

ADOPTED MINUTES
El Dorado Union High School District
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Board Meeting
April 14, 2020

Submit to
Board _____

A. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1. Call to Order

This joint by phone meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Board President Kevin Brown.

The meeting was opened for public comment on Closed Session agenda items. There being no public comments, Mr. Brown closed this portion of the meeting and the Board adjourned for Closed Session discussion on the following agenda items (GC 54957.7, 54954.5):

- a. Discuss actions for certificated and classified personnel listed in the consent agenda related to personnel action. (GC 54954.5, 54957)
- b. Public Employee: Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Reassignment/Resignation (GC 22714; 44929; 44929.21; 44934; 44949; 44951; 44953; 44954; 44955; 45192; 44195; 87488)
- c. Public Employment: Administrator(s).
- d. Conference with labor negotiators (agency negotiators for the Board are Assistant Superintendent Tony DeVille, Assistant Superintendent Chris Moore and Assistant Superintendent Robert Whittenberg) to discuss with the Board represented employees: Discussion related to Proposals from Faculty Association. (GC 3547 {a})
- e. Conference with labor negotiators (agency negotiators for the Board are Assistant Superintendent Tony DeVille, Assistant Superintendent Chris Moore and Assistant Superintendent Robert Whittenberg) to discuss with the Board represented employees: Discussion related to Proposals from CSEA. (GC 3547 {a})
- f. Superintendent Evaluation.

* Any action will be taken in public session during the Student Services and Innovation section of the public portion of the Board Meeting. All appropriate actions will be taken to preserve the confidentiality and legal rights to privacy of the students. (EC 35146, 48918[c])

The Board reconvened Open Session at 6:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance will be skipped until regular Board Meetings are back to session.

3. Attendance

Board Members

Kevin W. Brown
David J. Del Rio
Lori M. Veerkamp
Jessica K. Rodgers
Timothy M. Cary

D.O. Staff

Ron Carruth, Superintendent/Secretary to the Board
Chris Moore, Assistant Superintendent
Tony DeVille, Assistant Superintendent
Robert Whittenberg, Assistant Superintendent
Pam Bartlett, Senior Director
Chuck Palmer, Senior Director
Serena Fuson, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Student Board Member

Emma Austin

Association Representatives

Teri Lillywhite

Stephanie Davis

4. Requests to change the agenda and approval of agenda.

Mrs. Veerkamp moved to approve the agenda. Mrs. Rodgers seconded. Motion unanimously carried (5-0).

Brown: Aye

Cary: Aye

Del Rio: Aye

Rodgers: Aye

Veerkamp: Aye

(Austin): Aye

5. Mr. Cary moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Del Rio seconded. Motion unanimously carried (5-0).

Brown: Aye

Cary: Aye

Del Rio: Aye

Rodgers: Aye

Veerkamp: Aye

(Austin): Aye

1. Approval of Minutes of March 24, 2020 Special Board Meeting.
2. Approval of Minutes of March 13, 2020 Emergency Board Meeting.
3. Approval of Minutes of March 10, 2020 Board Meeting.
4. Approval of Commercial Warrants Report. (copy for viewing available at District Office)
5. Approval of Routine Certificated Personnel Action.
6. Donations Received.
7. Review of Board Policies and Administrative Regulations: AR 3514.2 - Integrated Pest Management; BP 4033 - Lactation Accommodation; BP 4112.2 - Certification; BP 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students; AR 6143 - Courses of Study; BP 6154 - Homework/Makeup Work.
8. Review of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation: AR 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Students Achievement and BP 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements.
9. Annual Review and Update of AR/BP 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment.
10. Approval/Ratification of Various Contracts. (2/29/2020 - 3/31/2020)
11. Budget Transfers. (3/1/2020 - 3/27/2020)
12. Monthly Report of Developer Fees Collected. (February 2020)
13. Williams Act Uniform Complaint Procedures Quarterly Report. (January - March 2020)
14. Annual Review and Approval of the El Dorado Union High School District Injury and Illness Prevention Program.
15. CSBA's Practi-Cal for Medi-Cal LEA Billing Option Services Agreement.
16. Approve General Prevailing Wage Determination Rates.
17. Notice of Completion, Enviroplex, Modular Expansion Project Portable Classroom PL5.
18. Notice of Completion, Enviroplex, Modular Expansion Project Portable Classroom PL6.
19. Notice of Completion, Enviroplex, Modular Expansion Project Portable Classroom PL7.

B. RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

There were no recognitions this evening.

C. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE

Superintendent Carruth read a correspondence received on behalf of the Board of Trustees by EDHS teacher Ms. Jina Jumper.

D. INVITATION TO BARGAINING UNIT PRESIDENTS/DESIGNEES AND/OR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD (GC54954.3)

1. Ms. Teri Lillywhite, CSEA Vice President, shared that she is proud of how District employees have come together during these difficult times to support students and families. She appreciates the guidance and support received from the administration and thanked the Board of Trustees for their support of the District's mission. Lastly, she commented that the next negotiations meeting will be on Thursday via phone and they will have an update at the next Board Meeting.
2. Ms. Stephanie Davis, Faculty Association President, thanked everyone for the coordination, support and collaboration that has been done in the District. She has been working closely with Educational Services on the grading policy, Human Resources on evaluations and with Superintendent Carruth on the budget update. Ms. Davis stated that she would be forwarding correspondence to the Board of Trustees that she has received in support of the library program.

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. COVID-19 School Closure.
Superintendent Carruth stated that nearly every public school in California is now closed through the remainder of the school year and the Governor's latest update included comments on what school might look like in the fall. Our District's goal is to finish the school year strong and to continue supporting our students and teachers.
2. State Budget Update.
Assistant Superintendent Whittenberg reported that in the February Board Meeting, the 2nd Interim budget was reviewed. This was right before the COVID-19 crisis began, and even then, the budget looked very tight. On March 5, our District-wide Budget Advisory Committee met to collectively think through ways to decrease expenditures and find a pathway forward in building up the bottom line.

The worldwide COVID-19 crisis has generated more questions than answers, and the far-reaching implications are still yet to be fully known or understood. One thing we do know is that COVID-19 is dramatically reducing California's revenue projections for the state budget, and this will likely trickle down and affect public school district budgets as well. The Legislative Analyst's Office has recently stated that local school districts reserves could provide many school districts with time to prepare for declines in revenues. However, few districts in California have enough reserves to maintain current levels of service for an extended period if revenues were to decline significantly. Moreover, the balance in the state-level school reserve is very small compared with the revenue declines schools might face. All of the factors suggest that state and school leaders should be very cautious as they prepare for the upcoming year.

Mr. Whittenberg provided the Board with an overview of the District's multi-year budget projections for the next three years. He stated that when he attended the Governor's Budget Workshop in January, his team learned that the projections for the COLA had decreased from 3.00% to 2.29% for the 2020/2021 fiscal year, from 2.80% to 2.71% in the 2021/2022 fiscal year, and from 3.16% to 2.82% in the 2022/2023 fiscal year. What that translates to in dollars is a loss of \$464,000 in 2020/2021, a loss of \$540,000 in 2021/2022, and a loss of \$792,000 in 2022/2023. As discouraging as that information was, that was before the COVID-19 crisis developed, so unfortunately, the information our District is now receiving from the State and Federal Government looks even more bleak.

There is a growing concern among public school districts across the State, which the projected statutory COLA for the next three years could be decreased even further, or possibly even eliminated, so we ran the numbers to see what a 0% COLA would look like in our budget. Please note this does not assume we actually have a cut in revenue. This makes the situation worse.

If you look at the budget document online, you'll see the Unassigned/Unappropriated Balances from the 2015/2016 fiscal year on the left of the page showing \$6.1 million decreasing to our most recent 2nd Interim figure in the 2019/2020 fiscal year showing an ending fund balance of \$855,000. Now, if we assume a 0% COLA in the three out years, you can see how quickly things turn red and go upside down. A 0% COLA in 2020/2021 would put us at a negative \$562,000, a negative \$2.7 million in 2021/2022, and a negative \$6 million in 2022/2023. Our budget goes negative next year without significant budget reductions.

