

**TULARE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES**

The Tulare County Board of Education met on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. for a regular board meeting in the Redwood CDEF meeting room at the Jim Vidak Education Center, 6200 S. Mooney Boulevard, Visalia, California.

PRESENT
Board Members Tom Link, President
 Joe Enea, Vice President
 Judy Coble
 Debby Holguin
 Celia Maldonado-Arroyo
 Chris Reed
 Tony Rodriguez
 Tim A. Hire, Ex-Officio Secretary

PRESENT
Staff Members Julie Berk, Assistant Superintendent, Student Support Services
 Marlene Moreno, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
 Dr. Fernie Marroquin, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
 Rob Herman, Communications Director
 Nayirah Dosu, Communications Specialist
 Jeff Ramsay, Director, General Services
 Isaac Celedon, System Support Specialist, Information Systems
 Jordan Davis, System Support Specialist, Information Systems
 Aaron Ananian, Helpdesk Support Specialist, Information Systems
 Freddy Reyes, Helpdesk Support Specialist, Information Systems
 Sam Tate, Administrator, Educational Resource Services
 Kate Stover, VAPA Staff Development & Curriculum Specialist, ERS
 Karon Valdivieso, Principal, Court School
 Jose Bedolla, Principal, La Sierra
 John Davis, Administrator, Leadership Support Services
 Jody Arriaga, Director, Internal Business Services

GUESTS Guests as listed in the register including Steve Tsuboi, Hugo Luna, and Joshua Whiteside.

CALL TO ORDER Board President Tom Link welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
Pledge of Allegiance/ Celia Maldonado-Arroyo led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Welcome

ADA Mr. Link announced that ADA accommodations had been met.
ACCOMMODATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Link welcomed Tony Rodriguez to the Board.

Celia Maldonado-Arroyo asked for an update regarding the individual who spoke during January's public comment. Mr. Hire explained that the matter involved a personnel issue and he responded to the individual.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Maldonado-Arroyo, seconded by Coble to approve the consent calendar to include minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of December 12, 2022, Countywide Registration of Credentials, Temporary County Certificates, and Emergency Permits. Motion unanimously carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

PRESENTATION OF
SUNNYSIDE UNION
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Tom Link called on Steve Tsuboi for the presentation about Sunnyside Union School District. Sunnyside was established in 1908 and unionized in 1937 with three other schools. Their trustee area covers a large geographic area. They have a full five-member board. Mr. Tsuboi noted that President Richard Millhouse Nixon attended Sunnyside for a short-time.

Currently, Sunnyside has 320 students, which include 121 EL students and 24 state preschool students. They have 18 full time teachers and one part-time teacher. Sunnyside has worked to create a student-centered learning environment. Teachers nominate and select students for Learner of the Year in each grade level.

In order to combat low reading scores, Sunnyside has identified student needs to put them in groups with their own ability level. The staff have meetings to move kids to another group as their reading improves. Additionally, Sunnyside has created an instruction cabinet to be self-sufficient. Their teachers provide most of the professional development for their staff.

Mr. Tsuboi shared photos of student electives, athletics and annual events. He highlighted their annual flower show, talent show, eighth-grade college trip, grandparents' day and summer engagement series.

The Sunnyside staff came together during COVID for their students and community. As a small school district, they rely on and appreciate the support provided by TCOE staff. They have experienced declining enrollment and an aging community but they have a lot of inter-district agreements because past students bring their children back to Sunnyside.

The Board and Mr. Hire thanked Mr. Tsuboi for his presentation.

PRESENTATION OF
THE QUAIL PROJECT

Samantha Tate introduced Kate Stover to present the QUAIL project. The QUAIL project is focused on providing equitable access for all K-12 students to high quality arts learning as part of their education. This U.S. Department of Education grant began in October of 2021 and provides \$1.7 million over five years for arts education. The goals of the grant are to provide professional learning, enhance community partnerships and dissemination of resources. Additionally, the grant supports art therapy and SEL. Last year, the grant supported 16 districts which included 130 educators through three targeted training sessions for counselors, SEL teachers, and single subject art teachers.

A special event is planned for March at the Porterville Historical Museum to display student art. There will be a gala opening with student musicians. Ms. Stover is excited for the opportunity to have parents see their children's art displayed in their local community. Chris Reed shared that Dr. Stover at Porterville Museum is very excited about the partnership.

