

**TULARE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES**

The Tulare County Board of Education met on Wednesday, July 13, 2022, 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 Judy Coble Pat Hillman Debby Holguin Celia Maldonado-Arroyo Chris Reed Tim A. Hire, Ex-Officio Secretary
ABSENT Board Member	Joe Enea, Vice President
PRESENT Staff Members	Dr. Fernie Marroquin, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Jeff Ramsay, Director, General Services Andrea Perez, Assistant Superintendent, District Support Services Tammy Bradford, Assistant Superintendent, Special Services Marlene Moreno, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Yasmeen Contreras, Helpdesk Support Specialist, IS Patrick Himes, Helpdesk Support Specialist Danny Cordeniz, Project Coordinator Tony Cavanagh, Prevention/Intervention Education Manager Frank Silveira, Administrator Rob Herman, Communications Director Nayirah Dosu, Communications Specialist Brook Killingsworth, Secretary to Assistant Superintendent Karon Valdivieso, Principal, Dedi Somavia, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
GUESTS	Guests as listed in the register including Desiree Serrano, Autumn Souza, Robert Arroyo, Scot Hillman, Bryce Melgar, Caroline Melgar, Bryan Melgar, Jessica Malmsten and Nancy Bellin.
CALL TO ORDER Pledge of Allegiance/ Welcome	Board President Tom Link welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Celia Maldonado-Arroyo led the Pledge of Allegiance.
PUBLIC COMMENT	No comments were made from the public.
CONSENT CALENDAR	It was moved by Coble, seconded by Holguin to approve the consent calendar to include minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of June 8, 2022, Countywide Registration of Credentials, Temporary County Certificates, Emergency Permits

and a donation from CyberGrants. Motion unanimously carried with the following votes: Ayes: Coble, Reed, Hillman, Holguin, Link and Maldonado-Arroyo. Board Vice President Enea was absent.

SPELLING BEE
CHAMPION
PRESENTATION

Nancy Bellin reported to the board about this year's Tulare County Spelling Bee Champion event. The event was held at the Valley Strong Ballpark in downtown Visalia. Bryce Melgar was the 2022 Spelling Bee Champion after spelling 22 words correctly. He was a 7th grader from Ridgeview Middle School. Bryce represented Tulare County at Scripps.

Bryce introduced his family to the board. Bryce thanked Nancy, Mr. Hire and the Board for their support for his journey up through his experience with the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington D.C. He thanked everyone who had a part in this celebration. Nancy thanked Scot Hillman and Carlyn Lambert for their past years of being the Spelling Master and a Spelling Judge.

Scot Hillman congratulated Bryce Melgar on a job well done. He also thanked Nancy Bellin for her many years of service as an educator and leader which has impacted so many students in Tulare County. Scot was presented with a "thank you" basket from TCOE.

Andrea gave the Board a report about the Scripps National Spelling Bee adventure in Washington D.C. Bryce was one of 234 students that made it to the 4th round. He was one of 48 kids in our country that made it to the semi-finals. He showed poise and was such a great sport even though he didn't make it onto the next round. Though he was disappointed, he represented Tulare County very well.

Bryce was presented a special plaque for being TCOE's first semi-finalist, Semi-Finalist Certificate, Spelling Bee Memory Scrapbook filled with many pictures depicting Bryce's Spelling Bee journey and a special message from Mr. Yates, Bryce's principal who was not able to be present. A perpetual trophy was also presented to Bryce that he will keep at his school for it to be displayed until next year.

The Board gave a heartfelt thank you to Bryce for his unmatched effort in representing Tulare County.

ACTVNET
PRESENTATION

Frank Silveira shared the history of the ActVnet program which began five years ago. He gathered local law enforcement, fire health, mental and behavioral health, ambulance services and Kaweah Health Medical Center and discuss what can we do to increase protection for students. A common system that strategically displayed the layout/map of every school in our county was discussed for students' safety, especially during a crisis situation.

Frank introduced Tony Cavanagh who discussed threat assessment, anonymous reporting system (Sandy Hook, Say Something), which was created after the 2012 Sandy Hook school shooting. This allows students to report or request the assistance for themselves or a friend who could perhaps harm themselves. Thirteen local districts are in agreement and will attend a two-hour training on September 15 here at TCOE. This training will teach the 3-5 people they send from their district the signs and symptoms of what to look for in students needing help. The training will also train school staff on how to spot threat assessment on campus from students, how to approach those making the threat and how to diffuse the threat. Twenty-eight districts attended the two-day training. Law enforcement personnel also participated in this training.

Chris Reed asked if this program identifies children who are being bullied. Students can use this system and report that they are being bullied. If it somehow is a life-threatening report, this program will contact Law Enforcement immediately who will contact an administrator from the school of which the student attends. Mr. Hire said that bullying remains a hot topic. By definition of bullying and also how it's reported, it can sometimes limit how an administrator or district can take disciplinary action. Often times the school shooters are bullying victims themselves and come after the people on campus who knew about the problem and did nothing about it. This program is basically an outlet for kids to anonymously report to a professional at any time of the day.

Danny Cordeniz presented the ActVnet program. This is a tool for emergency personnel and school administrators to utilize in the event of an emergency. One way our system assists is with the Building ID placard signs placed on each building on campus which helps navigate the layout of the campus. This program offers a digital map that holds key information like building floor plans, campus access points, shut-off valves, links to view 360° in a classroom. It accesses a bulletin board which is a one-directional message service allowing ActVnet Director and/or site Admin to update staff with current urgent information simultaneously. It also has a Roll Call feature that allows school administrators to know the location and condition of students and staff. The Live Camera Link is the school's web-based surveillance system browser functionality.

The price of this program is based on the schools ADA. It starts at \$6,000 (if ADA 1-399). Level 2 is \$9,000 (if ADA is 400-600). If higher ADAs, then you would be looking from \$12,000 up to \$18,000. These costs are one-time costs. It's a multi-step process of how much work needs to be done. We own the program. There is a monthly subscription for maintaining current school/campus information. Tom Link thanked Frank, Tony and Danny for their presentations

on Sandy Hook, Say Something and ActVnet. There are not any other current programs that offer all the features that this program offers. We have a trademark on the ActVnet insignia. We are working on a copyright on the mapping system and signage. The federal government has recently passed some legislation that had close to \$3 billion tied to school safety and mental health components.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Hire brought attention to the Future Ready Student Events calendar for the 22/23 school year. Tim presented the TCOE duffle bag to all the board members.

Be on the lookout for an email regarding registration for our first Convocation that will take place on August 2nd at the Visalia Convention Center. It will run from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled on August 10. Mr. Hire also mentioned that there will be an expulsion hearing appeal at the August board meeting.

Hope you all will have some time to go see *The Music Man* production put on by our TCOE Theatre company in the near future.

NEXT SCHEDULED
MEETING

August 10, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.