



**Regular Board Meeting Agenda
via Zoom Teleconference
1/26/2021 06:00 PM**
Newhall School District
25375 Orchard Village Rd., #200
Valencia, CA 91355

Meeting Minutes

A. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Walters called the Regular meeting of the Governing Board to order at 6:03 P.M.

B. ROLL CALL

1. Donna Rose, Ernesto Smith, Suzan Solomon, Isaiah Talley, Brian Walters
All Board Members were present.
All Cabinet Members were present.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

There were no public comments.

D. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Adjourned to Closed Session at 6:04 P.M.

1. Superintendent Evaluation: Mid-Year Superintendent Goals Update
2. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6: Labor Negotiations - Negotiator for the District
Amanda Montemayor, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
3. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957: Public Employee- Possible
Employment/Discipline/Dismissal/Release of an Employee

E. RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

Board members returned to Public Session at 7:12 P.M.

F. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Board President Walters announced that no action was taken in Closed Session.

G. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Dee Jamison led the Pledge of Allegiance.

H. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Agenda approved.
M/S/C- (Solomon/Rose)
Vote: 5 - 0
Roll call vote:
Rose - Aye
Smith - Aye
Solomon - Aye
Talley - Aye
Walters - Aye

Board Member Solomon announced that in light of an urgency to move forward with COVID-19 planning, Board members take action to add agenda item N.4.iii: MOU between NSD and NTA Regarding an Impact on Hybrid and Instructional Learning Models Related to COVID-19.

Board Bylaw Board 9323.2 and Government Code Section 54954.2(b)(2) authorizes items to be added to an agenda where there is a need to take immediate action and the need for such action came to the attention of the local agency after the agenda was posted.

In order for the Board to take action on the MOU between NSD and NTA Regarding an Impact on Hybrid and Instructional Learning Models Related to COVID-19, the Board will first need to approve a motion to add the item to tonight's agenda. This motion will require a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, the vote must be unanimous by those present

Approved recommendation that there is a need to add an item to the agenda and that it meets the criteria outlined in NSD Board Bylaw 9323.2.

M/S/C - (Solomon/Talley)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

Approved amended agenda to include Item N.4.iii: MOU between NSD and NTA Regarding an Impact on Hybrid and Instructional Learning Models Related to COVID-19.

M/S/C - (Solomon/Talley)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Consideration of Approving the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 12, 2021

Minutes approved with requested amendments.

M/S/C- (Solomon/Talley)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Board President Walters requested Public Comment be limited to items not listed on the agenda. Members of the public must notify the District ahead of time if they wish to make a

public comment on a specific item and will be limited to 2 minutes;

- Board Members attended Monday evening's SCV Trustee Association meeting where guest speakers Senator Scott Wilk and Assembly member Suzette Valladares participated in discussing several district-related topics. Board members were pleased with the strong representation and advocacy from districts throughout the Valley;
- Superintendent Pelzel congratulated the 7 sites recognized by the Educational Results Partnership (ERP) for their achievements. McGrath and Wiley Elementary Schools were recognized for the reduction in achievement gaps among student populations. Meadows, Oak Hills, Pico Canyon, Stevenson Ranch and Valencia Valley Elementary Schools were recognized for demonstrating consistent high levels of student academic achievement.

K. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

L. PUBLIC INTEREST

1. Understanding the Board's Roles and Responsibilities

Over the last 10 months, Governing Board meetings have been held via Zoom teleconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, public attendance has increased dramatically. Individuals are seeing the Governing Board in action for the first time, they are participating in meetings, and they are advocating for their community. In order to ensure positive relations with the community, Board Member Solomon provided a presentation focusing on the understanding of the Board's roles and responsibilities. Ms. Solomon shared the role of the Board, its Bylaws, and the effective governance systems in place.

The Board shared that their guiding principle as members is on making decisions for all students. The discussions held during meetings provide balance and allow members to ultimately reach a consensus. Board training, discussions, and different personal experiences are critical for making decisions.

M. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Removal of Items From the Consent Calendar

None.

