

BEAR VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF A GOVERNING BOARD MEETING  
HELD ON AUGUST 4, 2021, BOARD MEMBERS IN PERSON  
PUBLIC IN PERSON AND VIA THE ZOOM WEBINAR PLATFORM  
PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S EXECUTIVE  
ORDER N-29-20 DATED MARCH 17, 2020

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

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

President Herrick noted this meeting is being audio recorded.

**1. Call to Order Open Session**

President Herrick called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**M21-22-014**

President Herrick called for a motion to adopt the agenda for the meeting with the addendum as presented.

Motion by Mr. Zamoyta to adopt the agenda for the meeting with the addendum as presented.

Second by Dr. Foulkes.

President Herrick called for the vote.

Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foulkes/Herrick/Roberts/Smartt/Zamoyta

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**3. Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda Items**

Hearing no request to make public comment on closed session agenda items, President Herrick adjourned the meeting to closed session at 4:32 p.m.

**4. Closed Session**

**a. Student Personnel Item 20-21-006**

**b. Pursuant to Government Code 54957 – Public Employee Performance Evaluation. Title of Position: Superintendent of Schools**

5. **Call to Order Open Session 5:31 p.m.**
6. **All present participated in a Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.**
7. **Report of Action Taken in Closed Session**

There was no action to report. The Governing Board will return to Closed Session at the end of the meeting.

8. **Hearing Section**

- a. **Public Comment**

President Herrick reviewed the Quick Summary / Abstract for Public Comment.

1. **Mr. Larry Word – (Zoom)** Had technical difficulties. Will try again at the end of this section of the meeting.
2. **Mrs. Heather Wylie – (In-person)** Mrs. Wylie shared that she has a student at Baldwin Lane and is the organizer of today’s rally. She stated that she was proud of the community for showing up and coming together for our kids today. Mrs. Wylie continued saying that she is thankful students are back in school at regular hours and would like to keep it that way. She shared that she is unhappy about the mask mandate as medical decisions are family decisions and should not be put in the hands of our government and taken out of the control of students and their parents. Mrs. Wylie suggests polling our district to see what our families would prefer at this juncture. If the majority is for mask choice, she would encourage passage of a resolution requesting such an allowance from the CDPH, just as Beaumont was able to do last week. Mrs. Wylie stated that she understands there is no guarantee it would be approved, but possibly in time, it would, and seeing your support on this matter would mean a lot to this community. Mrs. Wylie expressed her concern for the loss of more students to homeschooling. She would like to see a resolution put before the Board members urging the CDPH to revise their one size fits all approach to California school districts and offered to work with Dr. Suzuki on a plan of action to get additional feedback from the community. Mrs. Wylie continued stating that just knowing we have the support of this board would mean a lot in this ever-changing environment.
3. **Mr. Steven Perry – (In-person)** Mr. Perry shared that he grew up and attended school here, graduating in ‘95’. He and his family recently moved here to give his child a better place to grow up in and because it’s a great area to live in. Mr. Perry continued saying that his son was in distance learning down the hill, which was good for him. With Mr. Perry being able to work with his son, he went from failing to reading above grade level. Mr. Perry went on to say that another reason he put his son in Zoom school was that he didn’t want his son wearing a mask. Wearing a mask took the school from a warm and loving environment to one of fear and paranoia. Mr. Perry stated that it is not fair to ask a child to wear a mask for five hours. Mr. Perry spoke to the efficacy of masks and lack of non-verbal communication “a smile means so much.” Mr. Perry shared data/information on a packet he brought

for the Governing Board Members. Stating that we are not in a pandemic as the science doesn't show it. Mr. Perry would like to see a resolution put forth to CDPH to allow parents the choice to mask and return to normal school as soon as possible.