Ms. Stover shared that AB185, the Arts Block Grant, passed last year which will provide \$62.5 million to Tulare County and Prop 28 passed in November with over \$18.3 million to Tulare County.

Mr. Link thanked Samantha and Kate for their report.

PRESENTATION OF
2022-2023 LOCAL
CONTROL AND
ACCOUNTABILITY
PLAN (LCAP) FOR
TCOE
COURT/COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS

Karon Valdivieso presented the budget overview for the 2022-23 school year for Court/Community Schools. Ms. Valdivieso noted that their budget has increased. This item was an informational only.

2021-2022 SCHOOL
ACCOUNTABILITY
REPORT CARD
(SARC) FOR SPECIAL
EDUCATION

John Davis reported that all schools are required to publish a School Accountability Report Card (SARC) by February 1. The SARC contains information for the public regarding the condition and performance of the school. The data reported in the LCAP is required to be consistent with the data in the SARC. Because data has been delayed from the state, the SARC appears to be incomplete. CDE suggested approving the SARC with all of the available data in order to meet the February 1 legal requirement. The approved SARC will be posted on the TCOE website for the public and updated once the rest of the data is released. John asked for the Board's approval on the Special Education SARC. The board expressed concern about approving the SARC with incomplete data. After discussion, it was moved by Reed, seconded by Enea to approve the Special Education SARC. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

2021-2022 SCHOOL
ACCOUNTABILITY
REPORT CARD
(SARC) FOR TCOE
COURT SCHOOLS

Mr. Davis requested the Board's approval on the Court Schools SARC. It was moved by Rodriguez, seconded by Maldonado-Arroyo to approve the Court Schools SARC. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

2021-2022 SCHOOL
ACCOUNTABILITY
REPORT CARD
(SARC) FOR
COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS

John Davis asked the Board's approval on the Community Schools SARC. It was moved by Enea, seconded by Holguin to approve the Community Schools SARC. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

2021-2022 SCHOOL
ACCOUNTABILITY
REPORT CARD
(SARC) FOR LA
SIERRA MILITARY
ACADEMY

Mr. Davis asked for the Board to approve on the La Sierra Military Academy SARC. It was moved by Maldonado-Arroyo, seconded by Coble to approve the La Sierra Military Academy SARC. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

2021-2022 SCHOOL
ACCOUNTABILITY
REPORT CARD
(SARC) FOR UPHS

Mr. Davis requested approval from the Board on the University Preparatory High School SARC. It was moved by Holguin, seconded by Enea to approve the UPHS SARC. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

Mr. Link thanked John Davis for his report. In response to the Boards concern about approving the SERC prior to data being released, Mr. Hire offered to draft letters on the Board's behalf to the state legislature, CSBA and CCBE.

2021-2022 ANNUAL
AUDIT

Jody Arriaga introduced Hugo Luna from Christy White & Associates. Mr. Luna reported that an unmodified opinion was issued, which is the best opinion that can be given by an auditor. Mr. Luna thanked Jody, Dr. Marroquin and their team for gathering all of the documents needed for the audit. Everything was in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. There were no findings. It was moved by Rodriguez, seconded by Enea to approve the 2021-2022 Audit for TCOE. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

Tom Link thanked Mr. Luna for his report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Hire wished the Board a happy new year. He welcomed Tony and thanked him for joining the Board. Mr. Hire reported Mock Trial and Academic Decathlon will be this month. Poetry Out Loud and National History Day will early in February. One goal of Tulare County superintendents is that all students participate in an extra-curricular or co-curricular activity sponsored by our office or their district. Student Future Ready Events staff have created pins that will be given to students each time they participate in an event. Our office will be closed on Monday, for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Mr. Hire reminded the Board that the District Leadership Institute will be next week.

Mr. Hire reported the governor announced the budget yesterday. He explained there are some challenges with the budget. For example, the Arts Block Grant will receive a cut for this year, but the Prop 28 funds can be used to make up that difference. The COLA is 8.13%, which will be fully funded for LCFF and the categorical programs. Mr. Hire noted that education was spared in this budget, but that is not the case for the other programs in the state. Many other agencies will not see the same COLA increases. He suggested that we should share the message that this is a good budget for education. It was noted that this budget could change in the May revise.

NEXT SCHEDULED
MEETING

February 8, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. Redwood Rooms CDEF

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.