2. Consideration of Approving Items on the Consent Calendar

Items on Consent Calendar approved with correction to Item M.4.i: Personnel Report 13.

M/S/C- (Rose/Solomon)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

3. Consent Calendar- Business Services

i. Consideration of Approving Purchase Orders, B Warrants and Payroll Warrants

ii. Consideration of Approving Gift Report #20/21-11

4. Consent Calendar- Human Resources

- i. Consideration of Approving Personnel Report #20/21-13

5. Consent Calendar- Student Support Services

- i. Consideration of Approving Third Amended Contract for the 2020-2021 Special Education Service Agreement with EdLogical Group Corp
- ii. Consideration of Approving Amended 2020-2021 Personal Services Contract with Therapy Travelers

N. STAFF REPORTS**1. Staff Reports-Administrative Services****i. Newhall School District COVID-19 Prevention Program**

Director of Human Resources, Ken Hintz, provided an overview of NSD's COVID-19 Prevention Plan. In December, Cal/OSHA introduced mandates for businesses that supersede those from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and the State. The Plan includes combined mandates expected by the LACDPH and Cal/OSHA. The Plan ensures businesses are fully aware of what COVID-19 is and how to protect its employees.

Along with the plan, there is a 17-minute Cal/OSHA online training all employees are required to take. NSD will ensure all employees participate in the training and site administrators will provide and review key details of the plan, which will be available on the District's website.

Superintendent Pelzel thanked Mr. Hintz for taking the lead role on all matters related to COVID-19.

Board members also thanked Mr. Hintz for helping meet the District's requirements. At the Board's request, Mr. Hintz will make minor corrections to the final draft.

Approved the NSD COVID-19 Prevention Plan

M/S/C- (Solomon/Talley)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

ii. Superintendent COVID-19 Update and Board Discussion

Superintendent Pelzel shared the latest updates from Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Director Dr. Ferrer. The County is hosting a vaccine mega pod at Magic Mountain in Valencia. School personnel will be included in Phase 1B for the vaccine. Governor Newsom also lifted the "Safer-at-Home Order" for Los Angeles County.

Governor Newsom released a COVID-19 guidance document on January 14, 2021. Its key elements include criteria and processes for school reopening, and considerations intended to help school community leaders prepare for in-person

instruction. Although NSD complies with the document's requirements to reopen schools, NSD must wait until the County's numbers drop before it can move forward with reopening the TK-2 Blended Learning Model or new guidance is given.

Several parents expressed their frustrations with the District's decision not to move forward with the approved waivers to reopen schools when initially granted. Parents also expressed concerns over the well-being of their children's mental health and urged the Board to set a reopening date as soon as possible.

District SDC staff members also expressed their concerns with the District's decision to maintain small in-person SDC cohorts. Although safety measures and PPE is in place, staff feel anxious about COVID-19 exposure, low student attendance and lack of substitute coverage. Staff requested the Board consider moving the small SDC cohorts to Distance Learning until vaccinations are available and until the TK-2 Blended Learning Model returns.

Board members discussed at length their different perspectives on how the District should move forward. A motion was made directing the Superintendent to move forward with the TK -2 waiver for the Hybrid Learning Model as soon as it is approved without further approval or ratification from the Board. The Board also directed the Superintendent to give staff 1-week notice when the District is granted permission to move forward with the Hybrid Learning Model waivers. If permission is granted on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, school is to resume on the same day of the following week. If permission is granted on Thursday or Friday, school is to resume on the Monday after the following week.

M/S/C- (Rose/Talley)

Vote: 4 - 1

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Nay

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

Board members continued discussions about grades 3-6 returning to in-person learning. Board members directed District staff to prepare a return plan to include grades 3- 6, as well as, small, in-person cohorts/models to help meet the needs of the targeted students within the District's authority

Board members directed District staff address SDC staff concerns to ensure both students and staff feel supported.

