



**William S. Hart Union High School District  
Regular (Virtual) Meeting of the Governing Board**

April 22, 2020

Closed Session 5:30 p.m.

Public Session 7:00 p.m.

**Minutes  
(Unapproved)**

**I. Call to Order - Closed Session**

The Regular (Virtual) Meeting of the William S. Hart Union High School District Governing Board was called to order by President Storli at 5:32 p.m.

**I.A. Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum**

Board Members present:

Mrs. Linda H. Storli, President  
Dr. Cherise G. Moore, Clerk  
Mr. Joseph V. Messina, Assistant Clerk  
Mr. Steven M. Sturgeon, Member  
Mr. Robert N. Jensen, Jr., Member

District Administrators present:

Mr. Mike Kuhlman, Superintendent  
Dr. Michael Vierra, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Mrs. Kathy Hunter, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services  
Mr. Ralph Peschek, Chief Business Officer  
Dr. Collyn Nielsen, Chief Administrative Officer

The President declared a quorum present.

**II. First Closed Session**

**II.A. Public Comments for Closed Session Items**

There were no public comments.

## **II.B. First Closed Session Items**

Votes on items discussed in Closed Session were taken in Public Session, as reported below.

### **II.B.1. Rejection of Claim No. 19/20-12L (per Government Code Section 54956.9)**

**Motion Passed:** Reject Claim No 19/20-12L. Passed with a motion by Mr. Robert Jensen and a second by Mr. Joseph Messina.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Absent Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

### **II.B.2. Public Employee Appointment/Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Reassignment/Non-reelection (per Government Code Section 54957)**

In public session Dr. Moore reported that in closed session the Board took action to approve a resignation agreement with an employee. The roll call vote was: Jensen - yes; Messina - yes; Moore - yes; Storli - yes; Sturgeon - yes. [See Closed Session Log 2019/20]

### **II.B.3. Conference with Labor Negotiator: Michael Vierra - Negotiations with Hart District Teachers Association (per Government Code Section 54957.6)**

### **II.B.4. Conference with Labor Negotiator: Michael Vierra - Negotiations with California School Employees Association Chapter 349 (per Government Code Section 54957.6)**

### **II.B.5. Appointment of Director of Student Services (per Government Code Section 54957)**

### **II.B.6. Appointment of Director of Career Technical Education (per Government Code Section 54957)**

### **II.B.7. Public Employee Performance Evaluation/Goals-Superintendent (2019/20) (per Government Code 54957)**

## **II.C. Reconvene to Public Session**

Dr. Moore called the Public Session to order at 7:20 p.m.

## **III. Organization**

### **III.A. Report of First Closed Session Action**

See action taken above in II-B - First Closed Session Items.

### **III.B. Re-Establishment of Quorum**

Board Members present:

Mrs. Linda H. Storli, President (joined the meeting at 7:33 p.m.)  
Dr. Cherise G. Moore, Clerk  
Mr. Joseph V. Messina, Assistant Clerk  
Mr. Steven M. Sturgeon, Member  
Mr. Robert N. Jensen, Jr., Member  
Miss Brooke Friedman, Student Board Member

District Administrators present:

Mr. Mike Kuhlman, Superintendent  
Dr. Michael Vierra, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Mrs. Kathy Hunter, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services  
Mr. Ralph Peschek, Chief Business Officer  
Dr. Collyn Nielsen, Chief Administrative Officer

Dr. Moore declared a quorum present.

### **III.C. Pledge of Allegiance**

Student Board Member Brooke Friedman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **III.D. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion Passed:** Approve the agenda. Passed with a motion by Mr. Robert Jensen and a second by Mr. Steven Sturgeon.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Absent Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

### **III.E. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion Passed:** Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 1, 2020. Passed with a motion by Mr. Steven Sturgeon and a second by Mr. Joseph Messina.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Absent Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

#### **IV. Recognitions by Board**

#### **V. Communications**

##### **V.A. Board Member Reports**

The following Board members relayed the events they recently attended and/or are interested in: Mr. Jensen (thanked District staff for their efforts to make Distance Learning successful, mentioned that the Hart District ranked in the top ten percent of schools in US News and World Report), Mr. Sturgeon (thanked the staff and leadership team for their hard work to overcome difficulties associated with Distance Learning), Mr. Messina (said staff is doing a great job), Dr. Moore (has been visiting virtual classrooms, staff meetings, and a Bowman Kazoo graduation, thanked teachers for ensuring that learning is still taking place, thanked the WiSH Education Foundation for their contributions to the Chromebook distribution program, mentioned the importance of continued wellness efforts in this time), and Mrs. Storli (praised staff for their work on Distance Learning).

