



BENICIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
GOVERNING BOARD  
Notice of Regular Meeting  
April 07, 2022 6:00 PM

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

**Attendance Taken at 6:02 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 6:02pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

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

Quick Summary:

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

Minutes:

Adjourned to closed session at 6:02pm.

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

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.

#### **4.4. Conference Regarding Anticipated Litigation**

Rationale:

Government Code section 54956.9 Conference with Legal Counsel: Anticipated Litigation Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (d) (2) of Section 54956.9 number of potential cases: 1-Claim No. 220044

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

Minutes:

The meeting reconvened to open session at 7:08pm

#### **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 livestreaming and archiving on the District YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/c/beniciaunifiedschooldistrict> for your convenience.

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

Minutes:

Trustee Maselli led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Motion Passed:** Approval of the agenda with the amendment of pulling items 12.1 and 13.6 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

## **8. HIGHLIGHT: Benicia High School Western Accrediting Commission for Schools (WASC) Mid-Cycle Visit**

Minutes:

Dr. Young welcomed Principal Kleinschmidt for tonight's highlight.

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

### **9.1. Student Reports**

Minutes:

President Zada welcomed Alice Wells from Liberty High School and Sophia Banchemo, ASB Secretary from Benicia High School for tonight's Student Board reports.

### **9.2. Superintendent Report**

Minutes:

Dr. Young welcomed everyone this evening and started his superintendent's report with sharing that he and President Zada participated in the Joe Henderson Elementary 5th grade chocolate milk debate, which was great. Tomorrow he will be participating in the 7th grade debate at Benicia Middle School. He also shared that Kathleen Sauter from Liberty High School was recognized as the Rotary Teacher of the Month and congratulated her on the well-deserved honor. He ended his report by sharing that "our colleague and dear friend Dr. Gill, Assistant Superintendent of HR is at home and on the mend making a slow and steady recovery and will hopefully be joining again soon."

### **9.3. Board Reports**

Minutes:

Trustee Grubbs shared that she had two events last week that were so important. The first was lucky enough to go to the CAAASSA conference, in which the talk was around equity, basic needs in our school systems in California, and suggestions about funding i.e. that it be based on enrollment rather than attendance. She went on to share that she learned a lot about understanding mitigating circumstances in regards to behavior, extreme absenteeism and a lot on cultural differences. As a result, this conference impacted her as a person and feels very lucky to have gone. The second event was yesterday, in which she had the great pleasure of going to the BMS debate. She got to see some of her former

students (which she always loves), and it is so much fun to watch kids grow. They were researching their facts, responding and rebutting facts and opinions, citing their sources, which to her is very important that you state your fact, but where did you get it. She really had a great time at the middle school and at the conference. With that, she ended her report.

Trustee Ferrucci attended the Liberty Rotary meeting where they were talking about next steps for Rotary and about graduation. They are still talking about their need for a quality sound system for the ceremony. Some ideas were provided and she is bringing tonight to see if anyone has some ideas for finding one for them as well. She also participated in the 5th grade Joe Henderson debate today. They did a great job and they were able to cite good reasons, they had demonstrations for the levels of sugar in one vs the other and she just really thought they did a sound job and the middle school should be excited that they will have very strong debaters in two years. She will be participating in the middle school debates tomorrow. Lastly, she attended the LCapitan meeting of which Leslie will be providing a report on.

Trustee Moss also was able to attend the very inspiring CAAASA Conference with great workshops around equity. She expressed that it is good to know that we have folks throughout the state that are advocating on behalf of every single student. It was good to really discuss policy and the California Superintendent of School, Tony Thurmond was there and he spoke on the last. It was very good. In addition, she participated on a call with the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) and Senator Dodd to advocate on behalf of students to talk about what is really needed and what is impacting education primarily that educators are able to really get back to educating. They also touch on the funding formula and how districts have been impacted by attendance and funding. It was a very good call! She also went to the Benicia Reads event on Saturday. Sharing that it was a wonderful event and she was happy by how well it was attended.