In order to safeguard the District's budget, we need to move quickly and act sooner rather than later to minimize the negative fallout. We will be working with the Faculty Association and CSEA as we work out a budget stabilization plan. This will not be an easy task.

3. ENGIE Energy Update.

Superintendent Carruth reported that ARC is currently analyzing a potential proposal with the District and ENGIE that would include LED batteries, LED lighting, battery backup and generators for potential future no electricity days and would be paid for with cost savings. He stated that he would have a report for the Board of Trustees at a later date.

F. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Distance Learning Update.

Assistant Superintendent Moore commented that he is proud of the work of our faculty, staff and administration. As everyone heard in the wonderful correspondence by teacher Ms. Jumper, the El Dorado Union High School District (EDUHSD) did not wait to start distance learning for our school community. Our District anticipated that the closures were coming and mobilized as a community to educate our students.

Mr. Moore reported that the administration along with the Board of Trustees agreed to modify the District's grading policy for our students during the COVID-19 school closures. The EDUHSD shall continue to provide distance learning for students through June 2, 2020. Students are provided with two distance-learning options for most courses: online or printed packets.

Students may choose to receive letter grades for the semester or they may choose to receive a Pass/No Mark grade for the semester. The option for letter grades will be available to students who choose either distance learning option (online or paper packets). Universities and colleges are developing admissions policies for students earning pass marks instead of letter grades. While the District does not control college admissions processes, it is our belief that colleges will develop policies that do not discriminate against students who receive pass marks instead of letter grades during the closure. UC and CSU campuses will not require a letter grade for the mandatory a-g courses taken in high school this year (2020) in winter, spring or summer. Families may choose the Pass/No Mark option anytime during the semester up until May 22, 2020. By mid-May, the District will receive written notification from most colleges as to their updated admission criteria.

The Pass Mark may be issued for any grades earned for the semester from A to D. F grades will be awarded No Marks for the semester. Students receiving No Marks will not earn credit. The Pass or No Mark will not be averaged into the students' GPA. Counselors are finalizing the process by which families notify the District of their students' grading option choice by course (letter grade or Pass/No Mark).

To prevent undue academic harm during the school closures, the Board of Trustees is considering lowering the elective credit graduation requirement from 240 to 220 for the Class of 2020. Students in the Class of 2020 are expected to meet all graduation requirements, but would only need a total of 220 credits instead of 240 to earn a diploma. Special circumstances may exist for students with disabilities and Individual Education Plans (IEPs), Federal 504 plans, English learners, homeless youth, foster youth, pregnant and parenting students, migrant

students, former juvenile court students, and children of military families that prevent them from succeeding in distance learning. Therefore, a Board waiver process is being developed to allow such students in the class of 2020 to waive local Board graduation requirements beyond the state mandated graduation requirements due to challenges presented with distance learning.

School administration and staff will work to the best of their abilities to support students and communicate effectively during the closures. Families should also work to the best of their abilities to support students with the distance learning options.

Mr. Moore stated that during these unprecedented times, the District is striving to provide our students with the opportunity to progress academically and obtain college and career readiness skills needed for post-secondary transitions.

G. BUSINESS SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no action/discussion items under this session.

H. STUDENT SERVICES AND INNOVATION – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Graduation Ceremony Update.

Senior Director Chuck Palmer reported on the efforts the District is taking to provide a meaningful graduation event/ceremony for seniors during this challenging time. Possible options are being reviewed including the possibility of an online virtual graduation ceremony or an in person ceremony should the social distancing guidelines be lax in the coming months. A survey is being developed that will be sent out to families to obtain their opinion on what they would like to do for graduation and then a committee including administration, faculty, staff, parents and students will converse. Then a decision will be made by the District.

I. HUMAN RESOURCES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Disclosure and Ratification of the Master Contract between the El Dorado Union High School District and the Faculty Association for 2019-2020.

