

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 6:30 p.m. Open Session (closed session 5:30 p.m.)
Rescue District Office Board Room

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20, which temporarily suspends provisions of the Brown Act relating to public meetings.

The Public’s health and well-being are the top priority for the Board of Trustees of the Rescue Union School District and you are urged to take all appropriate health safety precautions. To facilitate this process, 2 options were offered to participate in the open session meeting Via Zoom or in person attendance following social distancing guidelines.

DISTRICT MISSION

Rescue Union School District, in partnership with families and the community, is dedicated to the success of every student by providing a challenging, comprehensive, and quality education in a safe environment in which all individuals are respected, valued, connected, and supported.

ITEM	ITEM DESCRIPTION
CALL TO ORDER:	Board president called the meeting to order a 5:30 p.m.
ROLL CALL:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓Kim White, President ✓Stephanie Kent, Vice President ✓Tagg Neal, Clerk ✓Nancy Brownell, Member <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Suzanna George, Member ✓Cheryl Olson, Superintendent and Board Secretary ✓Sean Martin, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services ✓Dave Scroggins, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
PUBLIC COMMENT:	There were no comments concerning items on the Closed Session Agenda.
CLOSED SESSION:	The Board adjourned to closed session to discuss matters of personnel, security, negotiations, student discipline, litigation, or other matters as authorized by Government Code Sections 3549.1, 54956.9, 54956.8, 54957, and 54957.6 and Education Code Sections 35146 and 48918.
Conference with Labor Negotiator	Discussion with the District’s designated negotiators, Dave Scroggins and Sean Martin, regarding directions and issues in negotiations with Rescue Union Federation of Teachers (RUFT), California School Employees Association (CSEA), Confidential Staff, and Administrative Management.
OPEN SESSION:	Reconvened open session in the Board Room at 6:30 p.m.
Welcome	<p>The Board president provide an introduction to Board meeting proceedings and welcomed newly elected Board Member, Michael Gordon.</p> <p>Mr. Gordon thanked the community for participating in the election process. He stated he felt blessed to have been selected and is excited to work with the Board, District and staff. Mr. Gordon also thanked Stephanie Kent for her service and commitment to the students of Rescue Union.</p>

Flag Salute	The Board President led the flag salute.
1. Adoption of Agenda (Consideration for Action)	Trustee Brownell moved and Trustee Neal seconded to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 4-0. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Trustee Kent, Brownell, Neal and Kent
STUDENT SUCCESS / RECOGNITION:	
Lake Forest Elementary School	Lake Forest principal, Bruce Peters provide a site update and honored Alyssa Pierce, Teacher and Sandra de Anquin, Student Services Secretary as the recipients of the Difference Maker Award.
REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION:	
Report from Closed Session	The Board president reported no action taken in closed session.
2. Superintendent's Report (Supplement)	<p>The Superintendent and Board honored Stephanie Kent who has served as a member on the Board of Trustees since 2016. Trustee Kent was described as having a genuine passion for students, students with special needs, for music, fine arts and also for the advancement of technology and coding for all students. She believes in supporting teachers and staff, because she knows what it is like to be in the classroom, having spent many years as a substitute in our district. She has put in countless hours to visit classrooms, schools, and attending events. She has volunteered to support parent club activities and help out in classrooms, and was also an active member in parent clubs and booster clubs when her own children attended Rescue Union.</p> <p>In addition, Trustee Kent was considered by everyone to be a valuable asset to the RUSD Board. Her connection to the community, passion for students, thorough preparation for meetings that included thoughtful questions that gave all members a better understanding of the issues presented, and the ability to be a great listener which allowed our community to feel heard, are all qualities that will be missed. Her commitment to serving students and staff is commendable.</p> <p>Trustee Kent shared it has been a privilege and an honor to work with everyone in the district. She commented that she has absolute faith in our students, parents, staff, and leaders to continue working through the challenges we face and will continue to face. She said she was proud to have accomplished the goals that she wanted to see for our district as part of the Board. Trustee Kent stated that she believed in humanity more because of her position on the Board, and finished by saying she was confident the Board would be able to continue to move forward and do what our students need during these difficult times.</p>
PUBLIC COMMENTS:	There were no public comments for items not on the agenda.

GENERAL:	
<p>3. Annual Organizational Meeting – Select Date and Time</p> <p>(Supplement)</p> <p>(Consideration for Action) Superintendent</p>	<p>Education Code Sections 35143 and 5017 requires the governing board of each school district shall hold an annual organizational meeting. This year the 15-day window period, established by statute, to hold the Annual Organizations meeting begins on Friday, December 11, 2020 and runs through Friday, December 25, 2020. The Education Code provides that the Board at its regular meeting held immediately prior to December 11 shall select the day and time of the annual meeting. District administration recommends the annual organizational meeting take place at the regular Board meeting on December 15, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Trustee Brownell moved and Trustee Neal seconded to select December 15, 2020 Regular Board meeting at 6:30 p.m. as the annual organization meeting. The motion passed 4-0</p> <p>Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Trustee Kent, Brownell, Neal and White</p>
<p>4. CSBA Delegate Assembly Nomination</p> <p>(Supplement)</p> <p>(Consideration the Action) Superintendent</p>	<p>The Board considered nominations for the CSBA delegate assembly opening in Region 6. Each Board may nominate as many individuals as it chooses. All nominees must serve on a CSBA member board. Each delegate serves a two-year term.</p> <p>Trustee Brownell nominated Trustee Suzanna George for the Delegate Assembly opening in Region 6. Trustee Neal seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.</p> <p>Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Trustee Kent, Brownell, Neal and White</p>
<p>5. COVID Update</p> <p>(Supplement)</p> <p>(Information Only) Superintendent</p>	<p>The Board will receive an update on COVID mitigations.</p> <p>Superintendent Olson reported that we have just concluded our first trimester providing both the hybrid model and the Frontier Academy, with only 6 positive COVID cases in our district. We have only had to quarantine 4 small cohorts of students because our health and safety protocols are well established and everyone from staff to families are taking our protocols seriously and it is making a difference.</p> <p>Surveillance testing is underway. Every staff member has had at least one opportunity to be tested to date.</p> <p>Assistant Superintendent, Sean Martin shared with the Board some of the additional safety protocols/practices that we will be implementing for the fuller return model in January. All of the practices currently in place will continue as well as some additional pieces to include: air scrubbers for gymnasiums (large units mounted on wheels that can be moved to various locations), the purchase of additional self-contained sinks with existing inventory moved to covered locations for inclement weather, completed installation of wall mounted hand sanitizers in every room, and looking at tents to be used to provide additional space with more students on campuses.</p> <p>Superintendent Olson also shared information with the Board regarding the middle school schedules during Phase 2 reopening plan and the struggle on how to balance the size of the cohorts for lunches due to space issues. One option to consider includes the</p>

elimination of the lunch period with instructional programs running straight through the morning, and a snack break in the middle. This would minimize cohort mixing during January and February, as the regular lunch period would not occur, and provide adequate time between periods to disinfect classrooms. This would additionally allow the evening custodians to come in early to begin disinfecting and yard duty personnel could be redeployed to assist with the cleaning. Students would receive a grab and go lunch and breakfast and we would not have to navigate the large cohorts in one place during lunch. This would help ensure our health and safety protocols can be maintained. The instructional time remains intact, but the lunch period would not occur.

Public Comments were heard from:

<p>Levi Cambridge Marina Village Principal</p>	<p>He stated that Superintendent Olson illustrated some of the challenges faced at the middle school and said they are continually having conversations to creatively solve some of these issues. Principal Cambridge indicated that he and Vera Morris, Pleasant Grove Principal would be happy to answer any questions the Board might have.</p>
<p>Samantha Schlesinger Marina Village, Asst Principal</p>	<p>Commented that space is a big part of the challenge, but additionally both staff and parents, have concerns and/or may not feel comfortable with larger numbers of students and removing face coverings to eat.</p>
<p>Carol Wahl Parent</p>	<p>Initially was not in favor of no lunch. However, when discussing with her 2 middle school students, they indicated no lunch made more sense. Their family gives a thumbs up to the grab/go lunch option.</p>
<p>Laurisa Stuart RUFT President</p>	<p>Provided the teachers perspective. They are in favor of the grab and go option, and to not have the lunch scheduled because of the logistical issues. They feel the grab/go lunch is a positive. She also commented on the fact that the students currently in the AM or PM program will be able to socialize with more of their classmates with everyone attending in the fuller day model. Also mentioned was the importance of keep students in class as much as possible, (due to quarantine) to keep them from missing out academically.</p>
<p>Michael Gordon Board Member Elect</p>	<p>Comments regarding how important mental health is for students as well as academics. Suggested that perhaps considering two 14 minute breaks in place of the lunch. Still allowing for that social interaction, and still adhering to guidelines as well as maintaining the schedule for families.</p>