President Zada shared an update on the superintendent search and where we are at with that, informing everyone that we were able to get input from all of our local stakeholders which was combined with a report that was just sent to the entire board by Leadership Associates. From that, the job description has also been created and put on the Superintendent Search website for all to be able to see. The application deadline was Monday, April 4 and we have a good pool of candidates that they are excited to be able to now begin to go through to work towards finding our next Superintendent. Their next meeting about this will be on Tuesday, April 19 at 1pm, which will be a special closed session meeting to review the applications. Next, she shared that she also attended the CAAASA conference and the various workshops that was held in Sacramento. She said it was enlightening to say the least. She was very pleased that she was able to attend and thanked the District for allowing them to be there. She also attended the Health and Career Center open house at the high school and was thrilled on how engaged all of the kids were with the variety of fields they could learn about, receive college credit and the possibility of going into a healthcare career. She

too was at the Books & Blankets event. She brought her little camel puppet and it was great to see kids their of all ages. Finally, sharing that today was her debate day at JHE 5th grade and at middle school and at BMS, it was about cell phones or not homework or not. It is always amazing to see the work that they put into coming up with these debates, so well done. With that, she ended the Board reports.

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

Minutes:

There were comments from the public.

Quick Summary:

PLEASE NOTE: BUSD has moved to in-person Board meetings, masks are strongly recommended, but not required. 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 on the entrance 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" general comments (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 with the timer displayed on the monitors. 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 of the Consent Calendar as presented with individual roll calls on each of the resolutions listed under it Passed with a motion by CeCe Grubbs and a second by Gethsemane Moss.

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: March 16, 2022, Brown Act Study Session and March 17, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes**

**11.2. Approval of Personnel Action List**

**11.3. Approval of the Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints**

Rationale:

There was one Williams Complaint for this time period. The complaint was resolved.

**11.4. Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 21-22-25 State AB 130 in Support of Expanded T-K Learning Classes**

Rationale:

State AB 130 provides expanded T-K learning classes. Approval of this resolution will confirm that BUSD plans to provide the expanded T-K classes per AB 130 and will allow BUSD to apply for state facility grant monies to support the expanded classrooms as eligible.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of Resolution 21-22-25 allowing staff to proceed with the grant applications on a separate roll call vote Passed with a motion by CeCe Grubbs and a second by Gethsemane Moss.

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

**11.5. Approval of Resolution No. 21-22-27, Declaration of Obsolete Textbooks**

**Motion Passed:** Approval of Resolution No. 21-22-27, Declaration of Obsolete Textbooks on separate roll call vote Passed with a motion by CeCe Grubbs and a second by Gethsemane Moss.

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

**12. COMMUNICATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**12.1. Initial Sunshine of the Classified School Employees Association #1096's proposal with Benicia Unified School District and Benicia Unified**

## **School District's Proposal for 2022-23 Negotiations with the Classified School Employees Association #1096**

### Rationale:

The District, per Education Code, must publicly disclose negotiation proposals prior to commencing negotiations with the Classified School Employees Association (CSEA) #1096. The current collective bargaining agreement between Benicia Unified School District (BUSD) and CSEA #1096 requires specific articles to be opened before starting negotiations. Detailed information is listed on the attached document regarding the articles to be negotiated.

### Minutes:

The Governing Board pulled this item.

## **12.2. Strategic Plan-LCAP and Budget Update**

### Rationale:

Staff will provide an update on the Strategic Plan-LCAP process and grant funding. The purpose of the presentation is to provide information on key highlights from the stakeholder engagement feedback, significant actions & services being proposed in the 2022-2023 Strategic Plan-LCAP and to show alignment regarding the grant funding for the proposed actions/services.

PRESENTATION

### Minutes:

Dr. Beatson and Mr. Rahill provided tonight's Strategic Plan-LCAP and Budget update.

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

### **13.1. Governing Board review and approval of the Resolution for the 2022 General Obligation Refunding Bond (GORB) for the Benicia Unified School District (BUSD)**

### Rationale:

The District Board previously approved a GO Refunding Bond (GORB Resolution in late 2021 in order to refund existing bonds and to provide taxpayer savings through lowering the debt service payments. That opportunity to refund the bonds has become available through a private placement refunding. Under a private placement, the District will lock in an interest rate with a specific bank who will buy new bonds to replace the existing bonds at a lower interest rate than what is currently scheduled to be paid. Current savings estimates to taxpayers are in excess of \$750,000, which is more than what was previously presented to the Board. It is recommended that the Board approve the GO Refunding Bond (GORB) Resolution to save money for the local taxpayers.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of the resolution providing for the issuance and sale

of 2022 general obligation refunding bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$8,000,000 to refund outstanding general obligation bonds and approving related documents and actions Passed with a motion by Diane Ferrucci and a second by Gethsemame Moss.

