TULARE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES

The Tulare County Board of Education met on Wednesday, March 8, 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
Freddy Reyes, Helpdesk Support Specialist, IS
Julie Berk, Assistant Superintendent, Student Support Services
Lynne Goodwin, Administrator, CFNLP
Andrea Perez, Assistant Superintendent, District Support Services
Jody Arriaga, Director, Internal Business
Bill Davis, Administrator, College and Career
Gabriela Guzman, Administrator, Leadership Support Services
Tammy Bradford, Assistant Superintendent, Special Services
Sara Marvin, Credentials/Retirement Analyst
Joe Martinez, Director, Special Services

GUESTS
There were no guests listed in the guest register.

CALL TO ORDER
Pledge of Allegiance/
Welcome
Tom Link welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Chris Reed 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 Rodriguez to approve the consent calendar includes: minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of February 8, 2023, Countywide Registration of Credentials, Temporary County Certificates, and Emergency Permits and listed donation. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.
SECOND READING, BOARD POLICY 6146.4 – DIFFERENTIAL GRADUATION AND COMPETENCY STANDARDS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Tammy Bradford asked for the Board’s approval on Board Policy 6146.4 – Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities. It was moved by Maldonado-Arroyo, seconded by Holguin to approve Board Policy 6146.4 – Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

SECOND READING, BOARD POLICY AND ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION 6146.1 – SELECTION AND EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Julie Berk requested the Board’s approval on Board Policy and Regulation 6161.1 – Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials. It was moved by Reed, seconded by Coble to approve Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6161.1 – Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

SECOND READING, BOARD POLICY 6146.1 – HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Julie Berk sought the Board’s approval on Board Policy 6146.1 – High School Graduation Requirements. It was moved by Enea, seconded by Maldonado-Arroyo to approve Board Policy 6146.1. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

SECOND READING, BOARD POLICY AND ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION 6143 – COURSES OF STUDY

Julie Berk asked the Board to approve Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6143 Courses of Study. It was moved by Rodriguez, seconded by Holguin to approve Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6143. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

PERS GOLDEN HANDSHAKE FOR EARLIMART SCHOOL DISTRICT (Window Period April 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023)

Sara Marvin asked the Board to approve the window period of April 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023 for a PERS Golden Handshake for Earlimart School District. It was moved by Maldonado-Arroyo, seconded by Coble to approve the Golden Handshake window period of April 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023, for Earlimart School District. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

IDEA 619 FEDERAL PRESCHOOL GRANT 2022-2023 ($1,213,521)

Joe Martinez asked for the Board to approve IDEA 619 Federal Preschool Grant 2022-2023 for $1,213,521. It was moved by Maldonado-Arroyo, seconded by Reed to approve the IDEA 619 Federal Preschool Grant. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.
Joe Martinez asked for the Board’s approval on the Preschool Staff Development Grant for $3,522. It was moved by Enea, seconded by Holguin to approve the Preschool Staff Development Grant. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

Tammy Bradford requested the Board’s approval and adoption of the Tulare County/District SELPA Transportation Plan. It was moved by Maldonado-Arroyo, seconded by Enea to adopt the Tulare County SELPA Transportation Plan. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

Lynne Goodwin presented Resolution No. 22/23-15 to proclaim April 2023 as Friday Night Live Month. It was moved by Enea, seconded by Coble to adopt Resolution No. 22/23-15. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

Gabriela Guzman presented the first reading of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6171 – Title I Programs. This is a mandated policy for school districts and county offices of education that receive Title I funds to ensure comparability of services. This existing policy is being updated and revised according to legal requirements, which will include the AR 6171. This was only an informational agenda item.

