



RESCUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

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www.rescueusd.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 - 6:30 p.m. Open Session
Rescue District Office Board Room

The Public's health and well-being are the top priority for the Board of Trustees of the Rescue Union School District and all are urged to take all appropriate health safety precautions. To facilitate this process, there were two options to view and/or participate in this open session meeting in person or 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.

PLEASE NOTE:

These are provided as summary minutes. The audio recording of the meeting is available for review at:

<http://www.rescueusd.org/School-Board/Agendas-Minutes/index.html>

CALL TO ORDER: Board president called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Board President Michael Gordon attended the meeting remotely, via Zoom.

ROLL CALL:

- ✓ Michael Gordon, President
- ✓ Kim White, Vice President
- ✓ Michelle Bebout, Clerk
- ✓ Jamie Hunter, Member
- ✓ Michael Flaherty, Member
- ✓ Jim Shoemake, Superintendent and Board Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENT:

(Closed session agenda items only)

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 Superintendent, Jim Shoemake, and/or labor negotiators, Lisa Donaldson and Dustin Haley, 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 Boardroom at 6:32 p.m.

Welcome - The Board president provided an introduction to Board meeting proceedings.

Flag Salute - Board president led the flag salute.

1. Adoption of Agenda

(Consideration for Action)

Trustee Hunter moved and Trustee Flaherty seconded to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION:

Report from Closed Session - Board president reported no action taken in closed session.

Superintendent's Report - The Superintendent provided a district related report and spoke about district bright spots. Superintendent Shoemake spoke about Human Resources Coordinator Karen Schudy who passed away in late February, and presented a detailed "In Memoriam" recap with mentions of the ways and manner in which she served both RUSD and EDCOE in her career. Karen was a beloved colleague and friend who worked in RUSD for about the past 8 years. The report then went on to district school matters and the Superintendent stated that Marina Village Middle School was recently awarded the CA Distinguished School Award Winner. Also highlighted were examples of school staff who support students in everything from essay contents to AVID program to events both onsite and offsite such as "Invite A Girl to Engineering Day" for middle school students. RUSD has been celebrating National Reading Month as well, and several photos of elementary school classrooms, students and groups reading together were shared.

Celebrating Excellence - Lake Forest Elementary School Principal Renee Mallot presented a site report with slideshow information and photos. Principal Mallot shared the school's 2023-2024 theme: We Are All Essential. The report discussed staff numbers and important roles in support of each grade. The stated yearly goals are: positive experience for kids, building collaboration, and increasing SEL support for students. The school's I-SWIM (Inclusive, Safe, Works Hard, shows Integrity and is Mindful) practice includes the integration of SDC students as a daily part of campus life. Counselor Mrs. McKelvey was called out as a significant contributor to Lake Forest's culture and overall wellness. Art taught by Lana Bermudez is a big add this school year as well as Math Intervention with specialist Mrs. Bayless. Two literacy intervention specialists work with kids as needed. The STEAM museum is a new experience and Global Play Day was celebrated recently. Project Lead visits promote judicial system education in preparation for a mock trial. The school

brought in live animals from Wild Things Ambassadors such as an owl and a capybara. Another big event this month was International Women’s Day, with many speakers and career women from authors to doctors, lawyers, realtors, artists and more. Student Leadership is focusing on community building, fundraising, and themed spirit days. I Love Reading Weeks challenges have been met and exceeded by all classes. The LF PTC has enjoyed putting on very successful glow dances, a harvest festival, etc.

There were no public comments.

GENERAL:

2. LCAP Goal 2 and 3 - Deep Dive (Information Only)

The Superintendent recommended the Board receive an update on the District’s LCAP Goals 2 and 3. The update covered a recap of Goal 2 with metrics and an introduction to Goal 3: Infrastructure with a recommendation for slight rewording of Goal 3. The Superintendent asked the Board for feedback and Trustees White, Bebout, Hunter and Flaherty agreed that rewording with removal of the word “technical” is acceptable. Trustee White asked for dates of upcoming Student Listening Circles in hopes of attending.

There were no public comments.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

3. Resolution #24-01: Classified Personnel (Consideration for Action)

The Superintendent recommended the Board hear information on Resolution #24-01: Classified Personnel - Reduction of Hours/Elimination of Positions, and consider the resolution for approval. Trustee Bebout asked about teachers whose positions have been eliminated. Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Haley answered that those teachers have been reassigned in alternate positions.

