

ADOPTED MINUTES
El Dorado Union High School District
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Special Board Meeting
March 24, 2020

Submit to
Board _____

A. CLOSED SESSION

1. Conference with labor negotiators (agency negotiators for the Board are Asst. Superintendent Tony DeVille, Asst. Superintendent Chris Moore and Asst. Superintendent Robert Whittenberg) to discuss with the Board represented employees: Discussion related to Proposals from Faculty Association. (GC 3547 {a})
2. Conference with labor negotiators (agency negotiators for the Board are Asst. Superintendent Tony DeVille, Asst. Superintendent Chris Moore and Asst. Superintendent Robert Whittenberg) to discuss with the Board represented employees: Discussion related to Proposals from CSEA. (GC 3547 {a})
3. Public Employment: Principal.
4. Superintendent's Evaluation Timeline.

B. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1. Mr. Brown called the Join By Phone meeting to order at 4:30 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

Jason King
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

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

1. Mr. Jason King, CSEA President, shared that it has been a learning curve for CSEA, but for the most part everything is working just fine.

2. Ms. Stephanie Davis, Faculty Association President, commented that teachers are doing their best to meet the needs of their students and are working closely with the curriculum department to make that happen.

D. BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. Coronavirus Discussion and Update.

Superintendent Carruth recognized Ms. Austin for winning the Democratic Party Essay Contest and shared that the District has an amazing group of employees who are moving students' education forward in these very unusual circumstances. He shared that the Faculty Association is doing amazing work from a distributed world online, assembling packets, and communicating with families and students. Classified staff have worked hard to keep work moving with many working from home, some coming in to feed students, and moving technology forward. In addition, the EDMA Team has worked very hard to make sure everyone's needs are understood and addressed. He shared that the Superintendents in El Dorado County have been in communication and currently schools are scheduled to return on the week of April 13, 2020. They are taking several notes that have just started to develop over the last several days. For example, all of the schools in Los Angeles County are set to come back the first week in May. Natomas and Elk Grove have ended instruction at the school site through the end of the academic year. At this point in time, the EDUHSD will not be extending, but are in conversations. The District will be in contact with the community in the middle of next week on a decision and will continue to monitor the situation. The District is currently trying to comply with the Governor's orders to keep essential people working and completing the mission of instructing students and making sure the students are fed and supported. The District has as many people working from home as possible. We have adjusted working hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with office hours 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Cabinet and Principals are in communication daily to ensure the coordination of pieces. He appreciates the work of Ms. Davis and her team to assist with instruction and addressing challenges as well as the work of Mr. King and his technology team to keep the District up and operational.

Assistant Superintendent Moore stated that the dedicated teachers and Administrators of the EDUHSD worked diligently the past two weeks to implement a distance learning program for students. The goal at this time is to provide students with the opportunity to learn during the school closures. Knowing that not every family has access to reliable technology, the District is providing two distance learning options. The first is for students to utilize online learning options provided by teachers and the second is paper packets using District provided textbooks. School principals have developed processes for families to pick-up paper learning packets. The pace of this national health emergency has made the future difficult to predict. Therefore, faculty are focusing on providing students the opportunity to learn. Online learning platforms make it easier for teachers to provide feedback. The District also understand that not every teacher has reliable technology at home and working remotely may not be easy. Knowing this, the District is using an online learning content provider called Edgenuity. Edgenuity provides students with instructional videos, activities, a portal for assignment completion, quizzes and tests. By no means is it better than working directly with a students' classroom teacher, but the software does provide students with a platform and process to learn. In addition, many teachers are using Google Classroom, teacher created videos, and online meeting software to connect with students. How the nation, particularly colleges, adjusts to the reality that most high schools in America are closed and may not reopen this semester will be unveiled in the weeks and months to come. The EDUHSD is committed to supporting students in finishing the academic year successfully. At our schools, teachers are collaborating together in academic departments. Each department has a teacher department chairperson. Administration and department chairpersons are preparing to make adjustments based on the realities of the public health emergency shelter in place provisions. The focus will continue to be to provide students the opportunity to learn, but we all recognize that adjustments and innovation will be required to meet the many unforeseen challenges. Safety of our staff and students should be all of our priority, so while we implement our distance learning plan, we should not lose sight of the need to care and support each other's personal wellbeing.

