



William S. Hart Union High School District
Regular (Virtual) Meeting of the Governing Board
September 02, 2020
Closed Session 6:00 p.m.
Public Session 7:00 p.m.

Minutes
(Unapproved)

I. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the William S. Hart Union High School District Governing Board was called to order by President Storli at 6:01 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. Public Employee Appointment/Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Reassignment/
Non-reelection (per Government Code Section 54957)**

**II.B.2. Conference with Labor Negotiator: Michael Vierra - Negotiations with Hart
District Teachers Association (per Government Code Section 54957.6)**

**II.B.3. Conference with Labor Negotiator: Michael Vierra - Negotiations with
California School Employees Association Chapter 349 (per Government Code Section
54957.6)**

II.B.4. Public Employee Complaint (per Government Code Section 54957)

**II.B.5. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation (per Government Code
Section 54956.9(d)(2)) Significant exposure to litigation**

III. Public Session (7:00 p.m.)

President Storli called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

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
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.

III.C. Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Storli 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 Dr. Cherise Moore.

Yes Mr. Robert Jensen
Yes Mr. Joseph Messina
Yes Dr. Cherise Moore
Yes Mrs. Linda Storli
Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

III.E. Approval of Minutes

Motion Passed: Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 19, 2020. 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

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 (visited virtual Back to School Nights, said seven District high schools were ranked in the top 12 percent of schools nationwide in US News & World Report), Mr. Sturgeon (participated in a KHTS broadcast last week, commended schools for their rankings in US News & World Report, visited virtual Back to School Nights), Dr. Moore (visited virtual Back to School Nights; visited nine online classes this week, said teachers are giving students the best experience possible; visited Golden Valley High School today and saw what classrooms, etc., will look like when they reopen), Mr. Messina (assured parents that their concerns are being heard and staff is working hard to come up with solutions to keep everyone safe), and Mrs. Storli (visited high school virtual Back to School Nights, many of which can still be viewed on school websites, said junior high school Back to School Nights will be held tomorrow, visited Valencia High School today to see the preparations for bringing kids back to school sites). Mr. Kuhlman commended teachers for their extraordinary efforts to connect with students and announced First Fridays, upcoming virtual District choir events to be held on the first Friday of each month this fall.

V.B. Employee Association Leadership

V.B.1. Hart District Teachers Association (HDTA) President John Minkus

Mr. Minkus thanked staff for taking on the monumental task of providing quality education in difficult times and working hard to make sure students get the opportunities they deserve. He said HDTA has been working with administration to address anomalies and find resolutions, and he appreciates the District's efforts to improve technology. Mr. Minkus said that teachers are being asked to do more and more and suggested compensation should be commensurate with the extra work. He reported that numerous extra hours are being put in to provide quality education during online learning. He said teachers are fearing the idea of a blended model and are uncomfortable with the idea of being responsible for disinfecting classrooms. Teachers want to return to the classroom, but not until it is safe.

V.B.2. California School Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter 349 President Kathy Hefferon

Ms. Hefferon did not give a report.

V.C. School Site Report - Placerita Junior High School

Placerita Junior High School Principal John Turner reviewed data from climate surveys in fall 2019, spring 2020, and fall 2020 and discussed decisions made based on the data. Review of the fall 2019 data led to increased connections with special education and English Language Learner students, increased counselor and social worker outreach, the creation of a wellness center, and a flyer with a QR code so students can request to talk with someone when they feel stressed, sad, or scared. He said providing crisis counseling made a big impact. He reviewed responses from the spring survey, which included questions regarding the impact of COVID-19. Based on the responses, staff made calls and connections with families, weekly newsletters went out, and the staff held a food drive for needy families. The most recent survey asked students, "What do you struggle with the most?" Responses included time management, sitting for too long, and wanting more information from counselors on how to connect with friends, how to study, and what to do when stressed. He said Placerita celebrates diversity and works to promote a culture of kindness. He discussed the creation of the Placerita Unity Group, part of the District's Equity and Diversity Collaborative, designed to promote diversity and give students a voice. A copy of the presentation is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

