

BEAR VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
HELD ON NOVEMBER 18, 2020 VIA THE ZOOM WEBINAR PLATFORM
PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20
DATED MARCH 17, 2020

Present: Dr. Stephen Foulkes
Mrs. Cathy Herrick
Ms. Sudie Smartt
Mr. Paul Zamoyta

Absent: Mr. John Goepf

Also Present: Dr. Mary Suzuki
Dr. Lisa Waner
Mrs. Linda Rosado
Ms. Lucinda Newton

President Herrick noted this meeting is being recorded.

President Herrick called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

President Herrick called for a motion to adopt the agenda for the meeting including an addendum. Motion by Ms. Smartt to adopt the agenda including an addendum. Second by Dr. Foulkes. President Herrick called for the vote. Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foulkes/Herrick/Smartt/Zamoyta
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Goepf

Adoption of
Agenda
M20-21-050

All present participated in a Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Herrick recognized Ms. Shelley Black for her 19 years as the Executive Assistant to the Governing Board and Superintendent of Schools. President Herrick read statements from former Governing Board Members, Superintendents, and staff. Dr. Suzuki read a statement recognizing Ms. Black and a gift was presented to Ms. Black on behalf of the Governing Board and Cabinet.

Recognition
Section

President Herrick opened the Hearing Section at 5:48 p.m. President
Herrick read the following statement submitted by Teresa Porter:

Hearing
Section

Dear Dr. Suzuki and Bear Valley Board Members,

I am writing this because I am not able to attend the board meeting. Please feel free to read this at the board meeting on Wednesday, however, it is not necessary. I feel I need my opinion to be heard on this matter. I feel others who are louder think they are speaking for the whole team of teachers. This is simply not true. I have been in public education for more than half my life. I have been with Bear Valley School District for over 22 years, at North Shore for 20 and a preschool teacher in Palm Springs prior to that for five years. I love my school and I truly believe that I have the best job in the world.

I am very aware of the COVID numbers rising in our Valley and that is, of course, a concern. Saying that, it is not affecting our students in our schools. We have been able to keep our students safe at school following the guidelines given to us. Keeping our schools open is really what is best for students, especially at the lower level. For some, it is the only positive environment they have on a daily basis. It is really the only way to truly teach reading, writing, math, and simply learning to get along with others. I believe that the foundational skills offered at kinder and first are pivotal to their overall academic career. To be honest, teaching through the Hybrid Model is more work as an educator and quite the balancing act, but worth it. In addition to having students in my class, I have chosen to have my distant learners come on Zoom so we are working as a class for 90 minutes. Going full distance is an easier task, but it is not what is best for students. Please keep our schools open. I want to thank you and the entire district office team for always focusing on putting the safety and education of students first.

Thank you for your time!

Teresa Porter

Amber Courtney stated she respects everyone's opinion on COVID. Amber shared positive things that have occurred in her class since the students have returned noting all safety measures are being taken. Amber stated part of the primary curriculum is social and emotional; if we, as adults are having a challenging time during this pandemic imagine how this affects these children. Amber has her own children at home. The supervision room has made a world of difference to her children. Amber stated schools are essential.

Sarah Rodriguez started out by saying she appreciates everyone's opinion on the severity of COVID noting she has a family member in the hospital with COVID right now. Sarah feels it is impossible to leave a substitute for classes and noted the district is short on substitutes. If COVID does hit the schools, Sarah asked if we will be prepared with substitutes. Sarah added the opening of the resorts will bring more cases to Big Bear. Sarah stated with the Hybrid Model, she is not able to take time off.

A request to speak was received from Marjie Perkins, however, Mrs. Perkins was not on the Zoom webinar. Tiffany Santillian asked that her request to speak be removed. Having received no further requests to make Public Comment, President Herrick closed the Hearing Section at 5:57 p.m.

