

## **TULARE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

04/09/2025 [10:00 AM]

---

### **REGULAR MEETING**

For the Regular Board Meeting of April 9, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., in the Blue Oak Classroom at SCICON (Clemmie Gill School of Science and Conservation), 41569 Bear Creek Rd., Springville, California.

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Welcome

##### **Minutes**

President Chris Reed welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Ms. Reed led the Pledge of Allegiance. President Reed asked that the record show that all board members are present.

#### **2. Board Members and Staff**

##### **Minutes**

Board members present: President Chris Reed, Vice President Tony Rodriguez, Judy Coble, Tom Link, Ruben, Macareno, Celia Maldonado-Arroyo, Mike Waters, and Ex-Officio Secretary Tim A. Hire. Staff members present: Gabriela Amanza Porter, Jennifer Fisher, Dr. Fernie Marroquin, and Dianne Shew. Guest present: Eleanor Welke.

#### **3. ADA ACCOMMODATION REQUIREMENT**

Persons who are in need of a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the board meeting must make a request in writing to the Office of the County Superintendent of Schools, 6200 South Mooney Boulevard, Visalia, California, P.O. Box 5091, 559/733-6301. A request for accommodation should specify the nature of the modification or accommodation requested, including any necessary auxiliary aids or services required and the name and telephone number of the person making the request. The written request should be made as soon as possible and no later than 2 days before the meeting. The agenda, agenda packet and any written documents distributed to the board during a public meeting will be made available in appropriate alternative formats upon request by a person with a disability as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Written documents concerning agenda items are available for public inspection during normal business hours within 72 hours of a regular board meeting at the Tulare County Office of Education, 6200 South Mooney Boulevard, Visalia, California.

## 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public may address the board on any agenda item, or other item of interest within the subject matter jurisdiction of the board during the public comment period. Agenda items may also be addressed by the public at the time they are taken up by the board. The board is not able to discuss or take action on any item not appearing on the agenda. A five-minute time limit can be imposed on public input for individuals/issues as deemed necessary.

## 5. ACTION ITEMS

### a. Routine Matters

#### 1. Consent Calendar

##### *Vote Results*

---

**Yea:** 7 Judy Coble, Tom Link, Ruben Macareno, Celia Maldonado-Arroyo, Chris Reed, Tony Rodriguez, Mike Waters  
**Nay:** 0  
**Abstain:** 0  
**Not Cast:** 0

**Motion:** Judy Coble    **Second:** Tony Rodriguez

#### a. Approval of Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of March 12, 2025

#### b. Authorization of Countywide Registration of Credentials

#### c. Authorization of Temporary County Certificates

#### d. Authorization of Countywide Emergency Permit Applications

### b. New Business

#### 1. First Reading, Board Policy 5132 - Dress and Grooming - Dr. Fernie Marroquin

##### **Minutes**

Dr. Fernie Marroquin presented the first reading of the Board Policy 5132 - Dress and Grooming. This is a broad policy that has been updated. It pertains to students at La Sierra and UPHS. Action will be taken on this agenda item at the May 14 board meeting.

#### 2. First Reading, Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment - Dr. Fernie Marroquin

##### **Minutes**

Dr. Fernie Marroquin presented the first reading of the Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment. This policy has been updated to Title IX regulations. Action will be taken on this agenda item at the May 14 board meeting.

### 3. Consideration and Approval, Resolution 24/25-30 Cal OES Designation of Applicant's Agent Resolution for Non-State Agencies - Dr. Fernie Marroquin

#### Minutes

Dr. Fernie Marroquin requested approval of Resolution 24/25-30 Cal OES Designation of Applicant's Agent Resolution for Non-State Agencies. The resolution designates Superintendent Hire as the agent with CalOES for funding to repair damage caused by flooding.

#### Vote Results

---

**Yea:** 7 Judy Coble, Tom Link, Ruben Macareno, Celia Maldonado-Arroyo, Chris Reed, Tony Rodriguez, Mike Waters

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**Not Cast:** 0

**Motion:** Celia Maldonado-Arroyo **Second:** Tom Link

### 4. Consideration and Approval, Tulare County Office of Education 2025-2026 Budget - Set Public Hearing Date, Time, and Location - Dr. Fernie Marroquin

#### Minutes

Dr. Fernie Marroquin requested the Board's approval of a public hearing date, time, and location for the 2025-2026 TCOE Budget. Date to be set for May 14, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. at the May board meeting at 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia.

