

ADOPTED MINUTES
El Dorado Union High School District
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Special Board Meeting
July 28, 2020

Submit to
Board _____

A. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1. Call to order

This meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Board President Kevin Brown in the Union Mine High School Theater.

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

- a. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (Cal. Govt. Code § 54954.5)
- b. 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})
- 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 CSEA. (GC 3547 {a})

The Board reconvened Open Session at 6:11 p.m. in the Union Mine High School Theater.

2. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. David Del Rio.

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
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

** Board Member Timothy Cary conferenced in to participate in the Board Meeting. He is located at 444 27th Street, San Francisco, CA 94131.

Association Representatives

Stephanie Davis
Teri Lillywhite

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

B. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE

The Board of Trustees received correspondence from the El Dorado County Superintendent of Schools, the El Dorado County Chief Administrative Officer, and the El Dorado County Public Health Officer.

C. INVITATION TO BARGAINING UNIT PRESIDENTS/DESIGNEES AND/OR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

1. Mrs. Stephanie Davis, President of the Faculty Association, thanked the District for the collaborative negotiations meetings and the agreed upon Memorandum of Understanding. Teachers appreciate the support.
2. Ms. Teri Lillywhite, Vice President of CSEA, shared that their next negotiations meeting is on August 6, 2020 and she looks forward to conversations with Administration on how classified staff are going to return to work safely.

D. SUPERINTENDENT'S – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Approval of the 2020-21 District's Re-Entry Plan.
Superintendent Carruth stated that he wanted to personally highlight the working relationship that our District has had and the support received from the County regarding opening schools. The County is working incredibly hard to be able to build its capacity to test and be able to ensure that at the right time schools can open, hopefully sooner rather than later. He commented that he has received and forwarded to the Board of Trustees a significant amount of correspondence from community members. He wants to assure families that the District is taking this responsibility with great seriousness and are doing everything to support our students.

State and Federal documents recognize that elementary school students have to come first. Early grade students have to get back in school where their learning losses are profound if they are not provided by direct instruction and their parents need to go back to work. If the County ends up on the Watch List, we know we are in distance learning, but in the same way high schools are viewed differently across the State and the Nation. Specifically, we look at issues where if we were to open school and make the Watch List, we know that high schools have to close. Elementary schools have the ability to do a local waiver to stay open because their services are imperative. We have also seen across the international community that high schools have a higher transmittal rate than elementary schools.

Superintendent Carruth reported that the El Dorado County Public Health has notified the District that the State of California has not provided the County sufficient COVID-19 resources to safely open in-person instruction for all students

in the County by August 10, 2020. With priority testing capacity given to elementary students and schools consistent with State and Federal Guidelines. The County is aggressively increasing testing resources as he has mentioned before.

Mrs. Rodgers moved to approve the District Re-Entry Plan for in-person instruction starting on August 10, 2020 for some student groups, but will be starting all schools in the District in the distance learning model for the first quarter only or sooner if conditions allow. Provided the County is not on the State Watch List, the District intends to return to in-person instruction on October 5, 2020 or sooner as conditions allow, consistent with guidance from the State and Federal Guidelines and existing safety conditions. The Board hereby delegates to the Superintendent the authority to re-open schools to in-person learning under the conditions set forth in this motion. Mr. Del Rio seconded. The motion unanimously carried (5-0).

Brown: Aye
Cary: Aye
Del Rio: Aye
Rodgers: Aye
Veerkamp: Aye

Mrs. Veerkamp commented that as a Board, they have received numerous emails and phone calls from concerned parents regarding distance learning and she sympathizes with everyone. She does not advocate for distance learning, but that is the consensus of the Board tonight. She is frustrated with the lack of leadership in Sacramento as they are trying to make the County comply with guidelines, but have not given time to prepare or the testing capability. She is hoping that we can get our students back in the classroom sooner rather than later.

Mr. Brown thanked County partners, Administration, and the Board of Trustees for their work. He has received many phone calls, emails, and letters from community members. It is a difficult decision because the most important thing is getting some normalcy back for our students so they can receive the education that they deserve.

E. CLOSED SESSION

This session was not needed.

F. OPEN SESSION

This session was not needed.

G. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Brown adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Ron Carruth
Secretary to the Board of Trustees