4. **Megan Rufner – (Zoom)** Mrs. Rufner shared that she and her husband David have four awesome kids, 2 in middle school and 2 in high school. They all love their schools, teachers, coaches, activities, and friends. She and her husband want them to continue to grow and thrive without any more unnecessary disruptions, restrictions, and mandates. Mrs. Rufner continued speaking about “Facts over Fear.” She quoted the New York Times saying that children are about ten times more likely to die in a car accident than COVID-19. Mrs. Rufner asked if the Board members knew that kids rarely get sick from COVID and are not spreaders of it, that the mortality rate for children without preexisting conditions is zero, that numerous studies show that masks are ineffective against COVID-19. Mrs. Rufner continued sharing the negative effects of masks. Mrs. Rufner stated that school districts are standing up to overreaching government and making masks optional so parents can choose what's best. Mrs. Rufner cited Orland Joint USD, Beaumont USD, and Clovis school districts have stood up to Sacramento to make masks optional. Mrs. Rufner requests that the Governing Board stand up to Sacramento on their behalf to make masks optional end unnecessary testing and quarantines.
5. **David Rufner – (Zoom)** Mr. Rufner suggested a poll to get the pulse of parents and make the results public. Mr. Rufner requests that Dr. Suzuki and the Governing Board speak with Sacramento about their convictions individually, collectively with the poll results of the parents. Mr. Rufner stated that he, his wife, and other parents would like to know when the Governing Board speaks with Sacramento. Mr. Rufner continued saying that this would let them know where the Governing Board is as people of authority and under authority.
6. **Mr. Larry Word (Zoom) – Having technical difficulties.**
7. **Ms. Joyce Crist – (In-Person)** Ms. Crist gave a brief history of her time in the Big Bear Valley. Ms. Crist shared information on detriments to children on wearing masks and the Constitutional Right to make that choice. Ms. Crist spoke about the rights of parents and students. Ms. Crist suggested that the Governing Board should stand up for the community and parents over being told what to do.
8. **Mr. Larry Word (Zoom) – Having technical difficulties.**

#### **9. Consent Calendar**

**M21-22-015**

President Herrick called for a motion to approve the Consent Calendar with the addendum as presented.

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

- 9.a. **Employ Attendance Clerk/Typist (Item Removed )**
- 9.b. **Employ Bilingual/ELL Instructional Aide, Name: Jessica Lopez**

- 9.c. **Employ Custodian (Item Removed)**
- 9.d. **Employ Special Education Instructional Aide, Name: Ernestina Valenzuela**
- 9.e. **Employ Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA), Name: Vanessa Whitford**
- 9.f. **Classified Substitutes for 2021-2022**
- 9.g. **Confidential Substitute**
- 9.h. **Employ 1 Temporary FTE K-8 Teacher for the 2021-2022 School Year, Name: Rachel Klodell**
- 9.i. **Employ K-8 Teacher as an Intern for the 2021-2022 School Year, Name: Candace Magana**
- 9.j. **Employ Substitute Teachers for the 2021-2022 School Year**
- 9.k. **2021-2022 Designation of CIF Representatives to League**
- 9.l. **Cheer/Dance Coaches for Big Bear High School for the 2021-2022 School Year**
- 9.m. **Ratify Variable Term Waiver Request for the 2021-2022 School Year**
- 9.n. **School Attendance Review Board (SARB) Members for the 2021/2022 School Year**
- 9.o. **Donation from Soroptimist International - Beyond the Bell Classroom Portable**
- 9.p. **Memorandum of Understanding between Bear Valley Unified School District and Bear Valley Community Healthcare District**
- 9.q. **Governing Board Meeting Minutes**
- 9.r. **Purchase Order Number 220148 - Redbird Flight Simulations Inc.**
- 9.s. **Purchase Order Report - FY 2021-2022 Purchase Orders, Numbers 220001-220163 (Excluding 220148, 220132, 220116, 220114, 220111, 220009, 220008, 220002 & 220001)**

Second by Mr. Zamoyta.

President Herrick asked if there were any item on the Consent Calendar anyone would like removed or discussed.

Agenda Item 9.n. was removed for further discussion.

Mr. Roberts expressed his concern about the composition of the School Attendance Review Board. Discussion commenced regarding Agenda Item 9.n. amongst the Governing Board with clarification from Ms. Newton.

Said motion with the exception of Agenda Item 9.n. was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

#### **10. Items Removed from the Consent Calendar**

**M21-22-016**

#### **Agenda Item 9.n. School Attendance Review Board (SARB) Members for the 2021/2022 School Year**

Motion by Dr. Foulkes to approve agenda item 9.n. School Attendance Review Board (SARB) Members for the 2021/2022 School Year.

