MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Fresno Unified School District
September 19, 2018

Fresno, California
September 19, 2018
Office of the Board of Education, Fresno Unified School District Board Room, Education Center, 2309 Tulare Street, Fresno, CA 93721.

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Fresno Unified School District, held on September 19, 2018, there were present Board Members Ashjian, Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Mills and Board President Jonasson Rosas. Superintendent Nelson was also present.

Board Member Cazares arriving at 2:34 p.m. and Board Member Johnson arriving at 3:00 p.m.

Board President Jonasson Rosas CONVENED the Regular Board meeting at 2:30 p.m. in conference room C at the Nutrition and commenced the discussion regarding the Board’s Self-Evaluation.

Opportunity for Public Comment on the Board’s Self-Evaluation:
Andrew Fabela – Spoke about the Board of Trustees conduct in the boardroom and having consistency between those at the podium and those at the dais. There needs to be mutual respect from both parties. Also questioned the reason for having the board’s self-evaluation at the Nutrition Center and not in the boardroom.

Discuss the Board’s Self-Evaluation
The Board of Trustees of Fresno Unified School District discussed the Board’s self-evaluation process to assess the governance team’s performance in making decisions and setting policy that led to system-wide improvement and in particular the achievement of the Board-adopted Goals and Core Beliefs and Commitments.

Presentation by Mary Egan, Consultant from Municipal Resources Group

Ms. Egan facilitated the board’s self-evaluation process by discussing the board’s survey results, information from conversations with the board, areas of strength and areas of opportunity. The board discussed the roles and responsibilities of board leadership and asked for clarification and a Board Communication outlining Board Bylaws regarding board
leadership and setting meeting agendas. Facilities and maintenance plans were also a topic of conversation, and more specifically related to Measure X, and a majority of the board asked that a special meeting take place to discuss Measure X priorities. To conclude the Board’s Self-Evaluation portion of meeting, the board decided to have a meeting early in the spring to discuss the superintendent’s goals and to work on a strategic plan for the district.

The board concluded their discussion and ADJOURNED at 3:59 p.m. to RECONVENE at the Education Center for the remainder of the meeting.

Board President Jonasson Rosas RECONVENED the Regular Board meeting at 4:35 p.m. in the boardroom and ADJOURNED to Closed Session to address items 1 through 7. The Board RECONVENED in Open Session at 6:44 p.m.

Opportunity for Public Comment prior to Closed Session:
Lucila Ortiz, Organizing Director with Californians for Justice – Shared her and the organizations support for Superintendent Nelson. Superintendent Nelson has been a champion for student voice. He has been vital in moving the district forward in implementing policies to close the achievement gap, and bring our most vulnerable students closer to success.

Staff Present
Chief Academic Officer Mecum, Chief of Human Resources and Labor Relations Idsvoog, Chief Technology Officer Madden, Chief Operations Officer Temple, Chief of Communications Arias, Executive Director of Student Services Dorsey, Executive Director of Constituent Services Plascencia, Executive Director McCulley, Administrative Analyst Jensen and Chief of Staff David Chavez.

Reporting Out of Closed Session
1. On a motion by Board Member Mills, seconded by Board Member Johnson, by the following vote 7-0-0-0, the Board voted to give the Superintendent a positive evaluation.
2. On a motion by Board Member Davis, seconded by Board Member Mills, by the following vote 7-0-0-0, the Board took action in Closed Session, to promote Phillip Neufeld to Executive Officer, Information Technology.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
John Harris, a parent that has had a positive impact at Cambridge High School led the flag salute.