##### **V.B. Student Board Member Report**

Miss Friedman said Associated Student Bodies (ASBs) have been brainstorming ideas for the distribution of caps, gowns, and yearbooks. She mentioned she has attended a couple of meetings to discuss virtual graduations and she said she is hopeful that there will be some kind of senior activities possible over the summer.

##### **V.C. Employee Association Leadership**

###### **V.C.1. Hart District Teachers Association (HDTA) President John Minkus**

Mr. Minkus said we are facing one of the most difficult periods of our lives together and together we will continue to serve the students. He said teachers had a three-day turn around to transition to Distance Learning and, despite the struggles, the Hart District is seen as a leader in this endeavor. He thanked Mr. Kuhlman and his team for understanding the importance of obtaining feedback from the “boots on the ground.”

###### **V.C.2. California School Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter 349 President Kathy Hefferon**

Ms. Hefferon did not give a report.

##### **V.D. School Site Report - Castaic High School**

Castaic High School Principal Melanie Hagman discussed Distance Learning. She said Castaic teachers have a positive attitude and have shown innovation and flexibility. The school has used the Canvas program since opening, which helped to transition to Distance Learning seamlessly. She outlined communication efforts including emails, calls, the newsletter, and social media. She discussed student supports that include staff check-ins with students during advisory periods, library time available one hour each day, extra support for English Learners and Special Education

students, and the CHANCE peer-tutoring program. She mentioned recent incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade webinars and the school's close relationship with College of the Canyons on behalf of dual enrolled students. She described how the instructional coach provides support for teachers and said Distance Learning is not easy, but provides an opportunity for growth through finding innovative ways to increase student engagement, motivation, and build relationships. A copy of the presentation is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

## **VI. Special Items**

### **VI.A. Appointment of Director of Student Services**

**Motion Passed:** Appoint Pete Getz as Director of Student Services, effective July 1, 2020. Passed with a motion by Dr. Cherise Moore and a second by Mr. Robert Jensen.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

### **VI.B. Appointment of Director of Career Technical Education**

**Motion Passed:** Appoint Nadia Cotti as Director of Career Technical Education, effective July 1, 2020. Passed with a motion by Mr. Robert Jensen and a second by Mr. Joseph Messina.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

## **VII. Public Comments**

Gina Woltman submitted a statement regarding grading policies during distance learning. She believes that during this time of stress and uncertainty, every student should pass all their classes and be able to graduate.

## **VIII. Discussion Items**

### **VIII.A. Technology Update**

Director of Technology Jon Carrino discussed the District's transition to Distance Learning. He said technology is a tool for instruction and the Hart District has been an early technology adopter, which aided in the quick transition. He said a majority of the accolades for the District's success go to the teachers and students. He reviewed past actions that helped to smooth the transition and explained that the District adopted the Google G Suite for Education in 2014, an online platform that students and teachers have been using, in addition to Google Chromebooks, and are familiar

with. He reviewed the increase in the use of the Google platform since Distance Learning began. He discussed actions that helped smooth the transition to Distance Learning including increased access to technology through providing student and staff mobile devices, infrastructure upgrades, professional development, teacher and staff adoption, and District leadership and planning. He reviewed the WiSH Chromebook Program and the number of devices distributed to date. He also reviewed infrastructure projects, device counts, and the department's ticketing system. A copy of the presentation is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

