

TULARE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

05/08/2024 [03:00 PM]

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

For the Regular Board Meeting of May 8, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., in the Redwood Conference Center at the Jim Vidak Education Center, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Welcome

2. Poetry & Prose Student Presentations

Chris Meyer presented to the Board three Superior rated groups of students who presented their poems. This year was our 39th year of this wonderful event. This event included six days with 18 sessions of students reciting poems. There were 116 schools that participated, 105 from Tulare County, 10 from Fresno County, and one from Kings County schools. We had 841 performances that took place which included 1,981 participating students. Nancy Bellin was present and acknowledged. Mr. Meyer thanked Brook Killingsworth and all the assigned judges who assisted with judging. In advance, Mr. Meyer thanked the student groups who recited from Liberty Elementary School who recited "I Love America." Hurley Elementary School's student performed "I Transformed." The third performance was from a student from Oak Grove School reciting "The Cage Bird Sings."

Mr. Enea thanked all the performers and wished them well in the future.

3. Board Members and Staff Present

Board members present: President Joe Enea, Vice President Debby Holguin, Judy Coble, Tom Link, Celia Maldonado-Arroyo, Tony Rodriguez, and Ex-Officio Secretary Tim A. Hire. Absent Board Member: Chris Reed. Staff members present: Jody Arriaga, Jose Bedolla, Julie Berk, John Davis, Karla Doyer, Bekah Gomez, Kevin Jessee, Brook Killingsworth, Dr. Fernie Marroquin, Sara Marvin, Chris Meyer, Helen Dr. Milliorn-Feller, Megan Motsenbocker, Anthony Paz, Ron Pekarek, Shantall Porchia, Freddy Reyes, and Dr. Amanda Richard. Guests present: Kristie Adams, Nancy Bellin, Stanley Bonds, Blanca Chavez, Chelse Chavez Gonzalez, Diana S., Miriam Saham, and Josh Whiteside.

4. 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.

5. 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.

Members of the public did not address any matter of jurisdiction.

6. ACTION ITEMS

6.a. Routine Matters

6.a.a. Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of April 10, 2024, Encl. No. 1
- b. Authorization of Countywide Registration of Credentials, Encl. No. 2
- c. Authorization of Temporary County Certificates, Encl. No. 3
- d. Authorization of Countywide Emergency Permit Applications, Encl. No. 4

Mr. Enea announced that board member Chris Reed was absent.

Vote Results

Yea: 6 Judy Coble, Joe Enea, Debby Holguin, Tom Link, Celia Maldonado-Arroyo, Tony Rodriguez

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Not Cast: 1 Chris Reed

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

6.b. New Business

6.b.a. Presentation of the Williams/Valenzuela Uniform Complaint Report, 1st Quarter of 2024 for Tulare County School Districts – Dr. Fernie Marroquin, Encl. No. 5

Dr. Fernie Marroquin presented the Williams/ Valenzuela Uniform Complaint Report 1st Quarter of 2024. There were two findings in this quarter. One finding was with the Burton Elementary School District regarding instructional materials. This issue has since been resolved. The second finding was with Visalia Unified School District for an ADA compliance issue. VUSD is currently addressing that issue. This report is for information only.

6.b.b. Consideration and Approval, Part C, Early Education Program Grant Award 2023-2024 (\$140,675) -- Ron Pekarek, Encl. No. 6

Vote Results

Yea: 6 Judy Coble, Joe Enea, Debby Holguin, Tom Link, Celia Maldonado-Arroyo, Tony Rodriguez

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Not Cast: 1 Chris Reed

Motion: Debby Holguin **Second:** Judy Coble

6.b.c. Public Hearing for Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), TCOE, Special Services -- Kevin Jessee, Encl. No. 7

Mr. Enea opened a public hearing at 3:19 p.m. John Davis gave a brief summary of what the following three LCAPs first readings/public hearings are pertaining to UPHS, LSMA and TCOE/Special Services. Kevin Jessee gave first reading on TCOE/Special Services. New roles were developed for different needs. One need to address is chronic absenteeism. Mr. Enea closed the hearing at 3:21 p.m.

6.b.d. Public Hearing for Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), LSMA -- Jose Bedolla, Encl. No. 8

Mr. Enea opened the public hearing at 3:22 p.m. for LSMA LCAP first reading. Jose Bedolla thanked all partners in assisting to meet set goals to prepare our students for college and career. In March, we received recognition by having a school leadership team that is working for next year's LCAP report. We did meet our audit criteria. John Davis gave information regarding Differentiated Assistance (DA). LSMA was eligible for DA. In this case, when a charter school becomes eligible for DA, the county office provides necessary support. We can't contribute support for LSMA because we oversee LSMA. Therefore, the support would come from our region lead. It so happens that TCOE is the region lead. Which is why we asked Kern County for support in this situation.

Judy Coble said she was happy to hear WASC Accreditation was met. The hearing closed at 3:26 p.m.

6.b.e. Public hearing for Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) for UPHS -- Dr. Hellen Milliorn-Feller, Encl. No. 9

Mr. Enea opened a public hearing at 3:27 p.m. for the LCAP first reading for University Preparatory High School (UPHS). Before discussion took place, Superintendent Hire announced to the Board that Helen is no longer the interim but is now the principal to UPHS. We conducted a survey to determine what areas are we doing well and what areas do we need improvement. Sixty-six percent of UPHS students completed the survey. We looked at what students and parents had to say. The largest challenge is the socioeconomically disadvantaged group of students. Some shifts are needed with connections with students. We need to make connections to help students decide what career that want to get into after high school. Both students and staff felt that we need to offer more

emotional support for students. Helen advised the Board that UPHS has a social worker on their campus twice a week and a school psychologist once a week to meet students' needs. The hearing was closed at 3:34 p.m.