Yes Diane Ferrucci

Absent CeCe Grubbs

Yes Mark Maselli

Yes Gethsemame Moss

Yes Sheri Zada

### **13.2. Consideration and Approval of A-G Improvement Grant**

Rationale:

Dr. Leslie Beaton, Assistant Superintendent of Education Services, will present a plan for a new A-G Improvement Grant. The purpose of the grant is to increase the number of students who graduate A-G eligible, with a focus on students who are economically disadvantaged, English learners, and foster youth who graduate A-G eligible. PRESENTATION

**Motion Passed:** Approve the A-G Improvement Grant as presented Passed with a motion by Diane Ferrucci and a second by Mark Maselli.

Yes Diane Ferrucci

Absent CeCe Grubbs

Yes Mark Maselli

Yes Gethsemame Moss

Yes Sheri Zada

### **13.3. Consideration & Approval of Job Description for Director of Special Education Services and Director of Student Services Director**

Rationale:

Student Services and Special Education play vitally important roles in providing essential mental health and educational support services for all students, especially students with disabilities. Recently, the mental health and educational needs of students have intensified due to COVID and various other challenges that have presented themselves over the past two years. In order to effectively respond to these needs, staff is recommending the position of Director of Student Services, which is currently responsible for covering the needs of both departments, Special Education and Student Services, be separated into two distinct departments and positions, i.e., Director of Special Education and Director of Student Services. Separating the two positions will allow staff to more effectively provide the much needed support services with undivided focus for our students. Attached are two detailed job descriptions for the two positions, Director of Special Education and Director of Student Services. The staffing in the Student Services Department will not increase, as the current

position of Coordinator of Students Services will be included in the separation of the two departments.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of the job descriptions for Director of Student Services and Director of Special Education with the board requested amendments that they both have Master's degree requirement and that the Director of Special Education also have a Special Education credential requirement along with 5 year minimum experience 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

#### **13.4. Consideration and Approval of the 2024-25 School Year Calendar**

Rationale:

The 2024-25 School Year Calendar presented for approval was drafted by the Calendar Committee composed of representatives from the District management team, the Benicia Teachers Association, and the California School Employees Association, Chapter #1096. These calendars have been ratified by the BTA Unit Members. Staff requests Board approval of the calendars so that they may be finalized and distributed to all District employees, parents, and members of the Benicia community.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of the 2024-25 School Year Calendar as presented Passed with a motion by CeCe Grubbs and a second by Diane Ferrucci.

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

#### **13.5. Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 21-22-24, Release of Temporary Certificated Employees**

Rationale:

As the Board is aware; the District employs a number of temporary employees each year to cover teachers on leave. This year the District also hired temporary certificated employees with one time COVID-19 funding. Each year the District must release said temporary employees where there is no longer a position for them to fill and if a position is offered with the use of one time funding. The attached resolution confirms that the employees listed will be non-reemployed, or their positions are reduced, effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year,

and authorizes that the Superintendent and/or her designee give final notice of this action on behalf of the Board as required in Education Code.

**Motion Passed:** Approval of Resolution No. 21-22-24, Release of Temporary Certificated Employees as presented on a roll call vote 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

### **13.6. Consideration and Approval of Resolution No. 21-22-26, Release of Certificated Probationary Employee**

Rationale:

As you are aware the governing board shall notify the employee, on or before March 15 of the employee's second complete consecutive school year of employment by the district in a position or positions requiring certification qualifications, of the decision to reelect or not reelect the employee for the next succeeding school year to the position. The attached resolution confirms that the employees listed will be non-re-elected, effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year, and authorizes that the Superintendent and/or her designee give final notice of this action on behalf of the Board as required in Education Code.

Minutes:

The Governing Board pulled this item and no action will be taken on this item at this time.

## **14. ADJOURNMENT**

Minutes:

Wishing everyone a wonderful Spring Break, President Zada adjourned the meeting at 8:51pm.

Quick Summary:

Our next Regular School Board meeting will take place on May 5, 2022

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Clerk

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Secretary