#### **VIII.B. COVID-19 Grading Discussion**

Mr. Kuhlman explained that school closures due to the coronavirus present a number of challenges, and he discussed proposed grading modifications for this time period. He reviewed guidance from the state and county including a directive that educational agencies should weigh their policies with the lens of equity and with the primary goal of first, do no harm to students. Staff has investigated what other school districts are doing and identified the following guiding principles that will direct the steps to take: 1. Continued teaching/learning, 2. Hold students harmless, 3. Minimize student failures, and 4. Provide an intervention plan. Staff has sought input from stakeholders including students, parents, principals, teachers, and tonight, the Governing Board. Mr. Kuhlman shared a recommendation for an alternate grading plan for the 2020 spring semester: traditional grades A, B, and C, and credit/no-credit. This will provide an option for students to choose credit/no-credit grading, which would not be calculated into their grade point average, and also provide a safety net by limiting no-credit only to students who were failing a class prior to the end of the third quarter. Mr. Kuhlman said he feels this plan is beneficial to encourage continued engagement/motivation, provide choice, hold students harmless, and keep students on track to graduate. He suggested next steps including creating a senior task force (additional suggestions to protect seniors), data comparison (last year to this year), creating a committee to work out the details, providing a summary for teachers and an introduction for parents, working on questions particular to Bowman High School, and Board action on May 6. He mentioned that the UCs and CSUs are accepting credit/no-credit grading. A copy of the presentation is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

Discussion ensued between Board members and staff. Dr. Moore asked that grace and understanding be applied to all students in this situation, particularly the seniors, and said she believes no student should fail. She said she likes the option of choice for students. Mr. Kuhlman suggested setting a policy, but also providing strong recommendations that empower teachers to exercise their discretion and provide grace to their students. Mr. Messina said some students are willfully not participating. Miss Friedman said students are under stress, providing an option to students would be helpful, and banning fails would relieve anxiety, and she shared that students also had a traumatic first semester. Mr. Sturgeon and Mrs. Storli said they like the idea of choice. Mrs. Storli feels a grade of no-credit is applicable for students who were not making an effort before the school closure. Mr. Jensen said he would prefer to err on the side of leniency and provide students opportunity for their future. Mr. Sturgeon asked if students will be handicapped for the next grade if everyone passes, and said he likes the idea of giving students choice. Mrs. Hunter said a no-credit grade will allow students an opportunity for credit recovery by mastering content and not re-taking a whole semester class. She suggested that seniors will be handled differently, with a fast track intervention plan to help every student graduate or the possibility to allow additional time to finish content. Mr. Jensen said fair and reasonable means something

different based on the shooting at Saugus High School and COVID-19 than normal fair and reasonable. Mr. Messina said fairness to students who have worked hard for their grades needs to be taken into consideration.

#### **VIII.C. COVID-19 Graduation Planning**

Dr. Nielsen said, as limitations on social gatherings have been extended, it is unlikely that schools will be able to hold traditional, in person graduations on the currently scheduled dates. Staff has investigated the possibility of postponement and vendors have confirmed their willingness to proceed at a later date. The last week of July has tentatively been identified as a window for graduations if postponement is necessary. While the first choice is to have traditional graduation ceremonies, it is important to recognize the accomplishments of the Class of 2020 at the end of this school year. Principals and students have been consulted in planning for virtual graduation ceremonies. These virtual graduations will not be a replacement for traditional ceremonies, but will be planned in addition to traditional graduations. Each virtual graduation will include pomp and circumstance, the national anthem, welcoming comments by the principal, student commencement speakers, a student vocal performance, certification of graduates by the superintendent, presentation of the class, a picture of each graduate, and the changing of the tassels. Principals are working with student leaders and video production teachers to add personalization to their ceremonies, which might include a senior video or student or staff messages. Videos would be prerecorded and posted on websites on the schools' previously scheduled graduation dates. Students have expressed a strong desire to have some sort of culminating social activity whenever it is possible to do so.

#### **VIII.D. Revised Board Policy and Administrative Regulation - First Reading**

Mrs. Hunter presented revised Board Policy (BP) and Administrative Regulation (AR) 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures for a first reading, copies of which are attached to the agenda of this meeting. She said revisions are being made for compliance with Federal Program Monitoring. Board members may make suggestions for changes before the second reading and approval on May 6, 2020.