6.b.f. Information: Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant for TCOE (\$337,763) -- Kevin Jessee, Encl. No. 10

John Davis gave the purpose of what the Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant is for. This grant is for schools to obtain standards-aligned professional development and acquire instructional materials for a variety of subject areas. This funding is stabilized. Kevin Jessee advised the board that this was a new grant for them, TCOE Court/Community Schools and the AcCEL programs. TCOE would be receiving \$337,763. This was for information only.

6.b.g. Information: Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant for LSMA (\$132,836) -- Jose Bedolla, Encl. No. 11

Jose Bedolla, La Sierra Military Academy (LSMA) principal, informed the Board that the Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant would assist in getting a technology instructor and an arts instructor. The amount this grant would provide LSMA would be \$132, 896. This is for information only.

6.b.h. Information: Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant for UPHS (\$81,500) -- Dr. Helen Milliorn-Feller, Encl. No. 12

Dr. Helen Milliorn-Feller advised the Board that the Discretionary Block Grant would be put towards hiring a drama teacher for UPHS. The amount UPHS will receive is \$81,500. This is an informational item.

6.b.i. Presentation of the 2024-2025 Proposed Budget for TCOE -- Jody Arriaga, Encl. No. 13

Jody Arriaga brought some of her staff (Bekah Gomez, Megan Motsenbocker, and Karla Doyer) with her today and thanked them for all their assistance in preparing the 24-25 proposed budget for TCOE.

Jody gave a review of the budget assumptions which were shown to have CSSF revenues of an estimated beginning fund balance of \$243,974,634 and expenditures of \$235,103,319. The result will be an estimated ending fund balance of \$101,411,160. The Early Childhood Education Revenues of \$84,342,758 and expenditures of \$84,997,961 were shown with an estimated ending fund balance of \$3,449,396. 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. Jody thank Mr. Hire and the Board for their support and guidance in preparing the report today. Jody congratulated Dr. Helen Milliorn-Feller for her promotion.

6.b.j. Public Hearing for the 2024-2025 Proposed Budget for TCOE -- Dr. Fernie Marroquin, Encl. No. 14

President Enea opened a public hearing at 3:54 p.m. for the 24-25 Proposed Budget for TCOE. Dr. Marroquin publicly thanked Jody and her staff for all their hard work. We are scheduled to adopt the 24-25 Budget for TCOE at the June 12 board meeting. The hearing was closed at 3:55 p.m.

6.b.k. Consideration and Approval, Adopt Resolution 23/24-23, Call for Board Election on November 5, 2024 -- Tim Hire, Encl. No. 15

Vote Results

Yea: 6 Judy Coble, Joe Enea, Debby Holguin, Tom Link, Celia Maldonado-Arroyo, Tony Rodriguez

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Not Cast: 1 Chris Reed

Motion: Judy Coble **Second:** Celia Maldonado-Arroyo

6.b.l. Discussion of Changes Between CSBA and CCBE -- Tim Hire, Encl. No. 16

Discussion of CCBE under CSBA was requested. The communication of that change was not handled well. Mr. Hire was on a zoom meeting today listening to the concerns and needs of this transition. However, the deal is done. Now that we have Joe Enea as a CSBA delegate, maybe we can get further information.

Mr. Enea expressed his concerns to Mr. Fisher, from CSBA, of how this transition occurred. There was not much warning regarding this change. We are now one region of many. CCBE is now fully under CSBA,

Celia Maldonado-Arroyo said that CSBA sent out a survey with 45 questions to all members. The deadline to complete the survey is this Friday. Celia learned that they had announced this transition last year at the CSBA conference. She feels like its going to be okay. We will still have the same number of representatives from CCBE. Mr. Enea feels that we don't have the voice that is necessary for our new group coming from the central valley. He also heard that the dues amount are going to change. Judy Coble's concern is that CSBA will be wanting to take some money from CCBE. Joe thinks CCBE's money will be going towards the CSBA conference. Mr. Hire emphasized the importance of completing the survey that they have distributed.

7. Information (Non-Discussion Items)

- a. Letters and Communication/Correspondence
- b. Reports from Superintendent and Staff
- c. Reports from Board, Information and Questions

Mr. Hire mentioned the Farm Bureau calendar, the May 1 Farm Bureau invitation to their annual dinner celebrating selected individuals from the community who have worked with them (which included Robert Herman), and a balcony pass for the Young People's Concert on Monday. Tim also pointed out the list of graduation dates/times for all of TCOE charter schools and programs. TCOE retirees will be honored at the June board meeting. Mr. Hire thanked the board members who were able to attend Poetry and Prose reciting sessions and the 2024 Support Staff Conference.

Last month, Superintendent Hire announced the Excellence in Education winners for Tulare County: Alexa Barba-Tepner from Redwood High School (VUSD), Kristy Caesar from Lincoln Elementary School (Lindsay), and Lisa Kruger at Linwood Elementary School, VUSD.

On May 3, Educators of the Year award winners were notified: Jacob Avila from Redwood High School (VUSD), Anthony Nyugen from Palo Verde Union School District, and Glenda Landin from Hope Elementary School District.

Mr. Hire thanked Joe, Celia and Tony for being a judge at this year's salsa making contest at the Spring Social. The winner was Patty Najera from Special Services.. He also thanked board members for their attendance at this year's Office Olympics.

8. Next Scheduled Board Meeting

June 12, 2024 -- 3:00 p.m., Redwood Conference Center, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia.

9. Adjournment

Minutes

The meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.