Jody Arriaga presented to the Board the actual expenditures for budget revisions through January 31, 2023. The County School Service Fund showed an increase of more than $2,305,794 in LCFF. There was a combined increase in the Federal Revenue for CFNL ($450,000); School Based Mental Health for ($1,495,829) and Comprehensive School Improvement ($330,181). State revenues reported a net decrease for the following: After School Education and Safety ($201,543), ProYouth/HEART ($313,123), and Teacher Residency Grant ($250,000). There were also increases in Local Revenue in the following programs: LCFF SPED County Operated ADA, Mental Health Medi-Cal, and CFNL CalHOPE. This showed an estimated ending fund balance for CSSF of $71,725,573. The Child Development Fund showed an estimated ending fund balance of $2,482,650.

It was moved by Reed, seconded by Rodriguez to approve the Budget Revisions through January 31, 2023. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.
Jody Arriaga explained to the Board that county superintendents are required to certify twice a year regarding their ability to meet their financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year and for the subsequent two fiscal years with adequate reserves. She went on to discuss the Criteria and Standards Review Summary providing an explanation on areas that did not meet the criteria and standards. Mrs. Arriaga reported a positive cash flow for the next two years and the ability to meet fiscal obligations. It was moved by Enea, seconded by Maldonado-Arroyo to approve the Second Interim Report as of January 31, 2023. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

Tim Hire requested the Board’s approval to adopt Resolution No. 22/23-18 to support fiscal resources for the provision of public education and college and career transition for youth enrolled in juvenile court and community schools by establishing a formula that supports academic, college and career readiness, and social-emotional services. It was moved by Enea, seconded by Maldonado-Arroyo to adopt Resolution No. 22/23-18. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

Jeff Ramsay sought the Board to adopt Resolution No. 22/23-16 which would authorize TCOE to submit a loan application for energy efficiency ($5 million) for TCOE, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, CA. Jeff said they will install solar panels in back of the building and in the far north parking lot. The funding will also assist in installing additional vehicle (green) chargers. It was moved by Maldonado-Arroyo, seconded by Holguin to adopt Resolution No. 22/23-16. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

Jeff Ramsay sought the Board to adopt Resolution No. 22/23-17 which would authorize TCOE to submit a loan application for energy efficiency ($3 million) for SCICON, 41569 Bear Creek Rd., Springville, CA. It was moved by Enea, seconded by Rodriguez to adopt Resolution No. 22/23-17. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez.

Tom Link presented to the Board three names that were seeking election for CSBA Assembly County Delegate for SubRegion 12A: Felipe Martinez (Porterville USD), Cathy Mederos (Tulare Joint Union HSD), and Randy Villegas (Visalia USD). CSBA directions were to vote for two candidates. After votes were cast, Felipe Martinez and Cathy Mederos were selected as the two candidates to fill the two seats in Tulare County.
Superintendent Hire reported that the Tulare County Spelling Bee will be held here at the Redwood Conference Center. The Poetry & Prose event will be coming up in a couple of weeks welcoming over 1,400 students. Another exciting student event, Career EXPO will be at COS on April 14. Exeter Union High School will compete at the state Mock Trial competition. March 23 will be the 50th Math Super Bowl competition at Visalia Convention Center.

We now own property in Porterville for our Mental Health services. The building used to be a morgue. We are in the process of purchasing 30 acres south of the Liberty Center, with a 60-day contingency on soil tests results.

Tim said that he is thinking about this year’s budget including budgets for the next couple years. We could be facing some trying financial times. This property will allow us the luxury of time of what we need now or how we could build in phases. We may need to increase prices on services we offer; however, we should not have to cut any services.

Mr. Hire went on to remind the Board that we are leasing the back of the Milan building for $15,000 a month right now for ActVnet staff. Chris asked if we are bringing in money. Mr. Hire said Devon Mathis has written a bill that describes the ActVnet program which he hopes to get folks to help sponsor the bill. Language called for any school of more than 100 ADA will have to have this in place by 2030. The state department of public instruction will pay for it. We can only recoup our costs. We can’t make money off of this program. Based on what we would charge for all schools in CA, over a 4-year period, there would be about a $4 billion dollar cushion.

April 12 is our next board meeting at SCICON at 10:00 a.m. Our meeting will be in the Blue Oak classroom.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.