

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
OF CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Barber read the following statement from Brandon Jones:

“Dear Members of the Board, Faculty and Staff at Lowell Joint School District,

It is with a heavy heart that I hereby resign my position as Governing Board Member in the Lowell Joint School District. My family and I have moved out of the District boundaries to Moorpark, California. It has been my honor to serve on the Board with some of the finest people I know. I will always cherish the time I had with the members of the Board, faculty and staff. I have learned a great deal about myself and I will always be thankful for the way I was treated. More importantly, I will always be grateful for the way my children were treated at their schools in the District. They’ve had wonderful memories and experiences that they’ll never forget. I’d like to thank everyone who has influenced my children to not only be better students but also taught them personal integrity, social responsibility, and a respect for our national heritage. My family will always be in the debt of the District and we’ll always be proud to be a part of the Lowell Joint family.”

Mr. Barber also welcomed Mr. Coombs to his first Board meeting as the Lowell Joint School District Superintendent of Schools.

APPROVAL OF
AGENDA

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote, (4 – 0) to approve the January 10, 2017, Board agenda.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote, (4 – 0) to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2016, Reorganizational Board Meeting.

TOPICS NOT ON THE
AGENDA

Mr. Tim Shaw presented the Lowell Joint Education Foundation with a check for \$250.00. He had the privilege of going to a breakfast for the Mobile Home Association with other Orange County Council members and the donation is to be donated to a charitable organization.

TIMELY INFORMATION
FROM THE BOARD
AND
SUPERINTENDENT

None.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Mr. Barber shared on Friday, January 6, Jordan held its monthly citizenship assembly recognizing those students who did an exceptional job of demonstrating the Character Education Trait of Kindness. This Thursday, January 12, the third grade classes will attend a field trip to the Environmental Nature Center in Newport Beach. Tired of cooking? Please join Jordan on Thursday, January 19 at Ruby's for PTA's Monthly Stoves on Strike at the Whitwood Mall in Whittier.

Mrs. Shackelford stated that yesterday, Monday, January 9, Olita Elementary School held an Awards Assembly to recognize those students who demonstrated the best Character Education Trait of Kindness. The Character Education Trait for January is Goal Setting. If rain permits, the fifth graders will be traveling to Riley's Farm in Oak Glen. They will see war reenactments and learn about the heroes from the Revolutionary War. With any luck, they will also get to try a bite of the famous apple pie for which the area is known. On Thursday, January 12, PTA will kick off their popcorn fundraiser for Valentine's Day. PTA fundraising is so important to keep our enriching programs available to our students.

Mr. Schambeck reported that El Portal is proud of their STEAM activities that are happening on campus. Students are working in the STEAM lab almost daily and parent volunteers come in to help. The board room bulletin board displays student work from the STEAM lab. The first grade students had two lectures about the Mt. Conservancy from the ranger as they prepare to hike Powder Canyon in La Habra Heights. The Discovery Science Center is coming to El Portal to provide information on the water cycle for every grade-level. The Discovery Center has aligned all of their materials to the Common Core Standards for each grade-level.

SCHOOL REPORTS
Continued

Mr. Hinz shared that Macy Elementary School is proud to announce that the annual fall outreach program this year brought in 13 huge bags of blankets for homeless children, families, and adults in order to keep them warm through these chilly/rainy Winter nights. Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Raul, and Ms. Ryan loaded up Ms. Ryan's Santa truck and took all the blankets to LACOE for distribution to numerous shelters throughout Los Angeles County. Macy launched, 'Dudes Be Nice Week!', 'Dudes Be Nice Week!' supports the positive climate and culture on campus as kids participate in the following activities: Monday – Students and staff gave tokens, small gifts, or nice notes to someone whom needs cheering up or a positive lift; Tuesday – Students and staff will donate a suggested 50 cents toward the purchase of three 'FRIENDSHIP BENCHES' for the Kindergarten, primary, and upper playgrounds. These benches serve as the local for kids who need a friend that day. If a student is seen sitting on a 'Friendship Bench', other children will engage them. At Macy, ***"If you need a friend, you be a friend!"***; Wednesday – 'Campus Clean-Up Day!' Everyone picks up 5 pieces of trash or lost and found items; Thursday – Students and staff will go out of their way to do nice things for our Noon Duty Aides, all 7 of them; and Friday - The school is going to surprise a teacher who needs extra support and love this month at our monthly assembly, on January 19. Students always look forward to *Science on the Go*. On Friday, January 22, students will learn about Amphibians. Mrs. Shackelford added that the student who developed "Dudes Be Nice" Week is a graduate of La Serna.

Mrs. Shackelford stated Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School's popular after school sports program continues this month with basketball and soccer games taking place all month. It is wonderful to see so many students participate and our fields full for games. Over 60 students have begun Junior Achievement on Friday after school. This excellent class gives students great information on finances and concludes with a simulation activity at a finance park in Burbank. Rancho's English Language Arts eighth grade Honors classes, under the leadership of Mrs. Green, are visiting with seniors in Assisted Living to begin a digital life story project as each senior shares their "story" with our students. The final projects will be compiled by our students and shared with the seniors.