HEAR Reports from Student Board Representatives
Alysah Diaz and Mercédez García ASB representatives from Roosevelt High School, shared the following with the Board:
• SAB members had a presentation on technology that informed them that in late October Fresno Unified will distribute tablets to students in TK and Kindergarten, and 9th-11th grade as Learning Companion Devices. The IT department asked for SAB’s help in developing the student video.
• Students also shared the efforts of the Prevention and Intervention Department on Student Attendance keep all kids in school every day. SAB members were challenged to make a video to encourage students to come to school hoping to improve their attendance.
• Alysah and Mercédez spoke about how they learned about the Williams Act and how students can contact site leaders if they are missing necessary classroom materials or supplies, or if facilities are in disrepair.
• Students shared with the board that at Roosevelt High School they celebrated Perfect Attendance, Honor Roll, High Honor Roll and Honor Society students during Academic Awards Assembly. The students were honored with a certificate for their hard work and academic dedication during the 2018 Fall Semester.
• They shared that they have incorporated Picnic Fridays, where students have been encouraged to bring a blanket so that they can sit with their friends and enjoy a designated treat of the week in a family style setting. This is a way to promote kindness and caring amongst our Rough Rider brothers and sisters.

Students from Tehipite Middle School were present to talk about what they love about their school, and being a Tehipite student.

**HEAR Report from Superintendent**

• The superintendent shared that the district’s executive team is currently engaged in the strategic planning process. While there are District Goals and Core Beliefs that guide the district’s work, there is not a formal mission and vision statement. The team is searching and identifying collective values that will build upon already established goals and core beliefs.
• Nelson also updated the board regarding professional learning that kicked off this week under the larger umbrella of cultural responsiveness. After engaging in deep research and study, the Instructional Division has designed a three-year plan to approach culturally responsive teaching and implicit bias. Training includes a multi-faceted approach including gender awareness that was first launched with our board and district leaders last spring, and this week began engaging site leaders around inclusion with our LGTBQ community.
• Superintendent reminded employees that our WellPATH program is partnering with Kaiser Permanente to offer free flu shot clinics at sites across the district. The vaccine is free and available for employees with district medical insurance, covered spouses, domestic partner’s dependents age 18+, early retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees.

**OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items**

**David Miller with Fresno Produce** – Spoke about the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program. Shared his concerns with the bidding process and feels that Fresno Unified is paying more than the originally bid amounts.

*Board Members Ashjian and Mills requested that the Superintendent look into the matter.*

**Andrew Fabela** – Spoke about the U.S. Government class being taught at Bullard High School. Compared the syllabus to a Fast Food Drive Thru. Enough time is not being used to teach the subject. Suggested that electives be removed.
On a motion by Member De La Cerda, seconded by Member Davis, the consent agenda, exclusive of agenda item: A-4, A-5, and A-7 which were pulled for further discussion, were approved on a roll call vote of 9-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Student Board Members Casarubias and Sarama, Board Members: Ashjian, Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Mills and Board President Jonasson Rosas.

**A. CONSENT AGENDA**

A-1, **APPROVE Personnel List**
APPROVED as recommended, the Personnel List, Appendix A, as submitted.

A-2, **ADOPT Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Board**
ADOPTED as recommended, the Findings of Fact and Recommendations of District Administrative Panels resulting from hearings on expulsion and readmittance cases conducted during the period since the September 5, 2018 Regular Board meeting.

A-3, **APPROVE Minutes from Prior Meeting**
APPROVED as recommended, the draft minutes for the August 22, 2018 Regular Meeting and August 31, 2018 Special Board Meeting.

A-4, **APPROVE Comprehensive Safe School Plans for 2018/19**
APPROVED as recommended, the Comprehensive Safe School Plans for all schools. The Plans support a safe learning environment for students and staff and are organized to align with the California Standardized Emergency Management System. The Plans are updated annually in coordination with school site administration.

For the record, there were comments/questions regarding as to how the information is disseminated across the district and commented that staff needs to be cognizant on how the message of Active Assailant effects the students. Chief of Operations Karin Temple and Manager Armand Chavez were available to respond. Member De La Cerda moved for approval, seconded by Member Davis, which carried a vote 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Ashjian, Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Mills and Board President Jonasson Rosas.

