

**Rescue Union School District
2390 Bass Lake Road, Rescue, California 95672**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, February 9, 2021 – 6:30 p.m. Open Session (Closed Session at 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, the Board of Trustees, complying with social distancing guidelines, met in person and all audience participation was held via Zoom.

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 at 5:34 p.m.
ROLL CALL:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓Nancy Brownell, President ✓Michael Gordon, Vice President ✓Suzanna George, Clerk ✓Tagg Neal, Member ✓Kim White, 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: District Conference Room	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, Sean Martin and Dave Scroggins 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:	Convened open session in the Board Room at 6:32 p.m.
Welcome	The Board president provided an introduction to Board meeting proceedings.
Flag Salute	The Board vice president led the flag salute.
1. Adoption of Agenda (Consideration for Action)	Trustee George moved and Trustee Neal seconded to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

STUDENT SUCCESS / RECOGNITION:	
Green Valley School	Principal, Michelle Winberg, provided a site update and presentation highlighting student successes. Green Valley honored Anna Knox, teacher and Sandra Villalovoz, library media coordinator as the recipients of the Difference Maker Award.
REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION:	
Report from Closed Session	Board president reported no action taken in closed session.
2. Superintendent's Report (Supplement)	<p>The Superintendent provided a report to the Board of Trustees on activities throughout the district.</p> <p>Superintendent Olson reported that it is hard to believe we are already past the half way mark for the school year and into open enrollment. Registration packets will be available online and in school offices on February 10 and can be returned to schools beginning February 17.</p> <p>Mrs. Olson provided information regarding student summer learning opportunities to help students who have experienced learning loss get caught up before the school year begins in August. The intent is to offer an extensive summer learning program entitled R.I.S.E (Readiness. Improvement. Success. Empowerment). Students will be assessed this spring, using select district assessments to determine which students should be invited for first priority participation. The 19-day program would be offered at three sites: Marina Village, Lake Forest, and Rescue. Teachers would be given time between now and the start of the program to create lessons based upon certain essential standards to cover over the course of the program. Students would attend June 8 through July 2, from 8:30 to 1:00 daily with class sizes capped at 16:1.</p> <p>Staff would still need to be hired (teachers, aides, secretaries, custodians, counselor, nurse, food service, transportation). With this huge endeavor an informational survey has been put out for classified and certificated employees to determine the level of interest we may have for these positions. A survey was also sent out to our families to determine their level of interest from parents to have their children participate in these programs. Concurrently, our annual Extended School Year (ESY) program will also be offered for our special education students. This program will be housed at Lake Forest and Marina Village, and will require teachers and support staff as well. In addition to these programs in June, Superintendent Olson stated, we will also offer two-week Boost programs from July 19-30. The first two-week Boost is specifically designed for our EL students and the second Boost program is specifically designed for our special education students. The purpose of the shorter programs will be to give participating students a jumpstart on the new school year. Teachers and support staff will be needed for these short programs as well.</p> <p>Mrs. Olson thanked Larry Garcia and our site principals for all their work on our School Safety Plans that are presented this evening. This has been such an intense year, with challenges, changes and new protocols.</p> <p>Mrs. Olson additionally reported that there is discussion regarding what to do next year with the Frontier Academy. It would not be fiscally feasible to run it the same way we have this year, but we are currently surveying our Frontier families to find out what they found valuable in the program this year, what they wish we would change, and if they would enroll in Frontier again next year should we be able to offer some sort of online program. We will also be checking with our Frontier teachers and staff to get their perspectives.</p>