Assistant Superintendent DeVille reported that AB1200 and Government Code section 3547.5 required local education agencies to publicly disclose the provisions of all collective bargaining agreements before the Board gives final approval to the Agreement. The Disclosure Statement is attached to the Board item and has been posted on the District bulletin board for public review.

The Board of Trustees and the District Administration have been engaged in contract negotiations with the Faculty Association and on Friday, February 21, 2020, signed a Tentative Agreement. Subsequently, the Faculty Association Board notified the District that the membership approved the Tentative Agreement, and it is now being presented for final approval to the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Del Rio moved to approve the Disclosure and Ratification of the Master Contract Between the El Dorado Union High School District and the Faculty Association for 2019-2020. Mrs. Rodgers seconded. The motion carried (5-0).

Brown: Aye

Cary: Aye

Del Rio: Aye

Rodgers: Aye

Veerkamp: Aye

(Austin): Aye

J. STUDENT SUCCESS – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Special Education Update.

Senior Director Pam Bartlett shared that she is impressed with our District. The leadership and staff have demonstrated dedication and professionalism as well as intelligence and innovation. Education Specialists, Special Education teachers and Paraprofessionals have been navigating

legal requirements while ensuring students are able to engage in distant learning. Her team is working on plans for student testing, ways to support incoming 9th graders to successfully transition and the development of IEPs for students who are in the middle of an assessment process. Mrs. Bartlett gave kudos to UMHS teacher Ms. Chanda Bridgeman who delivered groceries to a family in need. In addition, she shared that the Transition Specialists are working on postsecondary transition planning and accountability measures. Nurses are responding to needs, following health related updates, and planning for a potential return to school. She shared that she is grateful for the Wellness Center staff at Sierra Child & Family Services who are working with students to ensure that their needs are met and are providing resources to families. Mrs. Bartlett thanked Mrs. Serena Fuson for helping to facilitate the outreach with families. Lastly, she shared that the Student Success Office will be working on extended school year planning for the return to school and will ensure that the Student Success Initiative continues to progress.

K. OTHER – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no action/discussion items under this session.

L. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY BOARD AND CABINET, IF NEEDED.

Announcements and topics of interest reported by Board Members/Cabinet and timeline of items for future Board Meetings.

Mr. Palmer:

- Mr. Palmer thanked everyone for their hard work and stated that he is thankful to be a part of this great District.

Mr. Whittenberg:

- Mr. Whittenberg thanked Mrs. Veerkamp and the Serrano El Dorado Owners' Association for the generous donation of 15,000 pieces of candy for the community. The candy was distributed at El Dorado High School on Easter and it put a smile on the faces of kids throughout the County.

Mr. Moore:

- Mr. Moore wished everyone a wonderful Easter.

Superintendent Carruth:

- Superintendent Carruth shared that it was two years ago today that the Board of Trustees interviewed him. He thanked them for hiring him and for their constant support.

Ms. Austin:

- Ms. Austin thanked Ms. Jumper for the positive correspondence and commented that the transition as a student has been smooth. She is thankful that the District is working on a plan for graduation.

Mr. Cary:

- Mr. Cary shared that he is proud of everyone in the District for how hard they are working and for being so adaptable during this unprecedented time.

Mrs. Rodgers:

- Mrs. Rodgers thanked everyone in the District for making the transition during this difficult time.

Mrs. Veerkamp:

- Mrs. Veerkamp thanked District staff for coming together to work hard for our families. She thanked Ms. Jumper for the correspondence, as it was heartfelt and appreciated.

Mr. Del Rio:

- Mr. Del Rio thanked everyone for their hard work and for the continued success of our students.

Mr. Brown:

- Mr. Brown stated that it is trying times right now, but the EDUHSD has an amazing team that is working collaboratively to lead distance learning for our students. Our District is setting a precedence for other districts to follow and he is proud. He shared that he visited with his family on Easter via FaceTime and he got to see his grandson. Lastly, he thanked everyone for their participation tonight.

M. OPEN SESSION

This session was not needed.

N. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Brown adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Ron Carruth
Secretary to the Board of Trustees