#### Vote Results

---

**Yea:** 7 Judy Coble, Tom Link, Ruben Macareno, Celia Maldonado-Arroyo, Chris Reed, Tony Rodriguez, Mike Waters

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**Not Cast:** 0

**Motion:** Tony Rodriguez **Second:** Judy Coble

### 5. Consideration and Approval, Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) -Set Public Hearing Date, Time, and Location - Dr. Fernie Marroquin

#### Minutes

Dr. Fernie Marroquin requested the Board's approval of a public hearing date, time, and location for the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP). Date to be set for May 14, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. at the May board meeting at 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia.

#### Vote Results

---

**Yea:** 7 Judy Coble, Tom Link, Ruben Macareno, Celia Maldonado-Arroyo, Chris Reed, Tony Rodriguez, Mike Waters

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**Not Cast:** 0

**Motion:** Ruben Macareno **Second:** Tony Rodriguez

## 6. Information (Non-Discussion Items)

- a. Letters and Communication/Correspondence
- b. Reports from Superintendent and Staff
  - 1. SCICON Report - Dianne Shew

### c. Reports from Board, Information, and Questions

#### Minutes

Mr. Hire called on Dianne Shew to give a report about SCICON. Ms. Shew thanked the Board for attending today's meeting. She introduced Gabbi Porter and welcomed the new Board members. Ms. Shew shared that there are 16 schools in the California Outdoor School Association (COSA) and SCICON is the flagship. Friends of SCICON is a non-profit that helps support SCICON. She expects 2,500 people to attend the SCICON Barbeque again this year. She also shared comments from evaluations and stories from students, teachers, and counselors. Ms. Shew then asked Ms. Porter to show a video titled, *The Week That Lasts a Lifetime*, which showed students experiencing SCICON.

Dianne thanked Mr. Hire and the Board for their support. The Board thanked Ms. Shew for her presentation and the work being done at SCICON.

Mr. Hire noted Board members' folders contained the Tulare County Farm Bureau Student Art Calendar, Support Staff Conference flyer, annual CAC Awards Ceremony invitation, and Your Character Matters Awards Reception invitation. He reported that Excellence in Education winners had been announced. Andrew Woodley, director of curriculum and instruction at Porterville Unified School District is the Administrator/Manager of the Year. Heather Silva, an eighth-grade teacher at Alpine Vista Middle School with Tulare City School District is the Teacher of the Year. Joanna Woodyatt, a behavioral technician at Rocky Hill Elementary School with Exeter Unified School District is the School Employee of the Year. Over 2,000 students participated over two weeks in Poetry and Prose. The Math Super Bowl hosted 650 seventh- and eighth-grade students from 43 schools at the Visalia Convention Center on March 27. There were 800 high school students representing 23 Kings and Tulare county schools competed in 25 categories at the Tulare-Kings College and Career Expo. Mr. Hire thanked the Board for attending the Foundation Donor Appreciation Dinner. The Visalia and Porterville Area Special Olympics hosted students and adults with special needs.

Superintendent Hire also shared upcoming events. The North County Special Olympics will be April 11 at Dinuba High School. The SCICON Barbeque and Wildflower Festival will be April 13. The Step Up Youth Challenge Red Carpet Awards Ceremony will be April 24 in the Administration building. The Tulare Special Olympics will be held on April 25 at Bob Mathias Stadium in Tulare. Science Olympiad Division A will be April 26 at Ridgeview Middle School in Visalia. Elementary School Reading Revolution will be April 29 in the Administration building. Make a Difference - TEACH Conference in partnership with Fresno State will be May 2. The CHOICES Lip Sync Battle is scheduled for May 2 at the Fox Theatre. Middle School Reading Revolution is May 9 in the Administration building. The Slick Rock Student Film Festival will be May 9 at the Fox Theatre.

Mr. Hire reported that he had returned from the California County Superintendents General Membership meeting in Redding. One of the speakers was their federal lobbyist who shared insight into the changes at the Department of Education. Changes are being made to eliminate wasteful spending and ways to make the government more efficient. The other big area of concern is funding. Because IDEA is a statute, there is no way to eliminate those funds for special education. There are other areas of funding that are protected. Mr. Hire gave the Board an update on the funding for the residency programs through the Center and reported that layoff notices for the Center staff were rescinded. Additionally, the California Friday Night Live Partnership's contractual agreement with the Department of Healthcare Services was signed and their layoff notices were rescinded.

Superintendent Hire reported that five regional Centers for the Head Start program were closed, including the one in San Francisco, which may affect the level of support that our Early Childhood Education program receives. Dr. Alex Elliott, administrator for this program, has done an excellent job of keeping families at our centers informed

about that immigration is not coming to our centers. Mr. Hire reiterated that in all of his years in education he has never seen immigration come to a school site.

The Board thanked Mr. Hire for his report and his leadership.

## **7. Next Scheduled Board Meeting**

May 14, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

## **8. Adjournment**

### **Minutes**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.