

ADOPTED MINUTES  
El Dorado Union High School District  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Regular Board Meeting  
February 16, 2021

Submit to  
Board \_\_\_\_\_

**A. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS**

1. Call to Order

This meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Board President David Del Rio in the Union Mine High School Theater.

As there were no requests to address the Board, Mr. Del Rio 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. Conference with labor negotiators (agency negotiators for the Board are Assistant Superintendent Tony DeVille, Assistant Superintendent Christopher Moore and Assistant Superintendent Robert Whittenberg) to discuss with the Board represented employees: Discussion related to Proposals from Faculty Association. (GC 3547 {a})
- d. Conference with labor negotiators (agency negotiators for the Board are Assistant Superintendent Tony DeVille, Assistant Superintendent Christopher Moore and Assistant Superintendent Robert Whittenberg) to discuss with the Board represented employees: Discussion related to Proposals from CSEA. (GC 3547 {a})

The Board reconvened Open Session at 6:35 p.m. in the Union Mine High School Theater.

2. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Kevin Brown.

3. Attendance

Board Members

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

D.O. Staff

Ron Carruth, Superintendent/Secretary to the Board  
Christopher 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

Hannah Frost

Association Representatives

Teri Lillywhite  
Stephanie Davis

4. Requests to change the agenda and approval of agenda.  
Mrs. Veerkamp moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Cary seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

**Brown:** Aye  
**Cary:** Aye  
**Del Rio:** Aye  
**Rodgers:** Aye  
**Veerkamp:** Aye  
(Frost): Aye

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

**Brown:** Aye  
**Cary:** Aye  
**Del Rio:** Aye  
**Rodgers:** Aye  
**Veerkamp:** Aye  
(Frost): Aye

1. Approval of Minutes of January 12, 2021 Board Meeting.
2. Approval of Commercial Warrants Report (copy for viewing available at District Office).
3. Approval of Routine Certificated Personnel Action.
4. Approval of Routine Classified Personnel Action.
5. Review of Board Policies and Administrative Regulations: AR/BP 1321 - Solicitation Of Funds From And By Students, AR/BP 1321.1 - SCRIP Use For Fundraising (Delete/Delete), AR 1341 - Electronic Archiving And Retention Of District Records (Delete), AR/BP 3512 - Equipment (Revise/Delete), AR 3530 - Risk Management Insurance, AR 3580 - District Records, AR/BP 4119.11 - Sexual Harassment, AR 4119.12 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures, and AR/BP 6146.2 - Certificate Of Proficiency/High School Equivalency.
6. Annual Review of BP 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan and AR/BP - 6145 Extracurricular/Cocurricular Activities.
7. Annual Review of BB 9310 - Board Policies.
8. Approval/Ratification of Various Contracts. (1/6/2021-2/8/2021)
9. Monthly Report of Developer Fees Collected. (January 2021)
10. Permission to Dispose of Obsolete/Unusable Furniture, Equipment and Textbooks.
11. El Dorado Union High School District 2019-2020 School Accountability Report Card.
12. School Plan for Student Achievement: El Dorado High School, Ponderosa High School and Union Mine High School.
13. Home to School Transportation with Pollock Pines Elementary School District.

## **B. RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

1. Reports from Student Representatives: El Dorado, Oak Ridge, Ponderosa, and Union Mine High Schools and Alternative Schools/Programs.
  - Jayce Kaldunski reported on student activities at El Dorado High School.
  - Alyssa Fong reported on student activities at Ponderosa High School.
  - Karinne Parker reported on student activities at Union Mine High School.
  - Colleen Guglielmana reported on student activities at the Virtual Academy and Independence High School.

**C. SUPERINTENDENT'S – INFORMATIONAL UPDATE.****1. COVID-19 Update.**

Assistant Superintendent Christopher Moore reviewed the new CDC Guidelines for Schools, which included the defining of tiers for community transmission and recommended re-opening conditions for school for each tier. He stated that as of Friday, February 12, 2021, El Dorado County is at 12.5 per 100,000 (Orange Tier) and a 4.8% positivity rate (Blue Tier).

Senior Director Pam Bartlett shared that we have seen a decrease in the overall numbers in our learning community. On January 12, 2021, the District had 23 active student cases and 4 staff cases. As well as 175 student quarantines and 15 staff quarantines. Today we are down to 9 active student cases and 2 staff cases. As well as down to 47 student quarantines and 3 staff quarantines. She thanked the District nurses, health technicians, teachers and staff for all that they are doing to help our learning community through these challenging times. They are working tirelessly to meet the needs of our students and families.