Mr. Barber concluded school reports with Meadow Green. He reported Meadow Green's annual Moms and Muffins Breakfast will be held January 18, in the multi-use room. The breakfast will start at 7:45 AM. Moms and other special adults were invited to share a muffin with their student before school begins. Fifth graders will be taking a field trip to Griffith Observatory on Thursday, January 19, 2016. Meadow Green PTA is funding the field trip. Meadow Green School will again be participating in "The Great Kindness Challenge Week" during the week of January 23, 2017. An informational flyer will go home to explain the week and suggest activities families can do to support the cause.

PRESENTATION OF
INDEPENDENT AUDIT
REPORT 2015/16

Education Code Section 41020 requires that by January 31 of each year, the governing body of each local education agency shall review, at a public meeting, the annual audit of the local education agency for the prior year, any audit exceptions identified in that audit, the recommendations or findings of any management letter issued by the auditor, and any description of corrections or plans to correct any exceptions.

Ms. Reynolds reviewed the 2015/16 Independent Audit Report with the Board of Trustees, which was administered by Quezada, Wong, & Associates, Inc., Certified Public Accountants, and reported that there were no audit findings or recommendations, therefore no corrective actions were required. There are two phases of testing, once during the spring and the other during the fall/winter. The District is in compliance with State and Federal laws, regulations, and guidelines.

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote (4 – 0) to accept the Independent Audit Report for the 2015/16 year, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

APPROVAL OF THE
2015/16 SCHOOL
ACCOUNTABILITY
REPORT CARDS

Dr. Sheri McDonald, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, shared the purpose of the School Accountability Report Cards (SARC) is to provide parents and the community with important information about each public school. A SARC can be an effective way for a school to report on its progress in achieving goals. SARC's must be updated annually and published by February 1.

The 2015/16 School Accountability Report Card published during the 2016/17 school year for each school site is available at the District Office and on each school's website. They will also be posted on the District's website upon approval.

It is moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote (4 – 0) to approve the 2015/16 School Accountability Report Cards, for each school site, and that the Superintendent or designee be authorized to execute the necessary documents.

APPOINTMENT OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT TO
SERVE AS SECRETARY
TO THE BOARD OF
TRUSTEES, EFFECTIVE
JANUARY 3, 2017

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote (4 – 0) to approve Mr. Jim Coombs, Superintendent of Schools, to serve as the Secretary to the Board of Trustees effective January 3, 2017, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

APPROVAL OF
"CERTIFICATION OF
SIGNATURES"

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote (4 – 0) to approve the "Certification of Signatures" adding the Superintendent of Schools, Jim Coombs, per *Education Code* Sections 35143, 42632, and 42633, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

CONSENT CALENDAR	It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote, (4 – 0), to approve/ratify the following items, under a consent procedure.
Purchase Order Report 2016/17 #6	Approved Purchase Order Report 2016/17 #6, which lists all purchase orders issued November 7, 2016, through December 15, 2016.
Warrant Listing Report 2016/17 #6	Approved Warrant Listing Report 2015/16 #6, which lists all warrants issued November 30, 2016, through December 27, 2016.
Employer-Employee Relations/Personnel Report 2016/17 #6	Ratified Employer-Employee Relations/Personnel Report 2016/17 #6, as attached, which includes hiring, resignations, contract adjustments, and retirements for certificated, classified, and confidential employees.
BOARD MEMBER/ SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS	<p>Mr. Barber, Mr. Hinz, Mr. Schambeck, and Mrs. Shackelford all shared the same sentiments about Mr. Brandon Jones resigning from the Board.</p> <p>Mr. Schambeck shared that Kathy Ramirez passed away a couple of weeks ago. John, seventh grade student, and Emily, ninth grade student, lost both parents within six months. Rancho-Starbuck is having a fundraiser for the family so that the parents ashes can be taken to Hawaii.</p> <p>Mr. Hinz explained the Law of the Land and Paramount Law.</p> <p>Mr. Barber shared that with Mr. Jones' departure the Board would need to decide whether to appoint or hold a special election. A special election would cost the District approximately \$215,000. With an appointment, the candidate would be appointed for two years, and then would run in the next election to complete the term of Mr. Jones.</p> <p>Mr. Coombs shared that the window to choose a provisional appointment to the Board of Trustees is 60 days from when the Los Angeles County Office of Education receives the resignation letter.</p> <p>The Board directed Mr. Coombs to proceed with a provisional appointment of advertising in various public areas, to include our website, schools, local newspapers, and city halls. At the February 6, 2017, Board meeting the Board will discuss questions and evaluation rubric at the end of the meeting, and a Special Board Meeting will be held on February 16.</p> <p>The Board of Trustees shared that the first of three series of Parent University Night was a success. Ms. Whitney Takacs discussed the perils of technology and shared a lot of information with its ever changing medium.</p>

ADJOURNMENT

President Barber declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. in accordance with Government Code Section 54956.9 (a, b, c) and indicated no further public action would be taken.

Clerk/President/Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Date Approved:
