

TULARE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES

The Tulare County Board of Education met on Wednesday, May 10, 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

Rob Herman, Communications Director
Marlene Moreno, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
Jeff Ramsay, Director, General Services
Dedi Somavia, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Dr. Fernie Marroquin, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Tammy McKean, Assistant Superintendent, Special Services
Kevin Jessee, SELPA Compliance Officer, Special Services
Sarah Hamilton, Administrator II, Special Services
Lisa Lemus, Administrator, LSS
Eric Thiessen, Principal, UPHS
Jose Bedolla, Principal, La Sierra Military Academy
Julie Berk, Assistant Superintendent, Student Support Services
Jody Arriaga, Director, Internal Business
John Davis, Administrator, LSS
John Alvarez, Administrator, LSS
Anthony Paz, Helpdesk Support Specialist
Freddy Reyes, Helpdesk Support Specialist
Bill Davis, Administrator, College and Career
Susan Wendt, CBI Teacher, Special Services

GUESTS

Guests as listed in the register including Lucy Van Scyoc and Josh Whiteside.

CALL TO ORDER

Tom Link welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Debby Holguin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADA
ACCOMMODATIONS

Tom Link reported that ADA accommodations had been met.

PUBLIC COMMENT	Members of the public did not address any matter of jurisdiction.
CONSENT CALENDAR	It was moved by Enea, seconded by Coble to approve the consent calendar: minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of April 12, 2023, and the Special Board Meeting of April 12, 2023, Countywide Registration of Credentials, Temporary County Certificates, and Emergency Permits and donations from Kiwanis Club and Rick’s Vending & Distributing. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Coble, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.
STUDENT RECOGNITION – THOMAS ROSA	Bill Davis brought attention to Thomas Rosa, a senior at El Diamante High School. He was elected as the California State FFA Sentinel. He will be representing 95,000 FFA students for the state of California. He will be majoring in Ag Business. The Board and Mr. Hire congratulated Thomas. Mr. Rosa was presented a certificate of honor.
PRESENTATION OF TULARE JT. UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT	<p>Superintendent Lucy Van Scyoc spoke to the Board about Tulare Joint Union High School District. This district consists of eight high schools with 5,745 students. The district’s priorities, LCAP, Career Pathways, and Support Systems goals were highlighted. Last year’s graduation rate for TJUHSD was 97.1% and a dropout rate of 2%. Lucy also reported that this year’s attendance rate is 94.8%. They are looking forward to a wood/auto shop and aquatics complex at Mission Oak in the near future.</p> <p>The Board and Superintendent Hire thanked Mrs. Van Scyoc for her great presentation.</p>
IDEA611 LOCAL ASSISTANCE ENTITLEMENTS GRANT 2022-2023	Tammy Bradford asked the Board to approve the 2022-2023 IDEA611 Local Assistance Entitlements Grant for \$19,593,172. It was moved by Maldonado-Arroyo, seconded by Holguin to approve the 2022-2023 IDEA611 Local Assistance Entitlements Grant. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Coble, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.
CERTIFY ATTENDEES FOR 2022-2023 FOR SUPERVISOR OF ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATION TRAINING PROGRAM	Lisa Lemus requested the Board approve the list of certified attendees for completion of the 2022-2023 Supervisor of Attendance Certification Training Program. Listed for approval were: Blake White, Troy Hayes, Monique Caraveo, Perla Soria, Maria Arroyo, Jesse Sanchez, Irma Padilla, Ken Stovall, Alejandra Ceja, Beatriz Sanchez, Chris Sanchez, Christopher, Juarez, Deanna Cruz, Emily Koop, Enedina Gasca, Jeff Wimp, Laura Barba, Laura Byrd, Lydia Ortiz, Mercedes Rosales, Norma Guerra, Ofelia Armendariz, Reina Rice, Samantha Iniguez, Erika Lopez, M. Cecelia Espinoza, Michelle Etchegoinberry, Sherry Martin, Julia Reese, Corinna Perez, Marilu Martinez, Dolores Gonzalez, David Frankiewicz, Ricardo Stevens, Dr. Emily Valdez-Rodriguez, Kelley Mehrten, Gloria Burris, Stacey Bettencourt, Cynthia Mora, Jodi Mixer, Joseph Andrade, Johanna Ayon, Brenda Diaz, Edwin Castillon, Gabriela Flores, Jesus Medina Jr., John Tapia, Raquel Herrera, Sandra Polk, Sonia Muniz, Rudy

Cardona, and Steve Scott. It was moved by Reed, seconded by Holguin to approve the 2022-2023 Supervisor of Attendance Certification Training Program list. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Coble, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

AMENDMENT –
CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH
CONTRACT 23-10303

Tim Hire presented the amendment for the California Department of Public Health Contract, 23-10303. The amount of this contract will be \$2,200,000 to continue the no gambling campaign work for five more years. It was moved by Enea, seconded by Rodriguez to approve the amendment for the California Department of Public Health Contract, 23-10303. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Coble, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

WILLIAMS/
VALENZUELA
UNIFORM
COMPLAINT REPORT,
1ST QUARTER

Dedi Somavia presented the Williams/Valenzuela Uniform Complaint Report for the 1st Quarter of 2023 to the Board. There was one finding from Dinuba Unified School District, indicating that a restroom was closed and should have been open for use. Another complaint received was that the Bob Mathias Stadium did not have ramps for wheelchair bound people. There is a ramp located on the home side for wheelchairs.

This item is informational only.