	<p>Lastly, Superintendent Olson shared that we continue to wait for the CDPH to release the process by which we will be able to work with our county public health department to open fully. CDPH has made it clear that they had not intended to hold any districts back from reopening fully when they released the January 14, 2021 document that required a space of 4 feet between all student chairs. CDPH recognizes that there are districts across the state who have developed mitigation plans that are working very well and those district should be allowed to continue progressing toward a full opening. Our district is one of the districts expected to be allowed to open fully when the process is released and completed in conjunction with public health. We will work directly with Dr. Nancy Williams, our health officer, as soon as the process is released.</p>
<p>PUBLIC COMMENTS:</p>	<p>There were no public comments.</p>
<p>GENERAL:</p>	
<p>3. CSBA Delegate Assembly Election (Supplement) (Consideration for Action) Superintendent</p>	<p>CSBA elects their Delegate Assembly annually and delegates serve two-year terms. The Board as a whole may cast one vote for one candidate.</p> <p>Trustee Neal moved and Trustee Gordon seconded to cast the Board vote for Suzanna George, Incumbent, for CSBA Delegate Assembly Sub-Region, 6-C. The motion passed 4-0 with 1 abstention.</p> <p>Ayes: Trustee White, Neal, Gordon and Brownell Abstentions: Trustee George</p>
<p>4. Board Meeting Minutes and Recordings (Supplement) (Discussion and Possible Consideration for Action) Superintendent</p>	<p>The Board reviewed and discussed Board Bylaw 9324 Minutes and Recordings.</p> <p>Superintendent Olson stated that our current policy has not been updated since 2004. She reviewed that currently it states we <i>may</i> record meetings, if we do it must be stated at the beginning of the meeting and the recording may be kept for a minimum of 30 days, and upon request shall be made available for inspection by members of the public on a district recorder without charge. The CSBA version, provided for review, additionally includes sections regarding how the minutes should be a brief summary of the Board’s discussion rather than a verbatim record of each member’s viewpoints, and that public comments should also be a summary. It also reiterates the 30-day period for recordings and upon request shall be made available for inspection by members of the public on district equipment without charge.</p> <p>The Board asked clarifying questions regarding public records requests, and/or requirements for providing transcripts.</p> <p>The Board discussed the process for keeping recordings of meetings, whether audio and/or video (Zoom could still be used as the platform for recordings), length of time to keep recordings, district storage capacity, availability to public (posting on website), possibility of podcast and how to balance the factual accounting of items discussed.</p> <p>The Board agreed that by recording meetings and making them available on our website it would increase transparency, be valuable in connecting with the community, and provide busy families with more opportunities to be involved and stay well informed. The Board made revisions to the policy determining that a reasonable length of time to keep the recordings would be 3 months (add new recording and remove oldest version), and the format would be an audio recording.</p>