VI. Special Items

VII. Public Comments

VIII. Discussion Items

VIII.A. Revised Board Policies and Administrative Regulations - First Reading

Mrs. Hunter presented revised Board Policy (BP) and Administrative Regulation (AR) 1250 - Visitors to Schools, Revised BP 5022 - Student and Family Privacy Rights, Revised BP and AR 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information, Revised BP 5131.2 - Bullying Prevention, Revised BP 5141.52 - Suicide Prevention, and Revised BP 5145.13 - Response to Immigration Enforcement for a first reading. She said revisions are being made based on federal program monitoring findings. Changes include added language regarding immigration status and immigration enforcement officers, annual notification of policies, and development of policies. Mrs. Hunter explained that when policies are updated, they are distributed to the appropriate staff and trainings are offered when necessary. Copies of the BPs and ARs are attached to the agenda of this meeting. Board members may make suggestions for changes before the second reading and approval on September 16.

VIII.B. Return to School Update

Dr. Nielsen shared photos of preparations being made to keep students and staff safe when they return to campus and discussed the many actions taken including: signage installed, congregate seating taped off, hand sanitizing stations installed in high traffic areas and classrooms, desk partitions placed in rooms too small for proper distancing, transaction screens installed in offices, personal protective equipment purchased for students and staff, administrator training, custodial staff training on disinfection and sanitization, supplies delivered to each site, air filters changed, MERV 13 filters ordered, and symptom and contact tracing procedures. He said schools will be in compliance with guidelines when they reopen and all relevant information will be communicated to families before the in-person return.

Mr. Peschek announced that the USDA has extended its waiver to provide free meals to all students, effective through December 31, 2020. Beginning tomorrow, students may obtain grab and go breakfast and lunches at any Hart District school (except Academy of the Canyons and Learning Post Academy), in addition to local elementary sites, from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. He explained that a portion of the District's funding is based on participation in the Free and Reduced Lunch program, and he encouraged every household to fill out an application prior to the beginning of October.

Mrs. Hunter said that, based on feedback, a schedule change was made, effective August 31, which includes added passing time between classes and the addition of a brunch break on Wednesdays. She explained that the state recently authorized in-person services, beginning September 14, for small (maximum 14) targeted cohorts. She said this is not a requirement and applies only to specific services: targeted intervention strategies and in-person assessments for English Language Learners, at-risk students, homeless students, students in foster care, and special education. She said the technology department has installed 850 webcams, second monitors for teachers will be installed by September 30, and a number of additional software programs have been implemented including a grade transfer program, Adobe for students, Kami for fillable PDFs, Peardeck for assessments, Zoom Pro for all teachers, and Nearpod will be coming this week.

These programs were purchased with federal Learning Loss Mitigation funding. She also said orders have been placed for art, band, choir, and photography supplies that cannot be shared.

Mrs. Hunter said District social workers are offering a book study, yoga, and mindfulness minutes for staff, and they are available by phone for all students when needed. She mentioned the long-term goal to have a social worker at every school. She announced that Hart District social workers received a state award from the National Association of Social Workers and are in the running for the national organization of the year award. She also announced that a memorial is being planned, called Unity of Community, to recognize the upcoming anniversary of the Saugus High School tragedy. The memorial is scheduled for November 11 at Central Park and will include many community resources. In the event that gatherings are not allowed at that time, it will be rescheduled to May 15, 2021.

Copies of the presentations are attached to the agenda of this meeting.

