



**NEWHALL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Special Board Meeting of the Governing Board  
April 2, 2020  
7:00 P.M. Regular Public Session**

**MINUTES**

The Special meeting of the Governing Board was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Board President Solomon. All Cabinet and Board members attended the meeting via Zoom teleconference due to the County’s restriction to limit contact between individuals not living in the same household.

Board Members present: Rose, Smith, Solomon, Talley and Walters

Cabinet Members present: Jamison, Morse, Pelzel and Persaud

Board Member Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance

**PLEDGE**

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

**AGENDA**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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NTA Co-President Melanie Musella shared that the recent staff trainings facilitated by TOSA Becky Collings were very well received.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**Administrative Services**

Mr. Pelzel provided the Governing Board with a recap of recent events pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**SCHOOL CLOSURE & COVID-19 UPDATE**

Over 2600 Chromebooks and Yogas were deployed to NSD families and 650 hot spots (via Kajeet) will also be available for families in need. A tech support call center has been created to assist families from 7:00 AM – 7:30 PM beginning Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. Help videos and FAQs will also be created and uploaded to the District’s website to assist families with common trouble shooting issues. Devices will be collected from families towards the end of the school year.

Board members inquired about the curriculum for students in grades TK – 2 and the music and art programs. Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Dee Jamison explained that all primary teachers are collaborating across school sites via

Google. Every classroom is unique and has its set of needs that individual teachers are best equipped to address. Collective efforts are taking place and instructional coaches have been helpful in coming together to create lessons for every primary classroom. Raz Kids, currently available to students in TK-3 has also offered to work with the District to provide free resources to all teachers and students TK-6 at no additional cost.

Both music and art teachers have created lessons for classroom teachers with common materials that can be found at home. Instrumental music teachers have created Google Classrooms and will be available to provide live, small group practice sessions for those students who are interested.

Board members inquired on future plans for 6<sup>th</sup> grade promotions. The District will work to schedule a Zoom meeting for 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers sometime in late April to gather feedback on coordinating a consistent plan for all sites.

Kim Howe, Director of Student Support Services Department (SSS) provided the Board with a recap of all of the latest procedures put in place:

- SSS has ensured NSD is legally compliant with all students receiving special education services.
- All SDC families were notified of the District's online continuous learning process.
- SDC teachers and SSS service providers have partnered with the instructional team to provide services for students who are receiving special education services.
- Educational resources and materials that students require to access curriculum will be made available to families throughout the school closure by SSS service providers (OT, APE, PT, etc.). Hands on resources and materials provided to families will be a compliment to the assigned tasks posted in the student's Google classroom. Service providers will be in contact with SSS families to ensure students on their caseload/classroom have the resources and materials needed to access to the curriculum, per the student's IEP.
- IEP meetings that are ready to go will be held via Zoom meetings, with all team members present, once we return from Spring Break and have the structures established for Distance Learning.
- An NSD tele health counseling protocols have been established to provide social-emotional supports to students during the school closure. SSS staff members will utilize Google meets to deliver tele health services to students in need and per the IEP goals.
- SSS will update the Board with weekly on status changes via Friday Facts

Board President Solomon entertained a motion for NSD to schools to remain physically closed for the remainder of the 2019/2020 school year. However, quality distance learning will continue to be the focus for the remainder of the year.

M/S/C – (Talley/Smith)

Vote: 5-0

Roll call vote:

Walters – Aye

Rose – Aye

Talley – Aye

Smith – Aye

Solomon – Aye

The Board thanked Superintendent Pelzel, all District departments and staff, and the SCV School Food Services Department for their hard work and dedication to meet the needs of students.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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Mrs. Solomon adjourned the meeting at 8:21 P.M.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2020. Closed Session will begin at 6:00 P. M. and Public Session will begin at 7:00 P.M. The meeting will be held at the Newhall School District Office, 25375 Orchard Village Road, Suite #200, Valencia, California.

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Secretary to the Board

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Clerk of the Board

NOTE: Individuals who require special accommodations (such as American sign language interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in accessible formats, etc.) should contact the District Office at (661) 291-4000 at least two business days prior to the meeting date.

Individuals who wish to inspect agenda materials that have been distributed to the Board less than 72 hours before a meeting can do so by contacting the Superintendent's Office at the Newhall School District Administrative Office located at 25375 Orchard Village Road, Suite 200, Valencia, California