



**Regular Board Meeting Agenda
via Zoom Teleconference
03/02/2021 06:00 PM**
Newhall School District
25375 Orchard Village Rd., #200
Valencia, CA 91355

Meeting Minutes

A. CALL TO ORDER

Board Clerk Rose 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

Board Members Rose, Smith, Solomon and Talley were present.

Board President Walters was absent.

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 6:03 P.M.

1. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957: Public Employee- Possible Employment/Discipline/Dismissal/Release of an Employee

2. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6: Labor Negotiations - Negotiator for the District Amanda Montemayor, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

3. Superintendent Evaluation: Mid-Year Superintendent Goals Update

E. RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

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

F. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Board Clerk Rose announced that the Board took no action in Closed Session

G. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Member Solomon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

H. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Agenda approved with the removal of item M.3.i.

M/S/C- (Solomon/Talley)

Vote: 4 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Absent

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**1. Consideration of Approving the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 23, 2021**

Minutes approved.

M/S/C- (Talley/Solomon)

Vote: 4 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Absent

2. Consideration of Approving the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of February 25, 2021

Minutes approved.

M/S/C- (Smith/Talley)

Vote: 4 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Absent

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Board Member Smith was excited to send all three of his children back to school this past Monday; the arrival and dismissal process was well-organized;
- Board and Cabinet Members assisted several sites with arrival and dismissal, and shared how wonderful it is to see children back in school; thank you to all staff for their efforts in executing a smooth transition back to school;
- The next SCV Trustees Association meeting will be held on Monday, March 15th at 6:30 P.M. via Zoom; representatives from Supervisor Barger's office will attend to further discuss advocacy for reopening schools in the fall;
- Superintendent Pelzel thanked Wm. S. Hart USD and Henry Mayo Hospital for their partnership with rolling out vaccines for all District staff; additional appointments are now available for next week;
- Executive Cabinet members thanked the District's music staff for their extraordinary efforts in recreating music and orchestra schedules for both hybrid and distance learning students, while minimizing loss instruction opportunities;
- Board Members commended Director of Human Resources Ken Hintz for navigating through the process of organizing vaccine appointments for all District staff.

K. PUBLIC COMMENTS

District parent Heather Wheatley thanked the Board for putting the social/emotional needs of children first and implementing safety measures for the return of in-person learning.

L. CONSENT CALENDAR**1. Removal of Items From the Consent Calendar**

No items were removed from the Consent Calendar.

2. Consideration of Approving Items on the Consent Calendar

Consent Calendar approved
 M/S/C- (Talley/Smith)
 Vote: 4 - 0
 Roll call vote:
 Rose - Aye
 Smith - Aye
 Solomon - Aye
 Talley - Aye
 Walters - Absent

3. **Consent Calendar- Business Services**
 - i. **Consideration of Approving Purchase Orders, B Warrants and Payroll Warrants**
4. **Consent Calendar- Human Resources**
 - i. **Consideration of Approving Personnel Report #20/21-16**
5. **Consent Calendar - Curriculum/Instructional Services**
 - i. **Consideration of Approving a 5 month Contract with Benchmark to Align with a July 31st Renewal**

M. STAFF REPORTS

1. Staff Reports-Administrative Services

i. School Reopening Update

Superintendent Pelzel shared updates on the AM/PM blended learning model. The District is off to a smooth transition for all grade levels!

The County's current COVID rate is down from 12.3 in the prior week to 7.2 this week. Vaccine distributions are going well at Henry Mayo and staff members who were unable to make appointments will have opportunities to sign-up next week.

Use of playground equipment will be difficult at this time as sites are restricted from mixing cohorts. Guidelines also recommend cleaning/sanitizing of equipment after every use and children will also be required to wash/sanitize hands after every use.

Senate Bill 86's language includes new proposed timelines and provides additional funding for districts.

District parents congratulated Superintendent Pelzel and the Board for welcoming students back on campuses. Parents also inquired on the District's plan to reopen schools full time, 5 days a week.

Board members discussed short and long term planning for reopening schools full time and inquired on what would be required of the District to move in that direction, including any challenges. In response, Superintendent Pelzel explained the obstacles involved with proper social distancing, furniture required to provide safe classroom environments and approval from the County to move forward.

Board members expressed their desire to meet the needs of all families in the District. In doing so, they directed staff to further look into safe options for returning to in-person learning full time, including use of outdoor seating areas as classroom settings.

ii. **2021 NSD Open House Discussion**

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the 2021 District Open House will a virtual event held in April. Superintendent Pelzel shared an overview of the event's agenda. All sessions will be pre-recorded and made available to families who are unable to attend the event.

Board members recommended the District provide short video tours of sites to highlight unique areas within sites.

Board President Walters arrived at 8:04pm

2. **Staff Reports - Student Support Services**

i. **Consideration of Approving First Reading of Board Policy 5141: Health Care and Emergencies**

Policy approved with recommended amendments and waived second and third readings.

M/S/C- (Talley/Smith)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

ii. **Consideration of Approving First Reading of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5141.21: Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions**

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

M/S/C- (Solomon/Talley)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye

Solomon - Aye

Talley - Aye

Walters - Aye

3. **Staff Reports- Human Resources**

i. **Consideration of approving the Resolution #20/21-16 Regarding a Reduction of Discontinuance of Particular Kinds of Services**

Item removed from agenda

ii. **Consideration of Approving the Updated Memo of Understanding (MOU) Between Newhall School District and the Newhall Teachers Association**

Item approved.

M/S/C- (Talley/Smith)

Vote: 5 - 0

Roll call vote:

Rose - Aye

Smith - Aye
 Solomon - Aye
 Talley - Aye
 Walters – Aye

4. Staff Reports - Curriculum/Instructional Services

i. Update on "Junior" Kindergarten Program

Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Dee Jamison updated the Board on progress with the Junior Kindergarten Program. The Department will offer four informational meetings via Zoom teleconference. Information on the program will also be included in the 2021 Open House agenda.

District Kindergarten teacher Heather Wilson addressed the Board with concerns over the program's curriculum and requested clarification on how it differs from the current TK and K programs. In response, Ms. Jamison shared that the program will focus on Kindergarten standards with blended pieces from the TK curriculum and pieces of Benchmark Advanced.

In response to Board questions, Ms. Jamison shared that teachers will have an opportunity to provide input on the curriculum and further details will follow for those teachers interested in teaching the program.

Students who complete the JK program will then transition to the regular Kindergarten program the following year or 1st grade. If a parent wishes to transition the child to 1st grade following JK, the child would be required to meet the same standards as regular Kindergarten students, including developmental characteristics

5. Staff Reports- Business Services

i. Consideration of Approving the Winter 2020-21 Consolidated Application

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

N. AGENDA ITEMS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

- Discussion on returning to in-person board meetings w/ continuing zoom

O. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Walters adjourned the meeting at 8:33 P.M.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2021. Closed Session begins at 6:00 P.M. Open Session begins at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom teleconference.



Board Clerk



Secretary