

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE
LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

March 18, 2020

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Long Beach Unified School District, County of Los Angeles, California, was held in the Community Room of the Administration Building at 1515 Hughes Way, Long Beach, California, on March 18, 2020.

Present: Members Benitez, Craighead, Kerr, Meyer, and Williams

Absent: None.

Call to Order

President Williams called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. in Room 464.

Closed Session

President Williams announced that the Board would be considering Items 7, 8 and 10 as listed on the Closed Session agenda.

Call to Order

Having completed the Closed Session, Vice president Benitez called the Open Session meeting to order in the Community Room at 5:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Member Kerr.

Report of Closed Session

Vice president Benitez reported that the Governing Board had been meeting in Closed Session regarding matters listed on today's Closed Session agenda and wished to announce that the Board voted to approve a resignation/retirement and general release agreement with a classified employee resolving all claims between the parties and providing for consideration.

The vote was unanimous with all five members of the Board voting by roll call to approve.

Public Hearing

None.

Call for Agenda Items/ Adopt Agenda

Vice president Benitez asked if Board Members had any items listed on the agenda for separate action.

Chris Steinhauser, Superintendent of Schools, asked that the Finance Report B be pulled.

It was moved by Member Kerr that the agenda be adopted with the noted change.

The motion carried. Members Benitez, Craighead and Kerr voted by roll call to approve.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Member Kerr that the minutes of March 4, 2020 be approved as written.

The motion carried. Members Benitez, Craighead and Kerr voted by roll call to approve.

<u>Communi- cations</u>	None.
<u>Hearing of Public Testimony</u>	Vice president Benitez asked if there was anyone present who wished to address the Board on matters of school district business listed on the agenda. There was no reply.
<u>Staff Report</u>	None.
<u>Hearing of Public Testimony</u>	Vice president Benitez asked if there was anyone present who wished to address the Board on matters of school district business not listed on the agenda. There was no reply.
<u>Personnel</u>	Member Craighead presented the Certificated and Classified Recommendations, prepared by the Deputy Superintendent of Education Services, Human Resource Services, and approved and recommended by the Superintendent. It was moved by Member Craighead that the Certificated and Classified Recommendations of the Deputy Superintendent of Education Services, Human Resource Services, be approved and authorized. The motion carried. Members Benitez, Craighead and Kerr voted by roll call to approve.
<u>Instruction Report</u>	Member Craighead moved approval of the Instruction Report. The motion carried. Members Benitez, Craighead and Kerr voted by roll call to approve.
<u>Finance Report A</u>	Member Kerr moved approval of the Finance Report A. The motion carried. Members Benitez, Craighead and Kerr voted by roll call to approve.
<u>Business Report</u>	Member Craighead moved approval of the Business Report. The motion carried. Members Benitez, Craighead and Kerr voted by roll call to approve.
<u>Purchasing & Contracts Report</u>	Member Kerr moved approval of the Purchasing & Contracts Report. The motion carried. Members Benitez, Craighead and Kerr voted by roll call to approve.
<u>Superin- tendent's Items</u>	None.

Unfinished
Business

None.

New
Business

Member Kerr moved approval of the 2020-2021 Schedule of Board of Education Meetings and Workshops.

2020-2021
Schedule of
Board Meetings

Vice president Benitez asked the district's attorney for an update on previous discussions about what would happen at the board re-organization meeting in July, whether to extend current board roles and/or do another board re-organization in December. This was a pending item, in order to do more research.

Brent North, attorney, responded that he would have additional information at a future board meeting.

The motion carried. Members Benitez, Craighead and Kerr voted by roll call to approve.

Lease-Leaseback
Contract

David Miranda, Executive Director, Facilities Branch, shared that the Board passed a resolution in March 2017, per AB 2316, amending Education Codes 17400 and 17406, which basically provide a framework for the solicitation and award of these type of agreements. A pool of pre-qualified contractors was established from a request for qualified contractors. In 2019 a request for proposals was sent out for the Emerson HVAC project. Five of the approved contractors responded and they were evaluated on specific criteria. 2H Construction in Signal Hill was selected for this project, with a total cost of \$16,085,684.