There were no public comments.

Trustee Hunter moved and Trustee Flaherty seconded to approve Resolution #24-01. Motion passed 5-0.

BUSINESS AND FACILITIES:

4. Technology Services Update (Information Only)

The Superintendent recommended the Board hear an annual update from the RUSD Technology Department. I.T. Department Director Rene Buenrostro presented a slideshow naming the technology team in the District, reporting statistics such as the number of IT tickets resolved within the school year as compared with the previous school year. Overall, issues are quickly resolved and while there are less tickets reported and “solved” Rene said a primary reason is that devices and software are working well and the systems are running more efficiently. Topics touched on included completed projects, future projects. Trustee White said that without I.T. “there is no RUSD.” Trustee Flaherty said the report was incredibly informative and Trustee Bebout asked Rene to pass on the Board’s praises for work well done.

There were no public comments.

5. Green Valley Modernization Update

(Consideration for Action)

The Superintendent recommended the Board hear an update on the Green Valley Modernization project and review the change orders to date. Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Lisa Donaldson spoke about Change Orders and the additional cost/s to the District.

There were no public comments.

Trustee Bebout moved and Trustee Hunter seconded to approve the Green Valley Modernization update. Motion passed 5-0.

6. Rescue Gym Modernization

(Consideration for Action)

The Superintendent recommended the Board hear an update on the Rescue Gym Modernization and approve the contract with Carter Kelly. Assistant Superintendent Donaldson provided an overview.

There were no public comments.

Trustee Flaherty moved and Trustee Hunter seconded to approve to Rescue Gym Modernization. Motion passed 5-0.

7. Second Interim Budget Report

(Consideration for Action)

The Superintendent recommended the Board receive a report and approve the District's Second Interim Budget. Assistant Superintendent Donaldson delivered a presentation of the Second Interim Budget Report, due by March 15, 2024, and requested a positive certification for the Board.

There were no public comments.

Trustee Bebout moved and Trustee Flaherty seconded to approve the RUSD Second Interim Budget Report with a positive certification. Motion passed 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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. There will be no separate discussion of these items prior to the time the Board of Trustees votes on the motion unless Members of the Board, staff or public request specific items to be discussed or deleted from the consent agenda for separate action. The Board President will call for public comment on consent agenda items. The Superintendent recommended approval of the following:

Trustee Bebout moved and Trustee Hunter seconded to approve Consent Agenda items 8-17. Motion passed 5-0.

8. Board Meeting Minutes - Minutes of the February 13, 2024 Regular Board Meeting (Materials Provided)
9. Study Session Minutes - Minutes of the February 27, 2024 Board Study Session Meeting (Materials Provided)
10. Human Resources - the District's long-range goal is to recruit a diverse, high quality staff with student focused goals and philosophies. Periodically, changes in staffing occur due to need for additional positions, resignations, or leaves of absence. All positions listed are within current budget allocations (Materials Provided)
11. District Expenditure - 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 Feb. 1, 2024 - Feb. 29, 2024 (Materials Provided)
12. District Purchase Orders - Purchase orders must regularly be presented to the Board of Trustees for ratification. The supplement reflects expenditures from Feb. 1, 2024 - Feb. 29, 2024 (Materials Provided)
13. E-Rate Contract with CDW Government, LLC (Materials Provided)
14. Joint Food Service Director Agreement for the 2024-2025 School Year - BUSD/RUSD (Materials Provided)
15. RUSD Phone System Upgrade (Materials Provided)
16. Out-of-State Travel Request - SPED Dept. Trip to Utah for Student Assessment (Materials Provided)
17. Out-of-State Travel Request - SPED Dept. Trip to Texas for Student Assessment (Materials Provided)

CLOSED SESSION:

The Board may reconvene to closed session as authorized by Government Code Sections 3549.1, 54956.9, 54956.8, 54957, and 54957.6 and Education Code Sections 35146 and 48918.

OPEN SESSION:

Reconvene open session.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION:


The Board president will report any action taken in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Hunter moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m.


Michelle Bebout, Clerk

4/9/24
Date


Michael Gordon, President

4/9/24
Date