The Dual Language Immersion program at Old Orchard Elementary will remain in distance learning and return to in-person learning on February 16, 2020 as previously voted by the Board, unless the District is authorized to reopen sooner using the TK-2 waiver and then they would return at the same time.

iii. Discussion on Creating a Permanent On-line Learning Academy for NSD

As District staff continues to explore a permanent online learning academy as another educational option for families, Superintendent Pelzel requested the Board consider including a question seeking interest in the annual Intent to Return form.

Responses from the form will allow the District to continue conversations on what the proposed academy may look like. District staff would also bring back data gathered from responses for further Board discussion.

Board members agreed that given the County's current state with COVID-19, it may not be the best timing given families might confuse or misunderstand the intent of the academy. Board will continue discussions in the next few months.

iv. First Reading of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 1113: District and School Websites

Policies approved and waived second and third readings with requested amendments.

M/S/C- (Rose/Talley)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

2. Staff Reports- Curriculum/Instructional Services

i. Overview of Local Control and Accountability Plan Stakeholder Feedback Process

Superintendent Pelzel and Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Jamison shared a brief overview this year's LCAP stakeholder feedback process. The LCAP is now tied to 8 state priorities and its previous goals have been realigned into 3 broader goals.

District staff will host 5 virtual stakeholder meetings to share the state priorities and goals, what the vision is behind the goals and what actions should be considered to make the goal a reality. Board members are invited to attend one of the sessions.

Stakeholder feedback and general trends will be gathered via a Google form and District staff will update Board members via Friday Facts and Board meeting discussions.

3. Staff Reports- Student Support Services

i. Consideration of Approving Resolution No. 20/21-14 recognizing February 1-5, 2021 as National School Counseling Week: "School Counselors: Helping Build Better Humans"

Director of Student Support Services Kim Howe commended the District's 11 counselors for the incredible support they continue to provide students.

Resolution approved.

M/S/C- (Solomon/Talley)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

ii. First Reading of Revised Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5145.7: Sexual Harassment

Approved and waived second and third reading for BP 5145.7; AR 545.7 will be brought back for 2nd reading at the next Board meeting.

M/S/C-(Solomon/Rose)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

iii. First Reading of Administrative Regulation and Exhibit 5145.71: Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures

Approved and waived second and third readings for AR and E 5145.71 with requested amendments.

M/S/C- (Talley/Solomon)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

4. Staff Reports- Human Resources

i. Consideration of Accepting the Newhall School District (NSD) 2020/2021 Contract Proposal for Newhall Teachers Association (NTA)

Item approved.

M/S/C- (Talley/Solomon)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

ii. Consideration of Approving the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between Newhall School District and Newhall Teachers Association Retirement Incentive

Item approved.

M/S/C- (Solomon/Talley)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

iii. **Consideration of approving MOU between NSD and NTA Regarding an Impact on Hybrid and Instructional Learning Models Related to COVID-19**

Item approved.
M/S/C- (Rose/Solomon)
Vote: 5 - 0
Roll call vote:
Rose - Aye
Smith - Aye
Solomon - Aye
Talley - Aye
Walters - Aye

iv. **Consideration of Approving Salary Schedules Due to Minimum Wage Increase**

Item approved.
M/S/C- (Rose/Solomon)
Vote: 5 - 0
Roll call vote:
Rose - Aye
Smith - Aye
Solomon - Aye
Talley - Aye
Walters - Aye

5. **Staff Reports- Business Services**

i. **Consideration of Accepting GASB 75 Actuarial Valuation Report as of June 30, 2020**

Item approved.
M/S/C- (Talley/Rose)
Vote: 5 - 0
Roll call vote:
Rose - Aye
Smith - Aye
Solomon - Aye
Talley - Aye
Walters - Aye

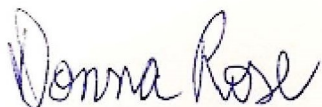
O. AGENDA ITEMS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

- Student Support Services Mid-Year Update

P. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Walters adjourned the meeting at 10:52 P.M.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2021. Closed Session begins at 6:00 P.M. Open Session begins at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom teleconference.



Board Clerk



Secretary