Member Kerr moved approval of the Award of Lease-Leaseback Contract for the Emerson Elementary School HVAC Project.

The motion carried. Members Benitez, Craighead and Kerr voted by roll call to approve.

Asset Mgmt.
Advisory
Committee

Member Kerr moved approval of the Asset Management Advisory Committee Report for Recommendations for Non-Educational Sites.

Mr. Miranda shared that the Committee was established to assess the district's non-educational sites, including their management, use, efficacy and best interest of the district. He acknowledged the Committee, comprised of community representatives, and thanked them for their service. They evaluated seven non-educational district properties, and noted that two are currently vacant. He recommends the acceptance of the report, as it's the first step in the surplus or disposition process. The Committee will then return with a further analysis on each property.

Vice president Benitez reiterated that by surplus and disposing of the non-vacant sites, these resources could then be expended to maintaining vacant sites and could be relocated to other facilities. Also, by relocating and consolidating services and staff at some sites, this would create efficiency in administrative operation and lowering operational costs.

Member Kerr thanked the Committee for their service, especially given the number of meetings they had.

The motion carried. Members Benitez, Craighead and Kerr voted by roll call to approve.

Selection of
New Supt.

Ruth Ashley, Deputy Superintendent of Education Services, stated that Phase 2 of the Selection of New Superintendent concluded March 6. Six Community Forums were held, she presented at nine stakeholder meetings and the Thought Exchange had over 377 participants with over 11,000 ratings.

We are currently in Phase 3 and she thanked the Advisory Committee for their participation. On March 9 they met for the first time to establish the interview protocols, and then held the first round of interviews on March 16. There were 10 applicants and they interviewed six. Two finalists will be interviewed by the Board on April 6.

Member Craighead appreciated the process and enjoyed the community forums. Most everything the community talked about, these are already being done and qualities that our current superintendent already possess, so it makes her feel very proud.

Vice president Benitez echoed the sentiment and would appreciate having further opportunities for community check-ins, and looks forward to having future meetings or town hall forums at neighborhood sites. This was a community driven process and the stakeholders had ample opportunities to share their input.

Member Kerr appreciated the input, whether by text, email or in person at the local store.

Report of
Board
Members

Member Craighead addressed the caretakers of our students during these difficult times and she offered tips and advice.

Member Kerr echoed her thoughts and acknowledged the conflicting emotions. She is especially sensitive to the seniors and the students that are promoting. She is very grateful to the hard work of so many departments and the Executive Staff.

Vice president Benitez stated that these are extremely challenging times. He asked everyone to stay vigilant and to please be patient. We will get through this and he thanked all the staff for making sure our students stay safe and educated.

Superinten-
dent's
Report

Superintendent Steinhauser thanked the Board for trusting the staff. He also thanked the staff for what has transpired is remarkable. He reported that over 6,000 lunches had been served that day. He thanked our partners, the City of Long Beach, Mayor Garcia and the LB Health Department.

He asked everyone to take care of themselves and to remember kindness, as people are scared. He doesn't have all the answers but the kids are the number one priority. For the employees, a FAQ sheet was sent out earlier in the day with critical information. The impact of the new federal law on hourly employees is being studied and will continue to be reviewed on an on-going basis.

Jill Baker, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, shared that as of Monday, March 23, three weeks of home learning opportunities will be available. It will be relevant and standards based, and will be ungraded. Principals will have an online staff meeting in the morning and teachers will then send information to the students by Noon. The district is working on getting hot spots for families in need of internet access. Staff is also working on how to distribute Chromebooks to students who need them.

Mr. Steinhauser assimilated this to an earthquake and said that the silver lining is that this is providing new opportunities. We will be disseminating constant communication and once again, stated how proud he is to be a part of this district.

Announcements

Member Kerr reminded everyone regarding the Census. It is critical even more so now, and she encouraged everyone to complete the questionnaire.

Vice president Benitez reminded everyone that more information will be forthcoming. We all need to rally as a community and share information.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice president Benitez adjourned the meeting at 5:48 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 in the Administration Building, 1515 Hughes Way, at 5:00 p.m.

Leticia Rodriguez
Assistant Secretary