

Board Workshop (Opening Schools) (Wednesday, July 8, 2020)

Members present

Duane Smith, George Miller, De'Shawn Woolridge, Laura Canciamilla, Joseph Arenivar

1. Opening Items - 5:00 PM

1.01 Called To Order at 5:24 PM

1.02 Public Comment On Closed Session Agenda

2. Closed Session

2.01 Closed Session Agenda (Ms. Tamondong-Bradley)

3. Recall to Open Session - 6:00 PM

3.01 Recalled to Open Session at 6:11 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance

4. Closed Session Report / Action

4.01 Personnel Action Report, [Labor Negotiations - as applicable] (Ms. Tamondong-Bradley)

Ms. Tamondong-Bradley announced the approval of the Personnel Action Report Motion by Laura Canciamilla, second by Duane Smith.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Duane Smith, George Miller, De'Shawn Woolridge, Laura Canciamilla

Not Present at Vote: Joseph Arenivar

Ms. Tamondong-Bradley announced the dedicated service announcement of Margaret Fischer, Special Education Aide at PHS, with special commendation of 12 years of dedicated service.

4.02 Litigation [as applicable]

None.

5. Board Workshop

5.01 Public Comment regarding Board Workshop

Mr. Miller announced that Public Comment would be limited to 30 minutes due to the amount of information that would be discussed during the workshop.

Public Comment: Teacher, submitted a comment on concerns regarding the opening of schools varying in different districts and the impact it would have on parents which children who will have distance learning at home including the risk of contracting the virus.

Public Comment: Melissa Young submitted a comment on concerns regarding the impact on working parents with multiple children attending school during the day and asked if distance learning could be held in the evening to accommodate working parents' schedules.

Public Comment: Michael Zenzano submitted a comment and asked 13 questions regarding the opening of schools.

Public Comment: Irma Villalobos, Parent, submitted a comment asking for the District to choose Distance Learning for the opening of schools.

Public Comment: Heather Puerzer submitted a comment asking what is being done to increase the substitute pool and need for additional custodians if the District chooses the AM/PM model.

Public Comment: Angie Reese, Parent, submitted a comment sharing concerns about the possible recession of students attending Special Day Classes and accessing services such as Speech and Occupational Therapy.

Public Comment: Colette Byrd submitted a comment asking what will happen to fall sports.

Public Comment: Stephanie Lee, Teacher, submitted a comment urging the Board to hold an additional Board meeting before the next scheduled Board meeting to vote on the opening of schools to provide additional time for parents and staff to make plans.

Public Comment: Karina Valencia, Teacher, submitted a comment asking the Board to decide on remote learning for the opening of schools to ensure the safety of the community.

Public Comment: Amy Karhu, Teacher, submitted a comment asking the Board to decide on remote learning for the opening of school to ensure the safety of the community.

Public Comment: Erika Villalobos, Parent, submitted a comment asking the Board to decide on remote learning due to health risks students can be exposed to.

Public Comment: Jayme Gomez, submitted a comment asking who the committee is, to dissolve the superintendent's position to allocate the funds towards teacher hazard pay, the lack of importance of votes and how the committee came about.

Public Comment: William Goodwin, Parent, submitted a comment asking two questions regarding the options provided to parents in the survey and why testing for COVID-19 was not in the survey.

Public Comment: Fatima Shaibi, parent, commented and asked when the decision on how the opening of school will be made to make sure she is able to plan accordingly.

Public Comment: Sandra Hodge and Nathan Ferrise submitted a comment asking the Board to terminate the contract between the District and the Pittsburg Police Department and to allocate the funds towards student services, preventative measures such as mental health resources and restorative justice services.

Public Comment: Eugenia Rodriguez, Jill Acompañado, Taylor Sims, Kevin Sunja, Francis Rodson Clavel and Carina Piñeda submitted comments in support making A-G approved Ethnic Studies courses a PUSD graduation requirement, and to make Ethnic Studies a requirement at the junior high schools.

