

PACIFIC GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 21, 2021– District Office

I. OPENED BUSINESS

- A. Called to Order 5:30 p.m.
- B. Roll Call
- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Absent President: | Trustee Paff |
| Clerk: | Trustee Brian Swanson |
| Trustees Present: | Trustee Rivera
Trustee Carolyn Swanson |
| Trustee Absent: | Trustee Dawson |
| Administration Present: | Superintendent Porras
Asst. Superintendent Chin-Bendib |
| Board Recorder: | Mandi Ackerman |
| Student Board Member: | Lupita Alvarado |

C. Adopted Agenda

The agenda was revised to include Closed Session Consideration of Student Discipline.

MOTION Rivera/Carolyn Swanson to adopt agenda as presented.

Public comment: none

Motion CARRIED 3 – 0

II. CLOSED SESSION

A. Identified Closed Session Topics

1. Negotiations - Collective Bargaining Session planning and preparation with the PGTA for 2021-22 [Government Code § 3549.1 (d)] Executive session between the public school employer and its designated representatives, Buck Roggeman, Song Chin-Bendib and Ralph Gómez Porras, for the purpose of giving direction and updates.
2. Negotiations - Collective Bargaining Session planning and preparation with the CSEA for 2021-22 [Government Code § 3549.1 (d)] Executive session between the public school employer and its designated representatives, Billie Mankey, Song Chin-Bendib and Ralph Gómez Porras for the purpose of giving direction and updates.
3. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Complaint (2 cases) [Government Code § 54957]
4. Consideration of Student Discipline
1 Case: Student # 012122
(Education Code Section 48915)

B. Public comment on Closed Session Topics

None.

C. Adjourned to Closed Session 5:32 p.m.

III. RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION

6:36 p.m.

A. Reported action taken in Closed Session:

1. Negotiations - Collective Bargaining Session planning and preparation with the PGTA for 2021-22 [Government Code § 3549.1 (d)]

The Board received information on this item.

2. Negotiations - Collective Bargaining Session planning and preparation with the CSEA for 2021-22 [Government Code § 3549.1 (d)]

The Board received information on this item.

3. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Complaint (2 cases) [Government Code § 54957]

President Brian Swanson noted some people who joined the meeting may be wondering about a current investigation, noted a new investigation was launched by the District, the District and Board take the matter very seriously, the investigation is ongoing, and the District will share information when possible.

4. Consideration of Student Discipline
1 Case: Student # 012122
(Education Code Section 48915)

The Board received information on this item.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Led By: Trustee Rivera

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Written Communication

The Board received written communication regarding inclement weather and lunch programs; testing and tracking; support of a PGUSD teacher; concerns regarding an employee investigation; concerns regarding safety at all schools and Pacific Grove Police Department; a media inquiry regarding a personnel issue; COVID mitigation strategies.

B. Board Member Comments

Trustee Brian Swanson noted there is a great deal of concern and comments regarding an employee ongoing investigation, information changes, noted the District began its own investigation and the District Attorney's office and Pacific Grove Police Department began investigation, and the District had to pause its own investigation. Trustee Brian Swanson noted the District and Board take student and community safety seriously.

Trustee Rivera noted the District must pause its own investigation as to not interfere with the District Attorney and police department investigations. Trustee Rivera also spoke about visiting Robert Down Elementary School ELAC meeting with Ms. Cafferata and noted the fantastic ice breakers, Ms. Cafferata referred to parents and children by name, encouraged students continue to read in their native language, that the District intends to celebrate culture with the students.

Trustee Carolyn Swanson spoke about the COVID transition level status; pool testing would be discussed later in the meeting; noted she has a chat scheduled with students this weekend and noted she is open to having public conversations.

Trustee Brian Swanson said it was great to see all the activity, spoke about the Pacific Grove Middle School movie night, and said no active COVID cases is great news.

C. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Porras thanked Pacific Grove Middle School and Principal Roach for the recent site visit, noted teachers are remarkable, the atmosphere was enthusiastic, amazing welcome, noted among similar disciplines (subject/grade) students were receiving similar instruction, grateful to staff. Superintendent Porras visited with Diversify Our Narrative group at Pacific Grove High School, said the group is involved and motivated and had great energy and goals. Superintendent Porras provided an update on equity and noted the District would bring a contract to the November meeting for services, long term plans, and continue to look into work with local agencies for local histories.

D. PGUSD Staff Comments (Non Agenda Items)

Pacific Grove Middle School Sean Roach briefly noted the school was awarded \$30,000 grant to provide social and emotional counseling for 3 days a week for the remainder of the school year, as well as funding for lunchtime intervention; noted Red Ribbon Week is for students to pledge to stay alcohol and drug free; and noted movie night.