A-5, **APPROVE Award of Bid 19-03, Kings Canyon Middle School Baseball Field and Softball Field Improvements Rebid; and Reject Bid 18-36**
APPROVED as recommended, Bid 19-03, to improve the baseball and softball facilities at Kings Canyon Middle School and increase equity by providing irrigation, landscaping, water fountains, electrical work, and new baseball backstop and dugouts.

REJECTED as recommended bids received for Bid 18-36, the original bid for this project.

Staff recommends award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder:

JT2, Inc. dba Todd Companies (Visalia, California) $267,000
Prior to the vote Board Member Ashjian made the following statement:

Item A-5 is a bid award to JT2, Inc. doing business as Todd Companies (Bid Number 19-03). I have done business with Todd companies in my private capacity on other projects not involving Fresno Unified beginning at least five years prior to my election to this Board. I did not participate in making this contract. Because of my relationship with Todd Companies, I have a remote financial interest in this contract. Therefore, I am abstaining from this vote pursuant to Board Bylaw 9270.

For the record, there were no comments/questions. Member Davis moved for approval, seconded by Member De La Cerda, which carried a vote 6-0-0-1 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Mills and Board President Jonasson Rosas. ABSTENTIONS: Board Member Ashjian.

A-6, APPROVE Provisional Internship Permits
APPROVED as recommended, Provisional Internship Permit (PIP) recommendations to hire rehire upon Board approval.

A-7, APPROVE Proposed Revisions for Exhibit (E) 9270 – Conflict of Interest
APPROVED as recommended, proposed revisions for the following Exhibit (E):

- E 9270 - Conflict of Interest

These revisions meet the recommendations submitted by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.

For the record, there were comments/questions regarding the title Conflict of Interest – the district has another policy with the same title which can be confusing, and concern with the accuracy of the online Form 700 with Fresno County – the drop down box for jurisdiction does not reflect accurately for board members. Chief of Staff David Chavez and Legal Counsel Mary Beth de Goede were available to respond. Member Mills moved for approval with the change to the Conflict of Interest title to reflect as such: Conflict of Interest – Form 700, seconded by Member Ashjian, which carried a vote 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Ashjian, Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Mills and Board President Jonasson Rosas.

A-8, DENY Claim #GL18-0627-1344
DENIED as recommended, a Claim for Damages by a Minor, case #GL18-0627-1344, and the matter referred to the district’s Executive Director of Benefits and Risk Management for further handling.

A-9, DENY Claim #GL18-0627-1345
DENIED as recommended, a Claim for Damages by a Minor, case #GL18-0627-1345, and the matter referred to the district’s Executive Director of Benefits and Risk Management for further handling.
A-10, RATIFY Service Agreement with WestEd for Training and Technical Assistance on the Desired Results Developmental Profile System
RATIFIED as recommended, the service agreement with WestEd to provide preschool teachers four in-person training sessions and ongoing coaching support on the use of the Desired Results Developmental Profile during the period of August 31, 2018 through July 31, 2019.

A-11, RATIFY Change Order and Filing of Notice of Completion for Bid 18-06, Section E
RATIFIED as recommended, Change Order and the Notice of Completion for Section E for the following project, which has been completed according to plans and specifications:

Bid 18-06 Sections A-F, Playground Equipment Installation for Columbia, Edison-Bethune, Jefferson, Kirk, Lane and Storey Elementary Schools

Change Order 1 (Section E/Lane) includes, but may not be limited to: add transition ramp, concrete and handrails; and add 85 days to contract duration for unforeseen site utilities interfering with playground layout.