Mr. Miller announced that due to the amount of comments submitted, the Board would move on with the start of the workshop.

Mr. Woolridge and Dr. Canciamilla shared that Ethnic Studies has been included in the curriculum in the past as an elective. Dr. Canciamilla asked that the Board discuss Ethnic Studies in more depth.

Dr. Schulze stated that she would discuss the Ethnic Studies topic with the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services and recommended that the topic be brought back as an agenda item in a future meeting for discussion.

5.02 Board Workshop - Opening Schools (Dr. Schulze)

Dr. Schulze informed the public that the Board would not take action during the workshop meeting like neighboring districts have and that the Board would decide on a future meeting.

Dr. Schulze shared a presentation and provided an overview of the guiding principles, guidelines and focus areas used by the Advisory Committee and Subcommittees on the opening of schools.

Each committee presented on the work that they discussed and accomplished.

Dr. Schulze shared the timeline and next steps and stated that the District has provided regular updates.

Staff and committee members shared their recommendations to the Board.

Dr. Schulze shared the Guiding Principles and Assumptions which are the Health and Safety of Students and Staff, Student-Centered Decision Making and Equity, Flexibility and Communication. She shared that all work done by the committees is advisory and Subject to District, Board, County, State Approval and Union Bargaining. State laws apply and any Board Policy changes/additions will need to be brought to the Board.

Dr. Schulze presented the information included in the presentation in detail and thanked the committee members for their work. She shared that the Board would vote on July 22nd and stated that decisions are flexible and will change as health conditions change. She stated that it is important to plan for both scenarios of hybrid and full distance learning to make sure that everyone is prepared in case health conditions impact in person learning.

Mr. Rocap and Ms. Preciado shared an update and the data compiled from the surveys and webinars from the Staff & Family Stakeholder Input Committee. They provided recommendations from the committee.

Mr. Alegria and Mr. Belasco provided an update and shared the recommendations from the Safety, Health and Physical Spaces Committee.

Dr. Frazier-Meyers provided an update and shared the recommendations from the Counseling and Social-Emotional Support Committee.

Dr. Catalde shared that the recommendations from the committee included assistance from the National Collaborative for Social Emotional Learning, California Department of Education recommendations for reopening, The National School Psych Association and California School Counselors Association.

Ms. Bell presented on the Pre-K and Elementary process. She shared that the committee has compiled a toolbox and resources to assist teachers and students.

Ms. Aragon shared a brief update of the social emotional lessons for the junior high school students.

Ms. Fu, PHS Counselor provided an update on the tier 1 lessons for the high school and adult education.

Ms. Fitzgerald, teacher at Foothill Junior High School, shared an update and the importance of the need to support students through this process.

Mr. Valenzuela and Ms. Ceballos provided a detailed update and shared the recommendations from the Scheduling and Instructional Programs with Disabilities Committee.

Ms. Jeffrey, Ms. Rust, Ms. Belasco and Ms. Guardado shared the recommendations from the Scheduling and Instructional Program for Early Ed and Elementary Committee.

Ms. Fitzgerald provided an update and shared the recommendations from the Scheduling and Instructional Programs for Junior High Committee.

Ms. Mattson shared an update and the recommendations from the Scheduling and Instructional Programs for High School Committee.

Ms. Hess shared an update and the recommendations from the Scheduling and Instructional Programs for Adult Ed Committee.

The Board discussed and asked committee members questions throughout the presentation.

Dr. Canciamilla recommended that the Board hold an additional Board meeting to discuss the information presented.

Mr. Woolridge agreed and shared that he would also like to hold an additional Board meeting to discuss the opening of school.

The Board agreed to hold a Special Board Meeting on July 15, 2020 to discuss the information provided and to provide staff with their questions in advance.

Dr. Schulze thanked all of the committee members for their dedication and hard work.

6. Next Board Meeting / Future Events / Adjournment

6.01 Next Regular Board Meeting - July 22, 2020

Meeting adjourned at 10:38 PM