IX. Action Items

IX.A. Proposed Calendar for the Start of Blended/Online Learning

Motion Passed: Once Los Angeles County is eligible to open for in-person instruction, the Hart District will consider potential dates for reopening based upon logical breaks in the academic calendar. Potential dates for reopening for semester I will include October 19 and November 16. 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

Mr. Kuhlman said it is the District's desire to bring students back to campus at the soonest possible date that it is safe to do so, and he reviewed important dates in the decision making process. He explained that the originally planned return date of September 14 is not possible due to current restrictions. He reviewed the new four-tier system in the state's Blueprint for a Safer Economy and the requirements to move between tiers. He explained that schools will be eligible for reopening for in-person instruction once their county is off Tier 1 for 14 days and reopenings must comply with the county protocols. He suggested potential reopening timelines and said it makes sense to align the transition with the academic calendar. He recommended the next logical date of October 19, at the end of the first quarter. The next suggested date after that is November 16, the second progress reporting period. Each of these dates would be dependent on Los Angeles County meeting the 14-day timeline prior to reopening. Mr. Kuhlman emphasized that the Governing Board will still need to vote on the actual date to start Blended Learning. He said updates on the County's status on the four-tier system will be posted on the District website. A copy of the presentation is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

IX.B. Resolution No. 20/21-3 - Certification of 2019/20 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report

Motion Passed: Adopt Resolution No. 20/21-3 certifying the unaudited actuals report for the 2019/2020 school year, as presented. 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

Mr. Peschek explained that the 2019/20 Unaudited Actuals Report shows actual revenues, expenditures, and ending fund balances for the fiscal year. He reviewed differences between the estimated actuals and unaudited actuals and said 2019/20 revenues were \$5.8 million lower than previously estimated. Expenditures increased by \$12.5 million and the increase was directly tied to COVID-19 expenses. These differences resulted in a \$20.2 million decrease in the ending fund balance. Mr. Peschek said salaries and benefits comprise over 80 percent of District expenditures. He reviewed upcoming items including the independent audit, first interim update, audit report, and governors proposed budget. He said that based on the governor's May revise, a negative \$37.1 million balance was projected for 2022/23. As a result of this year's final state budget, that number has improved to negative \$24.4 million. He said deficit spending is still projected on an annual basis and without significant changes, the first interim will be submitted as a qualified budget. All schools are facing the same challenges. Board members discussed the need for additional state funding. Copies of the resolution, presentation, financial reports, and updated reconciliation of ending balances form are attached to the agenda of this meeting.

IX.C. Approval of Bid - Construction for the Canyon High School Video Studio Set (Woodworks Plus)

Motion Passed: Approve the bid and enter into a contract with Woodworks Plus for the construction of the Canyon High School Video Studio Set. Passed with a motion by Mr. Joseph Messina 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

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

IX.D. 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-06 - Martinez Landscape Co., Inc.)

Motion Passed: Approve 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 Martinez Landscape Co., Inc. 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
Yes Mrs. Linda Storli
Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

A copy of the change order request 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. 20/21-4

X.B.2. Letter of Agreement for Shared Services of District Employees with the Saugus Union School District and the William S. Hart Union High School District

X.C. Consent Calendar-Curriculum/Instruction

X.C.1. Revisions to School Plans for Student Achievement (Hart High School, La Mesa Junior High School and Bowman High School)

X.C.2. Course Offerings for Golden Oak Adult School 2020/21

X.C.3. Strong Workforce Program K12 Pathway Coordinators Sub-agreements between William S. Hart Union High School District (WSHUHSD) and Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD)

X.D. Consent Calendar-Business Services

X.D.1. Renewal Agreement for Legal Services (Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo)

X.D.2. Acceptance of Donation

X.D.3. Acceptance of Monetary Donation

X.D.4. Award of Scholarships

X.E. Consent Calendar-Operations

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. 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

XI. Items for Future Consideration by the Board

Mr. Jensen asked for an attendance update and information on the status of athletics and extracurriculars.

Dr. Moore requested a report of activities schools are using to promote Voter Registration Day on September 22.

XII. Second Closed Session

XIII. Adjournment

Motion Passed: Adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m. 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
Yes Mrs. Linda Storli
Yes Mr. Steven Sturgeon

Respectfully submitted,

Linda H. Storli, President

Cherise G. Moore, Clerk

Approved and entered into the proceedings
of the District:

Date