	<p>Erin Koht Teacher</p>	<p>As a teacher, appreciates having students back for in person instruction, and as a parent of a middle school student truly appreciates the transition to have the full cohorts back together. So even with just a 14 minute break, still much better off socially and emotionally having all the friends back instead of just half (AM/PM) of the group</p>												
<p>6. Board Policy Updates (Supplement) (First Reading and Possible Consideration for Action) Superintendent</p>	<p>The Board continued discussion regarding the advantages and disadvantages of not providing the full lunch period. Questions and comments were heard from the members regarding the benefit for students to have the opportunity to engage with their peers during lunch and how to operationally/logistically keep the students distanced. Concerns were shared about the social emotional well-being of students and the value of socialization during lunch as well as possible schedule issues for families. There was also discussion regarding the extra expenses, resources and staff needed to be able to provide the lunch period safely and the timeframe to implement.</p> <p>Middle school principals contributed to the discussion sharing that they too agreed about the social emotional aspect for students. However, with the fuller day model, a slower start in January/February with the grab and go lunch could be helpful easing students back into the schedule. Also challenges with the supervised, but unstructured time, at lunch and the additional time needed for thorough disinfecting. Contact tracing would be more difficult as cohorts would be mixed, and potentially causing more missed school for students.</p> <p>This item will be brought back for further consideration.</p> <p>Periodically, the Board reviews, revises and/or adopts Board Policy. The following policies are provided for first reading and possible consideration for action.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="651 1299 1430 1583"> <tr> <td>BP 0460</td> <td>Local Control and Accountability Plan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BP 0520 ADOPT</td> <td>Intervention for Underperforming Schools</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BP 0520.1 ADOPT</td> <td>Comprehensive and Targeted Support for Improvement</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BP/AR 1312.3</td> <td>Uniform Complaint Procedures</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AR 3514</td> <td>Environmental Safety</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BP/E 41 12.9 4212.9 4312.9</td> <td>Employee Notifications</td> </tr> </table> <p>Trustee Brownell moved and Trustee Neal seconded to approve the revisions and adopt the new policies listed, as presented. The motion passed 4-0. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Trustee Kent, Brownell, Neal and White</p>		BP 0460	Local Control and Accountability Plan	BP 0520 ADOPT	Intervention for Underperforming Schools	BP 0520.1 ADOPT	Comprehensive and Targeted Support for Improvement	BP/AR 1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures	AR 3514	Environmental Safety	BP/E 41 12.9 4212.9 4312.9	Employee Notifications
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<p>PERSONNEL:</p>														
<p>7. Openers for RUFT Negotiations 2021-2022</p>	<p>The Board is required to set a date for public comment on collective bargaining unit openers for the upcoming session. District administration recommends that Rescue Union Federation of</p>													

<p>(Supplement)</p> <p>(Consideration for Action)</p> <p>Assistant Superintendent of Business Services</p>	<p>Teachers (RUFT) negotiation openers be put on the agenda for the December 15, 2020 regular Board meeting for public comment.</p> <p>Trustee Brownell moved and Trustee Neal seconded to set the date for public comment on RUFT openers, for the December 15, 2020 regular Board meeting. The motion passed 4-0.</p> <p>Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Trustee Kent, Brownell, Neal and White</p>
<p>BUSINESS AND FACILITIES ITEMS:</p>	<p>These items are provided for Board information, discussion, and/or action.</p>
<p>8. District Response to PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)</p> <p>(Supplement)</p> <p>(Discussion Only)</p> <p>Assistant Superintendent of Business Services</p>	<p>The Board will receive information regarding what options and solutions are available for future PSPS events.</p> <p>Assistant Superintendent of Business Services reported on possible options regarding the potential purchase of a generator that allow the district to be self-sufficient during PSPS events. Additionally, other options including battery systems, solar, and energy efficiencies were reviewed.</p> <p>After discussion, the Board gave direction to administration to move forward with the process for proposals/quotes to review our systems for energy savings.</p>
<p>9. Budget Advisory Committee Update</p> <p>(Supplement)</p> <p>(Information Only)</p> <p>Assistant Superintendent of Business Services</p>	<p>The Board will receive an update on the Budget Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Superintendent Olson provided an update on the development of the Budget Advisory Committee.</p> <p>The committee will be established during the fall of 2020 and meet throughout the 20-21 school year, with the intent for the Board of Trustees to discuss, approve and adopt a budget reduction plan to be put in place for the 2021-2022 school year. The committee's input will be made by looking at the goals and actions established within the district's LCAP. The goal is to be able to present possible budget reductions to the Rescue Union Board of Trustees by February 2021 Study Session so that the possibilities can be discussed, revised, and then a plan determined by the Board and subsequently approved and adopted at the regular March Board meeting to be put in place for the 2021-2022 school year and beyond.</p>
<p>CONSENT AGENDA:</p> <p>(Consideration for Action)</p>	<p>All matters listed under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine or sufficiently supported by prior or accompanying reference materials and information as to not require additional discussion. A motion as referenced below will enact all items.</p> <p>Item #15 was pulled for discussion.</p> <p>Trustee Brownell moved and Trustee Kent seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion passed 4-0.</p> <p>Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Trustee Kent, Brownell, Neal and White</p>
<p>10. Board Meeting Minutes</p> <p>(Supplement)</p>	<p>Minutes of October 13, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.</p>

<p>16. Donations (Supplement)</p>	<p>The Board and District appreciate and accept the following donations:</p> <p><u>Rescue Union School District</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Donation from Guardians of the Angeles for personal protective equipment for COVID-19 prevention and/or control.
<p>ADJOURNMENT:</p>	<p>Trustee Kent moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m., Trustee Neal seconded the motion.</p>

Clerk

Date

President

Date

Board Approved December 15, 2020