PUBLIC HEARING,
LCAP FOR TCOE
COURT/
COMMUNITY,
SPECIAL EDUCATION
FOR 2023-2024

Mr. Link opened a public hearing at 3:37 p.m. for the LCAP for TCOE Court/Community and Special Education. John Alvarez explained to the Board that a public hearing is needed to let folks provide information about our schools. Kevin Jessee said that there are areas where we can improve (i.e., attendance). The graduation rate and parent involvement has increased. The public hearing was closed at 3:42 p.m. All LCAPs will be brought to the Board next month for approval.

PUBLIC HEARING OF
LCAP FOR
UNIVERSITY
PREPARATORY HIGH
SCHOOL (UPHS) FOR
2023-2024

Tom Link opened a public hearing at 3:43 p.m. for the LCAP report for 2023-2024 for UPHS. Eric Thiessen advised there are a good number of students taking COS classes and are on honor roll. Their attendance was down last semester but currently is at 98%. Mr. Enea asked if attendance was affected because COS attendance was down. Mr. Thiessen didn't think that was why. He said parents weren't sure whether to send the students to school or not because the students were sick. The public hearing was closed at 3:47 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING OF
LCAP FOR LA SIERRA
MILITARY ACADEMY
for 2023-2024

President Link opened a public hearing at 3:47 p.m. for the LCAP report for La Sierra Military Academy. Jose Bedolla advised that they applied and received a \$200,000 grant for LSMA. Attendance is at 92% this year. At LSMA, Algebra II is offered. They are hoping to offer Trigonometry math level next year. No other public comment was received. The public hearing was closed at 3:50 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF
THE 2023-2024
PROPOSED BUDGET
FOR TULARE
COUNTY OFFICE OF
EDUCATION

Jody Arriaga presented the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget for TCOE. She thanked the Board for all their support during the past year. Jody advised the Board that what she would be presenting today would be changing due to the May Revise at the end of May.

Jody gave a review of the budget assumptions which were shown to have CSSF revenues of an estimated beginning fund balance of \$72,803,560.64 and restricted expenditures of \$217,061,493. The result will be an estimated ending fund balance of \$74,338,071.64. The Early Childhood Education Revenues of \$78,684,340 and expenditures of \$79,164,533 were shown with an ending fund balance of \$2,177,137.15. Other funds include La Sierra Charter School, University Preparatory High School, SCICON, Facilities and LEVIS Trust. Jody advised that our budget is well within the range accepted by the state.

Mrs. Arriaga thanked Mr. Hire for the past year for his outstanding leadership and support that he has given to her and her department. President Link and Superintendent Hire thanked Jody and her staff for a great detailed report. This was an informational item only.

PUBLIC HEARING
FOR THE 2022-2023
PROPOSED TULARE
COUNTY OFFICE OF
EDUCATION BUDGET

Tom Link opened the public hearing at 4:08 p.m. Dr. Fernie Marroquin thanked Jody and her staff for preparing all the information for the presentation. No public comments were received. Mr. Link closed the public hearing at 4:08 p.m.

ADOPTION OF
RESOLUTION NO.
22/23-24 SCHOOL
FACILITY PROGRAM
BOND AUTHORITY IS
CURRENTLY
EXHAUSTED

Jeff Ramsay advised the Board that we are building a special services classroom. Today is the first step in obtaining funding for this project. The state bond has been exhausted which means we will have to wait even longer for funding. However, now this project will be placed on the "Applications Received Beyond Bond Authority List." Mr. Ramsay asked the Board for approval of Resolution No. 22/23-24. It was moved by Rodriguez, seconded by Maldonado-Arroyo to adopt Resolution No. 22/23-24. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Coble, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

ADOPTION OF
RESOLUTION NO.
22/23-25 BRIDGE
FINANCING FOR
DINUBA HIGH
SCHOOL MODULAR
CLASSROOM

Jeff Ramsay asked for the Board to approve and adopt Resolution No. 22/23-25 to obtain Bridge Financing for a modular classroom at Dinuba High School that would enable Special Services funds to pay for this project upfront. From experience, Mr. Ramsay said we usually get the funding, or we will pay for the project ourselves, then the state will reimburse us. We are taking this out of the Special Services general fund for now. The estimated cost will be about one million dollars. It was moved by Reed, seconded by Enea to approve the adoption of Resolution No. 22/23-25. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Coble, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Hire mentioned the list of graduations in the Board's folder. Tom pointed out the overlap of UPHS and LSMA graduations being on the same date. Tim thanked the board members who were able to attend the 30th annual Support Staff Conference with keynote speaker Thomas Murray. The 2023 Excellence in Education winners were announced last month: Tammy Bradford for the Administrator/Manager of the Year, Jennifer Powers for Teacher of the Year, and Sonya Lopez for the School Employee of the Year.

Tim reported that he worked as a business service tech in our business office, worked in a kitchen out in Dinuba and instructional aide in one of our Special Ed classes. He did these jobs for employees whose tickets were drawn as raffle winners from our 2022 Convocation. The Redwood Center Café will be closed for the summer.

At the June board meeting, we will be celebrating retirees.

Mr. Hire was at a conference this past Saturday at SCICON. He was happy to report that the water level has receded considerably. We have yet to see any snow melt effects. The small walking bridges that were destroyed by the water, most have been repaired. The damaged trails have not been worked on. Jeff Ramsay and M&O staff have been so helpful cleaning up the SCICON campus. Tim didn't think that the snow melt would cause the amount of damage the storm made in March.

NEXT SCHEDULED
MEETING

June 14, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.