022 School Year
- 14.A.6. Request Approval to Enter Into an Agreement with Opportunity to Assets to Develop a Children's Savings Account Program during the 2021-22 School Year

14.B. HUMAN RESOURCES – CERTIFICATED

- 14.B.1. Request Approval of Certificated Personnel Report: Personnel Assignment, Employment, Leaves and Separation
- 14.B.2. Request Ratification of an Agreement with the Los Angeles County Office of Education for the Clear Administrative Services Credential Program
- 14.B.3. Request Approval of an Early Retirement Notification Incentive (ERNI) for Administrators and Classified Managers
- 14.B.4. Request Approval for Certificated and Classified Management, Contract Administrators, Non-Represented, Confidential, and Supervisory Employees to Receive a One-time Off-schedule Bonus for 2020-2021

- 14.B.5. Request Approval to Enter Into an Agreement with Expert Effect to Provide Stress-Resiliency Solutions for Staff and Administrators during the 2021-22 School Year

14.C. HUMAN RESOURCES – CLASSIFIED

- 14.C.1. Request Approval of Classified Personnel Report: Personnel Assignments, Employment, Leaves, and Separations
- 14.C.2. Request Approval to Revise Pay Structure for Select Classified Positions to Align with New State Minimum Wage Laws

14.D. BUSINESS SERVICES

- 14.D.1. Request Approval to Review and Ratify Purchase Orders for Period Beginning December 14, 2021 through January 18, 2022, per Education Code 17605 and 42636
- 14.D.2. Request Approval of Warrant and ACH Schedule for the Period of December 15, 2021 through January 18, 2022
- 14.D.3. Request Approval to Attend the School Services of California Special Education: Both Sides of the Equation Virtual Webinar Series on March 1, 2022 and March 3, 2022
- 14.D.4. Request Approval to Reimburse St. Anne's Family Services for 50% of Additional Construction Costs for the Facilities they are Leasing from the District at Abbott and Lugo Elementary Schools

14.E. TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

- 14.E.1. Request Approval to Attend the Aeries Virtual Conference on March 7-10, 2022
- 14.E.2. Request Approval to Attend the ASU+GSV Summit Digital Learning Conference in San Diego, CA on April 4-6, 2022

14.F. ADMINISTRATION

- 14.F.1. Request Approval of Resolution No. 21-22/20, a Resolution of the Board of Education Supporting the Lynwood City Council's Goal for Fiber City Lynwood, a Vision of Enabling All Lynwood Residents to Access and Adopt Broadband Internet Service that is Reliable and Affordable

15. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

- 5.A. Conference with Legal Counsel - Pending Litigation – Pursuant to GC § 54956.9(d)(1)
 - 5.A.1. OAH Case No. 2021100757
 - ***With 4-0 votes, Mr. Hardie not present, the Board approved settlement including attorney's fees in the amount of \$2,400.00.***
 - 5.A.2. WC Claim No. LYN060500076
 - ***With 4-0 votes, Mr. Hardie not present, the Board approved settlement.***
- 5.B. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated/Potential Litigation – Pursuant to GC § 54956.9(d)(4)
 - 5.B.1. Initiation of Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (4) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9:
 - One (1) Case
 - ***The Board received information only. No final action taken.***
- 5.C. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation/Significant Exposure to Litigation Based on Existing Facts and Circumstances, the Legislative Body of the Local Agency has Decided to Initiate or is Deciding Whether to Initiate Litigation– Pursuant to GC § 54956.9(d)(4)

5.C.1. One (1) Matter

- *The Board received information only. No final action taken.*

5.D. Public Employment/Public Employee Performance Evaluation/Public Employee Discipline
Dismissal/Release/Appointment (Pursuant to GC § 54957)

5.D.1. Acting Director, Special Education

- *With 4-0 votes, Mr. Hardie not present, the Board appointed Lavyddya Anderson as Acting Director of Special Education.*

5.D.2. Acting Assistant Principal, Adult School

- *With 4-0 votes, Mr. Hardie not present, the Board appointed Maria Torres as Acting Assistant Principal of Lynwood Adult School.*

5.D.3. Sixty-Five (65) Matters

5.E. Conference with Labor Negotiator Agency Designated Representatives Employee Organizations CSEA, LTA, and SEIU

16. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Del Real-Calleros moved to adjourn the meeting in memory of Ms. Shirley Davis, Coordinator, and Mr. Paul Hansen, retired teacher; Seconded by Mrs. Lopez. Mr. Del Real-Calleros shared that Mr. Hansen served the District for many years, even after his retirement. Mr. Del Real-Calleros served alongside Mr. Hansen as substitute teachers. Mr. Hansen provided Mr. Del-Calleros important guidance as an educator, especially regarding at-promise students. Mr. Hansen was “Lynwood born, Lynwood raised, Lynwood educated, and Lynwood strong.” The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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