Second by Mr. Zamoyta.

Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foulkes/Herrick/Smartt/Zamoyta

NOES: Roberts  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

### **11. Employee Announcements**

Dr. Suzuki welcomed the employees approved under the Consent Calendar.

### **12. Information Section and Reports**

#### **12.a. Superintendent Comments**

Dr. Suzuki provided an update on the reopening of schools. Dr. Suzuki shared that staff members were trained in Kagan strategies and are using what they learned in the classroom. Dr. Suzuki continued saying that students appear to be engaged and happy even though they are in masks. Students are not wearing masks at recess; they take mask breaks. Dr. Suzuki reported a challenge with road construction by North Shore Elementary School the first two days of school, which caused busses to run late. Mrs. Rosado was able to resolve this issue. Dr. Suzuki shared that COVID continues to be a challenge. According to the Public Health Department, there has been an uptick in our community, so we are on high alert. Dr. Suzuki reviewed COVID contact tracing, testing, and quarantine protocol. Dr. Suzuki shared that teachers can use EZ Ups for teaching outside. Dr. Suzuki stated that we are doing everything we can to keep schools open. Current enrollment is 2198.

#### **12.b. Governing Board Member Reports**

Mr. Roberts commented on reviewing the school breakfast and lunch menu. Mr. Robert shared that he was disappointed in the quality of food for students; it is mostly prepackaged, choices appear to be limited. Mr. Roberts stated he thinks we can do better

Dr. Foulkes shared he has done a lot of research on COVID-19, and there is a lot of misinformation out there. Dr. Foulkes suggests that we agendaize a discussion on the mask mandate.

President Herrick stated that she appreciates all those who spoke this evening. As a long-time resident, she would have expected nothing else. President Herrick encourages the public to contact their representatives; governor, congressman, senator, assemblyman, as they really need to hear you.

### **13. Administrative Report #21-22-002**

#### **13.a. Modified the Administrator in Charge Job Description to M21-22-017 Administrator on Assignment**

President Herrick called for a motion to approve the updated job description and ratify the salary schedule as presented.

Motion by Mr. Roberts.

Second by Mr. Zamoyta.

President Herrick called for the vote.

Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foulkes/Herrick/Roberts/Smartt/Zamoyta

NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

**14. Curriculum/Instruction Report**

**14.a. Adoption of the 2021-2022 Local Control  
Accountability Plan (LCAP) Addendum**

**M21-22-018**

President Herrick called for a motion to approve the adoption of the 2021-2022 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Addendum with the correction of a spelling error.

Motion by Mr. Zamoyta.

Second by Mr. Roberts.

After a short discussion, President Herrick called for the vote.

Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foulkes/Herrick/Roberts/Smartt/Zamoyta

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**14.b. College of Education Learning Site Agreement  
Between California State University – San Bernardino  
and Bear Valley Unified School District**

**M21-22-019**

President Herrick called for a motion to approve the College of Education Learning Site Agreement Between California State University – San Bernardino and Bear Valley Unified School District.

Motion by Dr. Foulkes.

Second by Mr. Zamoyta.

After discussion, President Herrick called for the vote.

Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foulkes/Herrick/Roberts/Smartt/Zamoyta

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**14.c. First Reading of Board Policy 6158 – Independent Study**

**M21-22-020**

President Herrick called for a motion to approve the first reading of Board Policy 6158 – Independent Study.

Motion by Mr. Roberts.

Second by Mr. Zamoyta.

President Herrick called for the vote.

Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foulkes/Herrick/Roberts/Smartt/Zamoyta

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**15. Suggestions for Future Meeting Agendas**

August 18, 2021 – Data presentation  
September – Kagan Strategies  
August or September – COVID Mask Discussion

**16. Meeting Adjourned at 6:46 p.m. in honor of Big Bear High School 2017 graduates Cameron LeClair and Granite Shelton, who tragically passed away on July 30, 2021. Governing Board returned to Closed Session.**

**16.a. Next Board Meeting Scheduled August 18, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.**

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Secretary

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President of the Governing Board