Superintendent Carruth thanked our teachers and staff for their support of our hybrid schedule and stated that the past two weeks have been very busy on the advocacy side of school reopening and high school athletics. The District is being successful and proactive in ensuring that our teachers and staff have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. The mass majority have received the first shot and at the end of this week will be receiving the second shot. The District is working to ensure that in the next two weeks every teacher and staff member has access to the vaccine. We are seeing higher rates of absenteeism with the second dosage as people are feeling poorly the next day. In addition, we are seeing a path to immunity for our teachers and staff in early April 2021, which is fantastic news. He acknowledged the work of El Dorado County as he interacts with Superintendents across the State and our County is an anomaly with how effectively our District is communicating and the high percentage of our teachers and staff that have access to both vaccines. Our County and schools are seeing a rapid drop in COVID-19 numbers and we can anticipate seeing the Red Tier in the coming weeks. As noted in the CDC, as the numbers drop we have an obligation to more fully open our schools. Recently, the California Department of Public Health withdrew local control for opening schools and consolidated that authority in Sacramento. Now, our District must apply for a School Safety Review to remain open in hybrid. The Board of Trustees will be taking action on this item a bit later this evening.

Superintendent Carruth stated that the State has not yet provided a path to full in person student instruction for high schools. At the same time, Governor Newsom and legislative leaders are negotiating a package to reopen the majority of closed schools across the State and the District has worked very hard to urge the Governor and legislative leaders to:

1. Provide a path to fully open high schools once all staff who want to be vaccinated have time to build immunity. We believe that the State should set a standard for cases per 100,000 in positivity rates that mirror the CDC tiers.
2. Restore local decision-making to County Health and local Boards of education. California is a large State and our local conditions should determine how and when to open our schools, not some distant bureaucratic entity that does not have the time to fully comprehend our local conditions. We need to return to the position where we were just a few weeks ago where local decision-making is allowed.

3. Around the Country, we see millions of high school students practicing and competing safely in athletics. The District is urging the State to provide flexibilities that have proven to be safe so that we can salvage athletics for our students this winter and spring.

Our school community is doing everything to be safe, thoughtful, and balanced in supporting our students. The State of California needs to step up and lead for the sake of our students' mental and physical health, their academic progress, and the safety of our staff. Our voice is being heard, but our elected officials need to think about our students and their needs as California is falling behind on thoughtful, proactive leadership in opening schools. We believe there will be a form of agreement on opening released later this week.

**D. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence was shared with the Board of Trustees for their review.

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

1. Ms. Teri Lillywhite, President of CSEA, shared that CSEA exchanged openers with Administration and has opened Article 7 – Salary, Article 9 – Transportation Working Conditions, Article 10 – Insurance Protection, and Article 16 – Layoffs and Reemployment. In addition, they have scheduled their next negotiations meeting on March 4, 2021. Ms. Lillywhite thanked the Transportation Administration for recognizing our bus drivers during the *Have a Heart Month*. Furthermore, she shared that Focus Magazine is a Statewide Magazine for classified members and they recently reached out to Chapter Presidents inquiring if there are employees that could be highlighted for their March/April Edition. She reached out to the Administration and received a tremendous amount of stories. The story selected for publication was Susan McGovern, Student Services and Innovation Secretary III, for helping the McKinney-Vento students through a Coat Drive and other special programs.
2. Ms. Angela Brown, Faculty Association representative, shared that she appreciates the acknowledgement of our teachers tonight. She reported that Faculty Association members from each site were represented at a recent Budget Advisory Committee Meeting and as of right now, negotiations are on hold. She thanked Mr. Del Rio for his visit to her classroom and hopes that all Board Members can also come visit. She thanked Mrs. Stephanie Davis for being an amazing voice for their organization and recognized Ms. Trish Hardy for providing amazing services for students with disabilities.
3. Myra Lowder and Cassidy Lowder submitted speaker cards and addressed the Board on the matter of the AFJROTC Program at UMHS and life skills in school.
4. Sondra Breeden, Rita Ferrero, and Kristen Roeder submitted speaker cards and addressed the Board on the matter of reopening school.

**F. SUPERINTENDENT'S – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Direction to Apply for a Safety Review from CDPH to Retain In-Person Instruction and Urge Governmental Agencies to Provide a Responsible Path for Full Student Instruction and Restore Local Control to School Boards.

Approval of direction to the El Dorado Union High School District Administration to perform all actions necessary to allow the District to maintain and potentially expand its hybrid and in-person schedule by applying for the Safety Review Process through the California Department of Public Health. All of the schools in EDUHSD have been safely open in the hybrid model since October 2020 with no significant campus-based outbreaks, and the District is focused on ensuring that all District staff have the opportunity to be vaccinated at the earliest possible time. El Dorado County is witnessing a dramatic drop in the number of COVID-19 cases on the western slope of our County and has appealed to the California Department of Public Health to provide a constructive pathway to open schools full-time, which is not yet currently allowed by the State of California.