#### **VIII.E. Williams Uniform Complaint Quarterly Summary - January 1-March 31, 2020**

Mrs. Hunter reported that there were no Williams Uniform Complaints filed for the period of January 1-March 31, 2020. A copy of the summary is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

#### **VIII.F. Initial Bargaining Proposal from the California School Employees Association Chapter 349 to the William S. Hart Union High School District for the 2019/20 School Year**

Dr. Vierra said the initial bargaining proposal from the California School Employees Association Chapter 349 to the William S. Hart Union High School District for the 2019/20 school year has been available for review on the District website since April 17. A copy of the proposal is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

**VIII.G. Initial Bargaining Proposal from the William S. Hart Union High School District to the California School Employees Association Chapter 349 for the 2019/20 School Year**

Dr. Vierra said the initial bargaining proposal from the William S. Hart Union High School District to the California School Employees Association Chapter 349 for the 2019/20 school year has been available for review on the District website since April 17. A copy of the proposal is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

**IX. Action Items****IX.A. Public Hearing and Acknowledgment of the California School Employee Association Chapter 349 Initial Proposal for Negotiations with the William S. Hart Union High School District for the 2019/20 School Year**

**Motion Passed:** Acknowledge receipt of the California School Employee Association Chapter 349 bargaining proposal for negotiations with the William S. Hart Union High School District for the 2019/20 school year. Passed with a motion by Mr. Robert Jensen and a second by Dr. Cherise Moore.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

Mrs. Storli opened the public hearing to receive comments on the California School Employee Association Chapter 349 initial proposal for negotiations with the District for the 2019/20 school year. No comments were received. Mrs. Storli closed the public hearing. A copy of the proposal is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

**IX.B. Public Hearing and Adoption of the William S. Hart Union High School District's Initial Proposal for Negotiations with the California School Employee Association Chapter 349 for the 2019/20 School Year**

**Motion Passed:** Adopt the bargaining proposal from the William S. Hart Union High School District to the California School Employee Association, Chapter 349 for the 2019/20 school year. Passed with a motion by Dr. Cherise Moore and a second by Mr. Steven Sturgeon.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

Mrs. Storli opened the public hearing to receive comments on the District's initial proposal for negotiations with the California School Employees Association Chapter 349 for the 2019/20

school year. No comments were received. Mrs. Storli closed the public hearing. A copy of the proposal is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

**IX.C. Resolution No. 19/20-31 Recognizing April 19-25, 2020, as National Library Week**

**Motion Passed:** Adopt Resolution No. 19/20-31, recognizing April 19-25, 2020, as National Library Week. Passed with a motion by Mr. Robert Jensen and a second by Dr. Cherise Moore.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

A copy of the resolution is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

**IX.D. Resolution No. 19/20-30 - California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Form 130 - Designation of Authorized Agents**

**Motion Passed:** Approve Resolution No. 19/20-30 - California Office of Emergency Services (CAL OES) Form 130 - Designation of Authorized Agents. Passed with a motion by Dr. Cherise Moore and a second by Mr. Joseph Messina.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

A copy of the resolution is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

**IX.E. Site-Based Decision - La Mesa Junior High School 2020/2021**

**Motion Passed:** Approve the site-based decision at La Mesa Junior High School regarding a student tutorial period for the 2020/2021 school year. Passed with a motion by Mr. Robert Jensen and a second by Mr. Steven Sturgeon.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

Support material is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

**IX.F. Change Order No. 5 - Castaic High School (Castaic HS Construction, Inc.)**

**Motion Passed:** Approve Change Order No. 5 for the Castaic High School Project from Castaic HS Construction, Inc. Passed with a motion by Dr. Cherise Moore and a second by Mr. Steven Sturgeon.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

Dr. Nielsen explained that this change order represents less than one percent of the project's guaranteed maximum price (GMP) and change orders for the overall project represent 4.5 percent of GMP, which is very good for a project of this size. A copy of the change order request is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

**IX.G. Ratification of Change Order No. 2 for the Hart High School Two-Story Modular Classroom Building, Addition of Two Tennis Courts and Related Site-Work Project (Bid Package No. HA1811A-08 - Golden Phoenix Electric)**