	<p>Public Comment:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="683 191 1446 373"> <tr> <td data-bbox="683 191 914 373">Lee Kirkpatrick Parent</td> <td data-bbox="914 191 1446 373">At a previous meeting, had asked the Board about this possibility of providing recordings of the meetings and thanked them for their consideration. He agreed it would provide greater transparency, and provide additional opportunities for parent participation.</td> </tr> </table> <p>Board Bylaw 9324 will be brought back to the next meeting, with the suggested revisions for possible consideration of approval.</p>	Lee Kirkpatrick Parent	At a previous meeting, had asked the Board about this possibility of providing recordings of the meetings and thanked them for their consideration. He agreed it would provide greater transparency, and provide additional opportunities for parent participation.
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<p>5. COVID Update (Supplement) (Information Only) Superintendent</p>	<p>The Board received an update on our current COVID status.</p> <p>Superintendent Olson provided an update on information regarding the new COVID – 19 guidance release on January 14, 2021 which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Students in all grades TK-12 must wear a face covering – School must exclude students from campus if they are not exempt from wearing a face covering under the CDHP guidelines and refuse to wear one. – Physical distancing in classrooms - under no circumstances should the distance between student chairs be less than 4 feet. – Implementation of stable groups of students and staff. Schedule or program changes can be made at ends of trimesters or semesters – Band and choir can may be held outdoors. <p>Mrs. Olson reported that as of 2/5/21 we have received word from Dr. Manansala that CDPH is developing a process to allow local districts to demonstrate evidence and planning to achieve flexibility around certain guidelines like the current 4-foot mandate distance between children’s chairs. When the information is released Dr. Williams is ready to work with us on whatever the process is going to look like.</p> <p>Information was also shared regarding our current case numbers, absences case numbers for El Dorado County, and when additional vaccines may be available.</p> <p>Superintendent Olson also reported that currently we are interviewing/hiring intervention teachers for each site, including Frontier to mitigate learning loss. She also provided an overview of our plans for a robust summer program (R.I.S.E – Readiness. Improvement. Success. Empowerment), focusing on ELA and math for general and special education students. Additionally, the district will be providing a BOOST program for special education and EL students. These programs will focus on filling in the gaps/preparing students for the next school year.</p> <p>Public Comment:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="683 1497 1500 1591"> <tr> <td data-bbox="683 1497 898 1591">Laura Brady Parent</td> <td data-bbox="898 1497 1500 1591">Question regarding, whether we would be applying for a waiver to reopen as other school districts have been doing?</td> </tr> </table> <p>Superintendent Olson answered stating that has been the discussion this evening and we are waiting for that process to be released by CDHP, it is still in development. As soon as the process is released by CDHP and provided to districts, RUSD will complete the process so that we can open our schools to fulltime status.</p> <p>The Board continued discussion and asked clarifying questions. Comments were made regarding how we have been in a holding pattern waiting for this process, but still not hopeful that it will be released in the immediate future. As we continue to wait, our students continue to miss out educationally as well as emotionally. The Board asked Cabinet, as an alternative avenue, to</p>	Laura Brady Parent	Question regarding, whether we would be applying for a waiver to reopen as other school districts have been doing?
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	<p>reach out to Dr. Williams to see if perhaps she would be willing to provide her assistance, similarly to what the Placer County health official was able to do, to get us back in school sooner than later as precedence has been established. Superintendent shared that in conversations with Dr. Williams and Dr. Manansala they are just as eager as we are to get the ball rolling, however no one is interested in going against what the guidance states at this point, but are waiting for the process to be released.</p> <p>The Board agreed that keeping pressure on, where we can, could be beneficial and would be worth pursuing, including perhaps a letter to the CDHP and State Superintendent from the elected Board members.</p>
PERSONNEL:	
<p>6. Public Hearing Proposals for CSEA Negotiation Openers in 2021-2022</p> <p>(Supplement)</p> <p>(Hearing)</p> <p>Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction</p>	<p>To comply with Government Code 3547, the Board is holding a public hearing for comment prior to the adoption of CSEA Negotiation Openers in 2021-2022.</p> <p>OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: 8:38 p.m.</p> <p>CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: 8:39 p.m.</p> <p>There were no comments.</p>
CONSENT AGENDA:	<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>Trustee Gordon moved and Trustee George seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed 5-0.</p>
(Consideration for Action)	
<p>7. Board Meeting Minutes</p> <p>(Supplement)</p>	Minutes of January 20, 2021 Special Board Meeting.
<p>8. Board Meeting Minutes</p> <p>(Supplement)</p>	Minutes of January 26, 2021 Regular Board Meeting
<p>9. District Expenditure Warrants</p> <p>(Supplement)</p>	Warrants must regularly be presented to the Board of Trustees for ratification. Detailed warrant order listings are available at the District Office. The supplement reflects expenditures from 12/23/20 through 1/13/21.
<p>10. District Purchase Orders</p> <p>(Supplement)</p>	Purchase orders must regularly be presented to the Board of Trustees for ratification. The supplement reflects expenditures from 1/16/21 through 2/2/21.
<p>11. Personnel</p> <p>(Supplement)</p>	Rescue Union School District's long-range goal is to recruit a diverse, high quality staff whose goals and philosophies are student focused. Periodically, changes in staffing occur due to need for additional positions, resignations, or requests for leaves of absence. All positions listed are within current budget allocations.
<p>A. Certificated Personnel</p> <p>Employment:</p>	James Greule, Teacher – temporary assignment, (1.0 FTE), Pleasant Grove, effective 1/19/21

Resignation:	Christina Brazzel, Teacher, (.7222 FTE), Lake Forest, effective 2/26/21
Retirement:	Susan Ninan, Teacher, (1.0 FTE), Pleasant Grove, effective 2/10/21
Temporary Assignment Ends:	Michele Pease, Teacher – temporary assignment, (.2472 FTE), Green Valley, effective 1/21/21
B. Classified Personnel Employment:	Holly Collier, Food Service Worker, (.25 FTE), Food Service, effective 2/2/21 Lina Ghalayini, Instructional Assistant, (.10 FTE), Lake Forest, effective 1/25/21
12. Safe School Plans (Supplement)	The Board considered approval of the Safe School Plans. These plans are updated each year and are developed with the involvement of school, community leaders, staff, parents and students.
ADJOURNMENT:	Trustee White moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Suzanna George, Clerk

Date

Nancy Brownell, President

Date

Board Approved March 9, 2021