The State of California has so far failed to provide the ability to open in full in-person instruction, and due to new regulations implemented by the State it is thereby necessary to apply for a safety review process to remain in the hybrid schedule and possibly expand to additional in-person instruction. The Board of Trustees further directs the Administration to communicate with all government entities and organizations to allow local control and decision making to be returned to school boards and local Public Health offices, noting that jurisdictional authority has been taken away from local boards of education and local county public health officials who know best the conditions within the local school community.

Mr. Cary moved to approve the adoption of the direction to apply for a Safety Review from CDPH to Retain In-Person Instruction and Urge Governmental Agencies to Provide a Responsible Path for Full Student Instruction and Restore Local Control to School Boards but also move to full in person instruction when can do so. Mr. Brown seconded. The motion unanimously carried (5-0).

**Brown:** Aye  
**Cary:** Aye  
**Del Rio:** Aye  
**Rodgers:** Aye  
**Veerkamp:** Aye  
 (Austin): Aye

#### **G. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

There were no action/discussion items under this session.

#### **H. BUSINESS SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

##### **1. Update on Governor’s Proposed 2021-22 Budget.**

Assistant Superintendent Robert Whittenberg reported that Governor Gavin Newsom presented his proposed budget for 2021-22 in mid-January.

In updating the Board of Trustees, Mr. Whittenberg provided a summary analysis of the proposed 2021-22 budget for education. He also presented a report highlighting major components of the budget and possible effects on the District.

The Governor’s Budget proposal included:

- An Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund: EDUHSD’s anticipated one-time amount is \$1.8 million.
- Proposed 3.84% COLA which would be effective July 1, 2021.

Mr. Whittenberg advised that following the Governor's release of the May revise budget report, the District will prepare the proposed budget to bring forth to the Board for review and approval.

## **I. STUDENT SERVICES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **1. Annual Review of District and School Safety Plans.**

Senior Director Chuck Palmer stated that Education Codes sections 32282 and 32286 and El Dorado Union High School District's Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 0450 require an annual adoption of school safety plans. The approval process must be presented to the Board of Trustees in a public meeting per Education Code. Binders containing the Emergency Operations Plans and Action guides have been compiled and updated. These plans are also available as a web-based document for access by the Office of Emergency Services. During the year, School Safety Committee Meetings are held with school safety personnel and law enforcement agencies to discuss school and community safety strategies within our County and State.

Mr. Palmer advised that the plans have been reviewed several times this year and have been updated. This is a fluid document and it's going to change continuously. District staff attend workshops to learn about different things we can consider and implement.

Mrs. Rodgers moved to approve the adoption of the District and School Safety Plans. Mrs. Veerkamp seconded. The motion unanimously carried (5-0).

**Brown:** Aye  
**Cary:** Aye  
**Del Rio:** Aye  
**Rodgers:** Aye  
**Veerkamp:** Aye  
 (Austin): Aye

## **J. HUMAN RESOURCES – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **1. Proposal from the California School Employees Association (CSEA) and the District Regarding Negotiations for 2020-2021 and Public Hearing.**

Assistant Superintendent Tony DeVille shared that Article 8, Section 3547(a) of the Government Code provides that all initial proposals of exclusive representatives relating to matters within the scope of representation shall be presented at a public meeting and shall be public records, and that meeting negotiations shall not be done until the public has been informed and has had the opportunity to express itself at a public meeting.

Mr. DeVille recommended that within the context of this Code, the Board of Trustees receives the proposal from the CSEA and District to begin the process of negotiations for the 2020-2021 school year.

CSEA would like to open:  
 Article 7 Salary  
 Article 9 Transportation Working Conditions  
 Article 10 Insurance Protection  
 Article 16 Layoff and Reemployment

The District does not propose to open any articles aside from the automatic openers of Article 7 Salary and Article 10 Insurance Protection.

Article 8, Section 3547(c) of the Government Code provides that after the public has had the opportunity to express itself, the public school employer shall, at a meeting which is open to the public, adopt the proposal.

There being no comments from the Board, Mr. Del Rio opened a public hearing on the matter. There being no public comments, Mr. Del Rio closed the hearing and called for a motion.

Mr. Cary moved that the Board of Trustees receive and adopt the 2020-2021 negotiations proposals from CSEA and the District. Mrs. Veerkamp seconded. The motion carried (5-0).

**Brown:** Aye

**Cary:** Aye

**Del Rio:** Aye

**Rodgers:** Aye

**Veerkamp:** Aye

#### **K. STUDENT SUCCESS – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

There were no action/discussion items under this session.