Senior Director Pam Bartlett shared how impressed she is with everyone and Superintendent Carruth's leadership has been inspirational. Each night she corresponds with various team members including the department chairs of special education, school psychologists, and nurses trying to adjust different angles and support their efforts. Each night, she is reminded how dedicated and innovated staff members are. They are working to help ensure a focus on equity and access as well as to protect the District, student, and family interests in both the short term and long term. Her team wants to ensure that we protect the rights of our students with disabilities and that needs are met in the most feasible manner possible. Case managers spent last week integrating with their general education partners learning about the different tools and trying to field a lot of questions. Her team has been coming together electronically to begin the process of putting together a prior written notice for all of our families to inform them of their rights in this process as well as our intentions and plan. All case managers and paraprofessionals are working to create amendments for our families so that they can clearly see what our individual plan is for students in receiving distance learning. In doing so, her team is identifying some challenges that families are experiencing and are attempting to collaborate to find solutions to those challenges as they come about. She stated that the District's case managers, faculty, department chairs, and psychologists are top notch and are collaborating to ensure that they are doing what students need. Classified staff are working to support students and case managers are working to get out the documentation. Assistant principals are providing tremendous oversight. In addition, all non public agency partners and Wellness Center staff are actively engaging with families and providing behavior support, educational health services, and are fielding referrals.

Assistant Superintendent Whittenberg reported that on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 the District Nutrition Services Supervisors, Suzette Ortega, Cathy Reid, Joyce Walker and Tim White have worked with their team members and some additional volunteers to serve meals to students from our communities age 2 through 18. These teams have met at El Dorado High School and Ponderosa High School and have served a total of 3,646 meals since last Wednesday. This past Monday, he and Jannell Clanton had the opportunity to help serve the meals at El Dorado High School and stated that the students and families receiving the meals are extraordinarily grateful, and with the unemployment numbers rising in our community, many of these families are eager to receive the assistance our District is offering. On two occasions, he received calls from a family in Pollock Pines that had lost their electricity, was snowed in and unable to get out of their own driveway for several days. Because of the amount of money they had to spend on gasoline for their generator, they inquired if the District could possibly deliver the meals. Deputy Erin Trefethen, Ponderosa's School Resource Officer, offered to personally deliver several days worth of meals to the family and they were ever so thankful. He stated that he is grateful for the partnership our District has with the El Dorado County Sheriff's Department and both Deputy Brian Harris at El Dorado and Deputy Erin Trefethen at Ponderosa have been a wonderful support to our teams. While this emergency situation continues to evolve, the District's plan is to continue providing meals for children ages 2 through 18.

Assistant Superintendent Tony DeVille commented that he thought it would be best to extend the timeline for the Ponderosa High School principal recruitment to April 13, 2020 given the situation. With social distancing and shelter in place mandates from the state, his team will be modifying their process and timeline. He stated that they will find an outstanding candidate.

Senior Director Chuck Palmer shared that this afternoon, CIF stated that they are in a to be determined mode if there will be any sports in the spring. Section commissioners will reconvene on April 3, 2020. They will be considering a range of options if schools reopen in late April/ May including abbreviated seasons or section championships via bracketed tournament. For seniors, the team is seeking guidance from the UC and CSU systems for students who have been admitted or conditionally admitted into universities contingent upon the completion of the courses that they are currently enrolled in. The UC system currently has not issued an uniform guidance on what their policy is going to be and how to approach it. They stated that they are looking at it on a case by case basis. However, admission letters just went out in the last few

weeks. State organizations including CSBA are pushing for the UC and CSU systems to issue guidance on how they are going to address the needs of seniors who have been admitted but may not be able to complete their a-g courses. Lastly, he shared that with the incredible efforts of District staff, his team continues to reach out to students who are experiencing homelessness or who are foster students. Each of the site liasons has reached out to the families to best meet their needs. In addition, they have made toiletries, feminine hygiene products, etc. available at the drive thru food services for families.

Superintendent Carruth commented that he wanted to assure the Board of Trustees and the community that the District will hold graduations. The timing will be to be determined at a later date. The District will continue to brief the community on discussions about the potential extension of the closure. The County Superintendents are all speaking again tomorrow and will have an update for the community within a week. Lastly, he thanked the Faculty Association, CSEA, and EDMA for coming together to meet the needs of our students, parents, and families.

Mrs. Rodgers thanked everyone for all of their hard work and stated that a lot of people are working longer days and experiencing a lot of stress with this situation. She also congratulated Ms. Austin on her essay contest victory.

Mr. Cary thanked everyone for of their hard work. He is proud of the team for their leadership.

Mrs. Veerkamp commented that we have an amazing District. In times like this, we should be very thankful, blessed, and proud of our staff because they come together in good times and bad times and rally and make the District shine. The District's leadership makes this happen and she stated that she can't be any more proud of everyone. She is very happy with how things have been rolling out and she thinks the community feels what a great District we are too.

Ms. Austin thanked everyone on their efforts. As a student, she stated that accessing work has been clear and easy and the District's communication has been great.

Mr. Del Rio stated that it is important that everyone is taking care themselves, family, and neighbors.

Mr. Brown applauded every person in the District's learning community for their hard work and dedication to help our students. He stated that the Board of Trustees is here to support in any way that they can. He thanked Superintendent Carruth and Cabinet for their leadership.

E. OPEN SESSION

This session was not needed.

F. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Brown adjourned the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

Ron Carruth
Secretary to the Board of Trustees