Pacific Grove Adult School Principal Barbara Martinez spoke about the social and emotional learning series available to families, noting they are an excellent resource for families.

Director of Curriculum and Special Projects Ani Silva acknowledged the social studies adoption committee; Paper company did a recent presentation regarding tutoring program, and noted the program would be available on the District website.

V. **INDIVIDUALS DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

Andrew Gonzalez spoke about his personal experiences with the Pacific Grove Police Department and several events within the District.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of October 7, 2021 Board Meeting
- B. Certificated Assignment Order #6
- C. Classified Assignment Order #6
- D. Acceptance of Donations
- E. Cash Receipts Report No. 3
- F. Out of County or Overnight Activities
- G. Contract for Services with Planned Parenthood Mar Monte
- H. Ratification of Release of Liability for the Adult Transition Program students to participate in the California State University Monterey Bay Native Greenhouse Program
- I. Contract for Services with Administrative Software Applications Inc. (ASAP)

MOTION Rivera/Carolyn Swanson to approve consent agenda as presented.

Public comment: none

Motion CARRIED 3 – 0

VII. ACTION/DISCUSSION

- A. District Update on Response to COVID-19

Superintendent Porras noted District Nurse Katrina Powley has initiated the process to begin pool testing for the District; the pool testing will be focused on the elementary levels but the District will look into engaging the entire District; explained pool testing, noting the intention is to keep students in their classrooms as much as possible; thanked the parents and community and noted the low level of active cases is a credit to school site safety and the parents and community efforts; Binax testing process and staff volunteer training for administering Binax tests; noted rapid antigen testing on site (Binax) are different than the pool testing which will likely be PCR testing and is intended to be done weekly; District is keeping an eye on information coming regarding vaccines for 5+ year old.

The Board asked questions and discussed.

No public comment.

No action taken.

- B. Board Calendar/Future Meetings

Superintendent Porras noted several changes in the current calendar version.

Trustee Carolyn Swanson requested future agenda item on equity plan be added to the November 18, 2021 meeting on calendar.

MOTION Brian Swanson/Carolyn Swanson to approve the Board meeting calendar.

Public comment: none

Motion CARRIED 3 – 0

VIII. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

A. Educational and Operational Practices Learned from COVID-19

Superintendent Porras presented information to the Board on the educational and operational practices learned from COVID-19. Information included: collaboration, procedures, safety, technology, teaching/learning, communication, lunch/recess, and carry-over goals. Presentation is available on the District website.

The Board discussed and asked questions. The following Administrators spoke of lessons learned: Forest Grove Elementary School Principal Buck Roggeman, Pacific Grove Middle School Principal Sean Roach, Pacific Grove High School and Community High School Principal Lito Garcia, Robert Down Elementary School Sean Keller, Pacific Grove Middle School Assistant Principal Jason Tovani, Director of Curriculum and Special Projects Ani Silva.

Public comment: none

Elementary Schools Counselor Sonda Frudden spoke about the social emotional piece, being back in class she is able to see the shift in students, who are more vulnerable in a good way, noted the counselors are collaborating and see a lot of the same things, the tremendous impact on children talking about their feelings, it is transformative.

B. Pacific Grove Unified School District Quarterly Safety Update

District Safety Director Barbara Martinez provided an update on the Great American Shakeout earthquake safety drill which was successfully completed at each site, spoke about a number of state safety trainings crisis plan trainings which are available to District safety teams, administrators, staff.

The Board asked questions.

C. Future Agenda Items

- Added February 4, 2021: Return of affordable housing at a later date when more information becomes available (Fall 2021)
- Added June 17, 2021: A Board member requested parent orientation to the Board meetings (currently working with CSBA to arrange for this, as of October 5, 2021)
- Added August 19, 2021: A Board member requested a review of discrimination policies and training for staff and students (Fall 2021)
- Added September 2, 2021: A Board member requested Board orientation
- Added September 2, 2021: A Board member requested staff recommendation on equity plan by November 18 Board meeting
- Added September 25, 2021: The Board will receive sample agenda formats to consider a potential change in current meeting protocols
- Added September 25, 2021: Media relations/general correspondence/public comment

Above item regarding sample agenda formats: Sample agendas may be available at the organizational meeting in December. Superintendent Porras asked if the last two items listed could be discussed at the next Board meeting after following up with legal counsel.

A Board member requested creating policy regarding virtual meetings, including site councils, parent/teacher conferences and other meetings.

A Board member requested a student survey regarding food service experience.

A Board member requested a resource tab on the District website for potential Board members.

A Board member requested a student Board representative from Community High School.

IX. ADJOURNED

8:30 p.m.

Approved and submitted:

Dr. Ralph Gómez Porras
Secretary to the Board