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END OF CONSENT AGENDA

UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS
Robert Gutierrez – Shared concerns regarding the Math grading system at Gaston Middle School. Was told the Math grading system was lowered by 30%.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

Agenda Item B-12, Hold a Public Hearing and Adopt Resolution in the Matter of Sufficiency of Instructional Materials to Comply with the Requirements of Education Code Section 60119
HELD a public hearing and ADOPTED as recommended, the Resolution in the Matter of Sufficiency of Instructional Materials.
The governing board of each district is required to hold a public hearing and adopt a resolution stating whether each pupil, including English learner students, has standards-aligned textbooks and instructional materials in these subject areas: English Language Arts, mathematics, history/social science, health (grades 7-12), foreign language (grades 7-12) and science equipment in grades 9-12.
Presentation by Instructional Superintendent Melissa Dutra

*Board President Jonasson Rosas opened the public hearing.*

There were no individuals from the public wanting to speak.

*Board President Jonasson Rosas Closed the public hearing*

For the record, there were no comments/questions. On a motion by Member De La Cerda, seconded by Member Mills, the Resolution in the Matter of Sufficiency of Instructional Materials was adopted by the following vote 7-0-0-0 as follows: AYES: Board Members: Ashjian, Cazares, Davis, De La Cerda, Johnson, Mills and Board President Jonasson Rosas.

**Agenda Item B-13, Present and Discuss The Teacher Development Pipeline**
The Teacher Development department was created in 2009 with a vision to ensure that every classroom has a highly effective teacher and to provide a continuum of supports for teachers in Fresno Unified. In partnership with Human Resources, the Teacher Development department will present and discuss recruitment, training, and retention strategies within the Teacher Pipeline.

Presentation by Chief Academic Officer Kim Mecum and Staff

For the record, there were comments/questions thanking and congratulating staff for all their hard work and being nationally recognized as leaders in this area, thanked our CSU Fresno and Fresno Pacific partners, is the district meeting all their needs or do we need to reach out further, are we filling the positions for Math and Special Ed teachers, at what age are we reaching out to our young students, are we encouraging students of color, a mention that our recruitment team needs to be diverse, where is the $10 million coming from, how is the grant money used, expanding the program to include our hard to fill positions, are we tracking data on retention rates, and are we conduction exit interviews. Chief Academic Officer Mecum and staff were available to respond. There was no action required for this item.

**Agenda Item B-14, Present and Discuss Update on Fresno Unified Personalized Learning Initiative: Results from Year Two and Expansion in Year Three**
The Board received an update on the Fresno Unified Personalized Learning Initiative (PLI). The Board received a report and data with results from year two and will received an update on the program expansion in year three.

Presentation by Chief Academic Officer Kim Mecum and Staff

For the record, there were comments/questions thanking staff for all their hard work, what is the plan or timeline to get it out to the whole district, what would be the cost to expand, it is wonderful to see teachers using the data to make decisions in the classroom, do we track to see if our students are using the platform outside of the district, a suggestion to use a magnet or something more
permanent to remind parents and students to use the App at home, can we expand the PLI into our other initiatives, clarity on the rescaled SBAC scores, are we tracking lasting differences with students who have 1 year or 2 years, did the devices have internet, and what were some of the lessons learned. Chief Academic Officer Mecum, Executive Officer Neufeld and staff were available to respond. There was no action required for this item.

C. RECEIVE INFORMATION & REPORTS
There were no items for this portion of the agenda.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION
Member Mills – Suggested a presentation from legal counsel regarding the Form 700 since there will be at least two new board members, mentioned the shortage of parking at “E” street and offered suggestions as to how to possibly alleviate the situation and mentioned the difficulty on board members and staff in having two locations on the same day for a board meeting.
Member De La Cerda – Requested a board communication from staff clarifying the responses/actions that the district has taken thus far with Mr. Miller and Fresno Produce, suggested that we disseminate information to the community to what initiatives and good things the district has done with tax dollars.
Member Ashjian – Reminded staff that the district has access to the stadium at Bitwise that is available to us once per week, which has 200 seats and parking included in our lease. Congratulated Superintendent Nelson on his unanimous positive evaluation.
Board President Jonasson Rosas – Mentioned if live-streaming training sessions were an option.

D. ADJOURNMENT
With no further business to come before the Board, Board President Jonasson Rosas declared the meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.