President Herrick called for a motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

Consent
Calendar
M20-21-051

Motion by Dr. Foulkes to approve the Consent Calendar as follows including addendum items:

Employ Employee Benefit Technician (Fonda Hoover)
Employee Account Technician (Michelle Ellis)
Employ Health Aide, Baldwin Lane Elementary School (Martha Estes)
Employment of CalPERS Retired Annuitant Pursuant to Executive Order N-25-20 (Jacquelynn Richert)
Classified Substitute for 2020-2021 (James Calderhead)
Employ One Temporary FTE Teacher at Chautauqua High School for the remainder of the 2020-2021 School Year (Robin Holmes)
Substitute Teachers for the 2020-2021 School Year (Paul DiMambro/Monica Hood/Lynda Johnston/Tracy Marrs)
Certificated and Classified Employee Early Resignation Notice Incentive Purchase Order 210458 – Enko Systems, Inc.
Legal Representation – Conflict Waiver
Governing Board Meeting Minutes (10/28/2020 and 11/4/2020)
Child Nutrition Expenditures in Excess of Revenues Received Due to COVID-19 Second by Mr. Zamoyta. President Herrick called for the vote. Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foulkes/Herrick/Smartt/Zamoyta
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Goepf

No items were removed from the Consent Calendar.

Dr. Suzuki introduced all employees approved under the Consent Calendar.

Dr. Suzuki reported on a recent visit to North Shore Elementary School as well as a few other school sites noting the Hybrid Model is a tremendous amount of work. Dr. Suzuki is very impressed with the ability the teachers had to work with students in class and online. Dr. Suzuki noted sanitization is being done and recorded. Dr. Suzuki commended teachers for doing an amazing job. One teacher shared they are essential workers noting there are a variety of

Information
Section

different feelings about our current situation. Dr. Suzuki extended commendations to Mrs. Norton, District Nurse, noting she has done an excellent job with the contact tracing. Fortunately, we have not had the direct contacts at the schools. Dr. Suzuki noted we do believe it is a good thing for students to be back on campus; parents are being very cooperative. Dr. Suzuki extended appreciation to Ms. Newton regarding all the calls she is taking. Dr. Suzuki stated it is a good thing we chose not to bring back grades fourth and fifth. Schools are at 15-20% capacity and we are watching the numbers up until Christmas.

Mr. Zamoyta asked if our contact tracer is for the district or also for the community. The District Nurse contact traces only for the district. Dr. Suzuki stated we are in constant contact with the San Bernardino Department of Public Health. Mr. Zamoyta asked if there have been people who have pulled their students from school and have gone back to distance learning. Dr. Suzuki answered if anyone has a cold or something, they need to stay home. Second and third grade has been back for two weeks and they did have some absences. We are asking parents to let us know if they will not be sending students to class and if they will remain on distance learning. We are collecting data on second and third grades.

Board
Member
Reports

Dr. Foulkes provided an update on the Bear Valley USD Education Foundation. The grant timeline has been extended to March. The next meeting of the Foundation is scheduled for December 2, 2020. Dr. Foulkes noted the first round of snow play on the property went reasonably well noting they are working on parking.

Dr. Waner is very excited about the Science Curriculum noting a public viewing for the middle school curriculum is being scheduled. Dr. Waner is planning on bringing a recommendation to the Governing Board in February which will make this curriculum ready for the start of next school year. Ms. Newton reported three publishers made presentations to teachers for the TK-5 Science Curriculum prior to the schools closing due to COVID. Each publisher will give a 20-minute presentation focusing on their online piece. The teachers have these presentations to review. In December, the teachers will vote on the two curriculums they will pilot in the spring.

Cabinet
Reports

President Herrick called for approval of the Administrative Report.

Admin. Report
#20-21-005

Mr. Zamoyta expressed interest in the California School Board Association Delegate Assembly. Motion by Dr. Foulkes to nominate Mr. Zamoyta to apply for California School Board Delegate Assembly. Second by Ms. Smartt
President Herrick called for the vote. Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

M20-21-052

AYES: Foulkes/Herrick/Smartt
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Zamoyta
ABSENT: Goepp

President Herrick reviewed items for future Governing Board Meeting agendas:

December 7, 2020 4:30 p.m.

Workshop Meeting/1st Interim Report

December 9, 2020 5:30 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting

December 11, 2020 9:00 a.m.

Governing Board Organizational Meeting

Dr. Foulkes would like to hear how substitutes work with the Hybrid Model.

Consider scheduling a Cabinet Report on how we are handling substitutes on the December 9, 2020 board agenda.

President Herrick adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Secretary

President of the Governing Board