**Motion Passed:** Ratify Change Order No. 2 for the Hart High School Two-Story Modular Classroom Building, Addition of Two Tennis Courts and Related Site-Work Project from Golden Phoenix Electric. Passed with a motion by Dr. Cherise Moore and a second by Mr. Steven Sturgeon.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

Board members suggested negotiating with the architect to pay a portion of this change order. A copy of the change order request is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

**IX.H. Ratification of Change Order Nos. 2 and 3 for the Hart High School Infrastructure Phase 2B Project, Bid Package Nos. WSH1812A-02 (Golden Phoenix Electric) and WSH1812A-01 (Taft Electric Company)**

**Motion Passed:** Ratify Change Order Nos. 2 and 3 for the Hart High School Infrastructure Phase 2B Project from Golden Phoenix Electric and Taft Electric Company. Passed with a motion by Mr. Robert Jensen and a second by Mr. Steven Sturgeon.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

A copy of the change order request is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

**IX.I. Revised Board Policies and New and Revised Administrative Regulations - Second Reading**

**Motion Passed:** Adopt revised Board Policy 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information, and revised Board Policy 5131.2 - Bullying. Passed with a motion by Mr. Steven Sturgeon and a second by Dr. Cherise Moore.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

Mrs. Hunter presented revised Board Policy (BP) and Administrative Regulation (AR) 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information, and revised BP and new AR 5131.2 - Bullying for a second reading. No revisions were made since the first reading on April 1. Copies of the BPs and ARs are attached to the agenda of this meeting.

**IX.J. Resolution No. 19/20-29 - Ordering a Regular Governing Board Election Under By-trustee Area Election System and Ordering Consolidation With Other Elections**

**Motion Passed:** Approve Resolution No. 19/20-29 - Ordering a Regular Governing Board Election Under By-trustee Area Election System and Ordering Consolidation With Other Elections. Passed with a motion by Mr. Robert Jensen and a second by Mr. Joseph Messina.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

A copy of the resolution is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

**X. Consent Calendar**

**X.A. Consent Calendar-Removal of Items**

There were no items removed from the Consent Calendar.

**X.B. Consent Calendar-Personnel**

**X.B.1. Personnel Report No. 19/20-16**

**X.B.2. Memorandum of Understanding Between the California School Employees Association Chapter 349 and the William S. Hart Union High School District Regarding the Effects of COVID-19**

**X.C. Consent Calendar-Curriculum/Instruction**

**X.D. Consent Calendar-Business Services**

**X.D.1. Purchase Order Report**

**X.D.2. Warrant Register and Revolving Cash Payments**

**X.D.3. Acceptance of Monetary Donation**

**X.E. Consent Calendar-Operations**

**X.E.1. Bowman High School Modernization Project - Programming and Pre-Design Services (Rachlin Partners)**

**X.E.2. Change Order No. 1 - Hart High School Infrastructure Phase 2B Project (Bid Package No. WSH1812A-03 - Martinez Landscape Co., Inc.)**

**X.E.3. Notice of Completion - Bid Package No. WSH1812A-03 (Martinez Landscape Co., Inc.) - Hart High School Infrastructure Phase 2B Project**

**X.F. Consent Calendar-Requests for Information**

### **X.G. Approval of Consent Calendar**

**Motion Passed:** Approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Passed with a motion by Mr. Joseph Messina and a second by Mr. Steven Sturgeon.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

### **XI. Items for Future Consideration by the Board**

### **XII. Second Closed Session**

### **XIII. Adjournment**

**Motion Passed:** Adjourn the meeting at 10:55 p.m. Passed with a motion by Mr. Joseph Messina and a second by Mr. Robert Jensen.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen

Yes Mr. Joseph Messina

Yes Dr. Cherise Moore

Yes Mrs. Linda Storli

No Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Student Board Member Opinion: Yes

Respectfully submitted,

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Linda H Storli, President

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Cherise G. Moore, Clerk

Approved and entered into the proceedings  
of the District:

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Date