#### **L. OTHER – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. California School Boards Association Election for the Association Delegate Assembly (Sub-Region 6-C), Term April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2023.

The Board of Trustees received a ballot for election of a representative to the CSBA Delegate Assembly for SubRegion 6-C. The Board expressed support for incumbent Suzanna George (Rescue Union Elementary School District).

Mr. Brown moved to nominate Suzanna George. Mr. Cary seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

**Brown:** Aye

**Cary:** Aye

**Del Rio:** Aye

**Rodgers:** Aye

**Veerkamp:** Aye

2. First Read of Board Bylaws: BB 9012 – Board Member Electronic Communications and BB 9320 – Meetings and Notices.

The Board conducted a first reading of Board Bylaws 9012 and 9320, without any changes.

The Board will conduct a second reading of the above revised Board Bylaws on March 9, 2021 and consider approval.

#### **M. 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.*

Mrs. Bartlett:

- Mrs. Bartlett thanked the paraprofessionals for their commitment to our students and shared that our Wellness Center staff have been amazing with outreach and responsiveness to our learning community in their time of need.

Mr. Palmer:

- Mr. Palmer commented that Mrs. Susan McGovern is a shining example of the great work that our classified employees and teachers are doing every day. The District is grateful for their dedication to our learning community.

Mr. Moore:

- Mr. Moore recognized the students who competed in the Academic Decathlon as well as their coaches. He complimented Mr. John Pesce on the AFJROTC Program launch at UMHS.

Mrs. Fuson:

- Mrs. Fuson commented that it was great hearing from the student representatives tonight and stated that our District is fortunate to have an AFJROTC Program, as it is a great opportunity for our students.

Superintendent Carruth:

- Superintendent Carruth stated that he has been on many conference calls advocating for a path forward for our students. Our teachers and staff are connecting with students every day and doing the best that they can in this moment. He thinks that it is imperative that we keep putting pressure on Sacramento. We see our students struggling and we have to find a way back. We cannot sit in a status quo where the State has taken our local power away to make progress towards serving our kids. He shared how thankful he is for our teachers and staff.

Ms. Frost:

- Ms. Frost thanked the Board of Trustees, teachers and staff for their hard work. She stated that the events that ASB leadership have been arranging at each site is improving lives and hybrid is working. It is not what students want forever, but it is doing what it needs to do and is bringing kids together. Students are appreciative of all of the hard work.

Mr. Brown:

- Mr. Brown shared that it is frustrating trying to meet the criteria to get kids back to school and having Sacramento constantly changing it. We need to have as many of our community members to put pressure on Sacramento to give our District local control back so we can get our kids back to school. He shared that he received a video from his son of his grandson taking his first steps and stated that the power of technology is amazing.

Mr. Cary:

- Mr. Cary commented that tonight he is wearing a popsicle necklace that his granddaughter made for him and asked him to wear it to the Board Meeting tonight. He shared that he is proud of the Board of Trustees and the District. The State just released a safe schools map and when you look at it, you see how hardworking our District has been in having our kids be in hybrid and being able to stay in hybrid. A majority of schools in the State are only doing distance learning. He noted that being able to stay in hybrid throughout this period has been an act of hard work, faith, and everyone pulling together. It has worked and we have not seen school transmissions as we are doing the things we are supposed to do to make it work.

Mrs. Rodgers:

- Mrs. Rodgers agrees that we need our community to put pressure on Sacramento by writing letters and making phone calls to give our District local control back. We are ready for the kids to be back full time. She gave a shout out to those who organized the UMHS incoming freshman virtual orientation, as it was well organized. She invited her fellow Board



Members to the upcoming EDCSBA Ceremony and shared that she was an interview judge for the Academic Decathlon. Lastly, she agrees that the District should livestream all future Board Meetings.

Mrs. Veerkamp:

- Mrs. Veerkamp encouraged community members to reach out to Sacramento and local officials to put the necessary pressure on them to try to get our District back to a normal setting as it is important for our students to get back in school full time. She is looking forward to reading the stories from CSEA and stated that she has been advocating for life skills for our seniors as she feels that is important for them to transition from high school to the real world. She thanked Mr. John Pesce for his work with the AFJROTC Program and shared that she was an announcer for the Academic Decathlon. Lastly, she thanked all of the teachers, staff and Administration for working extremely hard this year.

Mr. Del Rio:

- Mr. Del Rio thanked his fellow Board Members as they covered everything that he wanted to say. One of his goals as Board President this year is to be on campuses and visit teachers more often. He encouraged teachers to reach out to him.

**N. CLOSED SESSION**

This session was not needed.

**O. OPEN SESSION**

This session was not needed.

**P. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, Mr. Del Rio adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

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Ron Carruth  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees