

# SONORA UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

June 18, 2019

6:00 PM

100 School Street, Room FL-1, Sonora, CA 95370

---

### Trustee Members Present:

Jim Riggs, President

Kim Norton, Clerk

Erik Andal, Member

Nancy Scott, Member

Jeanie Smith, Member

**Others Present:** Superintendent Mark Miller, Chief Business Official Dana Vaccarezza, Principal Ben Howell, Principal Roy Morlan, Assistant Principal Karen Sells, SUHSD staff, and community members.

## 1. OPENING BUSINESS

### 1.1. Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum

Establishing a quorum, Trustee Riggs called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

### 1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Riggs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 1.3. Adopt Agenda

Recommended Motion: Adopt Agenda as presented.

Amend Action Item 6.1:

- ~~TBA~~ Elizabeth Garrett, Learning Director; Educational Services, Effective 2019-2020 School Year
- ~~TBA~~ Carole Sielaff, Director of Special Education, Effective 2019-2020 School Year
- ~~TBA~~ Anthony DePage, Grant-Funded Self-Contained Classroom Teacher, Effective 2019-2020 School Year
- ~~TBA~~ Mitchell Nihonyanagi, Math Teacher, Effective 2019-2020 School Year
- Jason Verrinder, Special Education Teacher, Effective 2019-2020 School Year

Amend Action Items 8.1.2 and 9.2.2:

8.1.2 Public Employee Interview and Appointment: Sonora High School Principal

9.2.2 Public Employee Interview and Appointment: Sonora High School Principal

Motion by Trustee Norton, second by Trustee Smith to adopt the Agenda as presented.

Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith

Motion Passes

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT for non-agendized, reports and information items

Rationale:

Members of the public are welcome to address the board at this time regarding non-agendized, reports and information items: Time is limited to five (5) minutes per speaker, with a cumulative time of twenty (20) minutes. This is a time for members of the public to comment and for board members to listen.

Mystery Bradford thanked Sonora HS administration for their collective hard work in helping her son pass English. She thanked the board for hiring such great staff.

### **3. REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **3.1. Block Schedule Report - Ben Howell**

Ben Howell thanked the board for allowing him to serve the district the last twelve years. He then presented past reviews of the block schedule and shared the experience when Sonora High piloted a block schedule during CAASPP testing. He polled teachers at the close of the pilot and 57% of them supported it. However, they would only support moving to block schedule permanently if they received a salary increase for compensate of their increase in student contacts each day. He also noted there would be a negative impact for students participating in band, sports and middle college.

#### **3.2. Classroom Size Management Report - Ben Howell**

Ben Howell reported that foreign language class size is high because Sonora High has gone from four teachers to two and one half. Other classes average reasonable sizes. Singletons cause the biggest challenge in creating the master schedule and affecting class size.

#### **3.3. Classified Employee Report**

There was no Classified Employee Report.

#### **3.4. Certificated Employee Report**

Debbie Hopper thanked the board for including teachers in the principal interview process.

#### **3.5. Superintendent Report**

Rationale:

See attached documents

Dr. Miller recounted the graduations that marked the end of the school year and reviewed the new hires for the upcoming school year.

#### **3.6. Board of Trustees Report**

Trustee Andal wished Ben Howell success in his next endeavor.

Trustee Smith stated that Summerville Elementary is very lucky to get Ben Howell. She also mentioned that she attended the alternative education graduation which was very well done.

Trustee Scott thanked Ben Howell for all his helpfulness, even behind the scenes.

Trustee Norton mentioned that the graduations were well done.

Trustee Riggs offered his best wishes to Ben Howell. He also mentioned that the Sonora High graduation ceremony was very well done.

### **3.7. Superintendent Evaluation Report - Jim Riggs**

Rationale:

The 2018-2019 superintendent evaluation process has been completed.

Trustee Riggs reported that the 2018-2019 superintendent evaluation process has been completed.

## **4. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **4.1. First Reading of Revised Board Policies, Exhibits and Board Bylaws; CSBAs Suggested Updates for March 2019**

Rationale:

CSBAs recommendation for revisions can be found on the attached Policy Guide Sheet. Individual BPs, Es and BBs are attached for review.

Trustee Riggs commented that he appreciates this service to keep us up to date with new laws.

Trustee Smith thanked Cindy Costello for the time-consuming process of updating policies.

### **4.2. Assess and Evaluate "Talk with Trustees" and Board Members Joining Department Meetings**

Trustee Andal expressed that joining these meetings was instrumental in getting to know staff and the school process. He would like to know if the staff liked it as well.

Trustee Riggs would like to ask staff their opinion in the fall. He also wonders if we should consider opening this up to parents to give them the opportunity to speak with board members other than the public comment time during board meetings.

### **4.3. Board Retreat; Self-Evaluation Workshop**

Trustee Riggs noted that he and Trustee Smith will meet with Dr. Miller on June 21 at 8:00 am to begin planning the workshop.

Trustee Norton would like to include a discussion about returning to two board meetings per month.

#### **4.4. Dome Advisory Committee**

Davina Layne shared her concern that creating another committee was taking too long. The Historical Dome Preservation Group has been discussing the Dome with the district for a year now and they urge some action.

Trustee Riggs understands that this will be an action item at the July 9 board meeting.

Sharon Marovich asked for clarity of what a new committee would review.

Trustee Smith stated that the last committee did not make recommendations in regards to the parking problem and the district needs that.

Mystery Bradford shared that at the last few meetings there have been discussions about this and wonders if anyone has looked into the parking problem between meetings.

Trustee Smith explained that the goal is to have something in place for the next meeting but the matter is very complex.

Trustee Andal suggested an ad-hoc committee be formed to look into positions that should be on the 7-11 committee and begin looking into the parking problem.

Trustee Riggs appointed Trustee Scott and Trustee Smith to be the ad-hoc committee.

Allan Zimmerly expressed that anyone from his agency should not be a part of the 7-11 committee for reasons of conflict of interest, but they would be happy to help. He reminded the group that two years ago a 7-11 committee determined that the Dome and two side buildings were surplus.

#### **4.5. Suggestions for New Business**

No New Business was suggested.

### **5. ACTION ITEMS - CONSENT AGENDA**

Rationale:

Consent agenda items combine routine business into one agenda item as a whole. Therefore, the consent agenda can be approved in one action rather than multiple motions on each item separately.

Recommended Motion: Approve Consent Agenda as presented.

Trustee Smith will share the high cost pool information with Dana Vaccarezza for the Point Quest agreement.

Trustee Riggs noted his appreciation of the consent agenda being more concise.

Motion by Trustee Norton, second by Trustee Andal to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith

Motion Passes

### **5.1. Approve Board Meeting Minutes Dated May 14, 2019**

Recommended Motion: Approve Minutes as presented.

### **5.2. Approve Board Meeting Minutes Dated June 11, 2019**

Recommended Motion: Approve Minutes as presented.

### **5.3. Approve Bills and Warrants for May 2019**

Approve Bills and Warrants as presented.

### **5.4. Approve Fund Transfer(s)**

Rationale:

- \$462.61 from the Cafeteria Fund (13) to the General Fund (01) for Cafeteria reimbursement to General Fund for 18/19 3rd Quarter fuel expenses and 18/19 3rd Quarter vehicle maintenance expenses.
- \$1,577.52 from the Cafeteria Fund (13) to the General fund (01) for correction to longevity stipend related to Cafeteria fund posted Jul-Dec 2018 to wrong account.

Recommended Motion: Approve Fund Transfers as presented.

### **5.5. Approve 2019-2020 Joint Use Agreement with Tuolumne County Community Cable Access, Inc. (aka Cable 8)**

Rationale:

Tuolumne County Community Cable Access volunteers provide educational opportunities for Alternative Education site students. They run KAAD Radio and produce videos for Cable 8.

Recommended Motion: Approve Joint Use Agreement as presented.

### **5.6. Approve 2019-2020 Lease Agreement with Tuolumne County Arts Alliance**

Rationale:

The Arts Alliance wishes to continue its lease for one of the buildings on the Alternative Education campus.

Recommended Motion: Approve Lease as presented.

**5.7. Approve 2019-2020 Point Quest Agreement**

Rationale:

The District utilizes Point Quest services for the Functional Living Skills (FLS) Special Education Program.

Recommended Motion: Approve Agreement as presented.

**5.8. Approve Addendum #1 to the 2019-2020 Agreement with the Tuolumne County Recreation Department**

Rationale:

The Tuolumne County Recreation Department is self-insured and requested a change to Section 4 of the agreement. Addendum #1 reflects the correct insurance reference.

Recommended Motion: Approve Addendum as presented.

**5.9. Approve Textbook Adoption Request for Cosmetology Digital Version of Textbook**

Rationale:

The current textbook used for the cosmetology course has a digital learning option. It enhances the students' learning in many ways: the speak/read option provides correct pronunciation, homework packets can be completed digitally and while the curriculum is aligned with State Board standards, teachers can customize it for additional learning opportunities. Title: Milady's Standard of Cosmetology, Digital MindTap Plus; Publisher: Cengage Learning.

Recommended Motion: Approve Digital Textbook as presented.

**5.10. Adopt New Course of Study; Graphic Design**

Rationale:

The district recommends adopting a new course of study for students to learn graphic design. It would be offered to students who desire to take a second year of Sonora High School's Creative Computer course and to art students who would like to apply their skills to digital media. This is an A-G approved course for Visual & Performing Arts requirements. A recent study projects that the graphic design industry will experience a 3% growth in our region. This course would offer our students an additional career option at a minimal cost to the district. The estimated start-up cost to the district is \$70 per student.

Recommended Motion: Approve New Course of Study as presented.

**5.11. Approve 2019-2020 Department and Activity Chairpersons**

Rationale:

Each spring, departments as identified in the Extra Duty Salary Schedule, recommend to the principal who they would like as the department or activity chairperson for the next

school year. The 2019-2020 department and activity chairpersons are presented for consideration.

Recommended Motion: Approve Department and Activity Chairpersons as presented.

**5.12. Approve Revised Emergency Plan**

Rationale:

The Emergency Plan has been updated to include information on AEDs pursuant to CIF regulations.

Recommended Motion: Approve Emergency Plan as presented.

**5.13. Second Reading and Approval of Board Policy 4111/4211/4311  
Recruitment and Selection**

Recommended Motion: The District has no recommendation.

**6. ACTION ITEMS - DISCUSSION**

**6.1. Approve Personnel Recommendations**

Rationale:

New Hire:

- Rusty Price, Freshman Assistant Football Coach, Effective 05/31/2019
- Elizabeth Garrett, Learning Director; Educational Services, Effective 2019-2020 School Year
- Carole Sielaff, Director of Special Education, Effective 2019-2020 School Year
- Anthony DePage, Grant-Funded Self-Contained Classroom Teacher, Effective 2019-2020 School Year
- Mitchell Nihonyanagi, Math Teacher, Effective 2019-2020 School Year
- Jason Verrinder, Special Education Teacher, Effective 2019-2020 School Year

Recommended Motion: Approve Personnel Recommendations as presented.

Motion by Trustee Andal, second by Trustee Smith to approve the Personnel Recommendations as presented.

Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith

Motion Passes

**6.2. Approve Resolution No. 2018/19-26 Surplus Personal Property-Ag Mechanics & Welding Equipment**

Rationale:

In an effort to clean up the Ag Mechanics & Welding classrooms, the District recommends approving the teacher's request to surplus the listed items.

Recommended Motion: Approve Resolution as presented.

Carol Doud asked how the items will be disposed of.

Mystery Bradford asked if the items could be taken in as scrap metal, then deposit the revenue to the school account.

Dana Vaccarezza stated that it would be taken in as scrap and the revenue would be deposited in the district's general fund.

Trustee Andal asked how declaring these items as surplus would affect CTE.

Melissa Stegall stated that her class received donated equipment from Sierra Conservation Center that is in better condition.

Motion by Trustee Smith, second by Trustee Scott approve the Surplus Property as presented.  
Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith  
Motion Passes

**6.3. Adopt 2019-2020 Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) Budget Overview for Parents/Guardians and 2019-2020 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), and Grant Authority to Superintendent to Make Minor Revisions without Board Approval**

Rationale:

The public hearing for the 2019-2020 LCFF Overview for Parents/Guardians and LCAP was held during the June 11, 2019, meeting. The LCFF Overview for Parents/Guardians, LCAP must be adopted prior to the Proposed Budget. Local Education Agencies in California (LEA) are required to submit an approved LCFF Overview for Parents/Guardians and LCAP. These plans state annual goals for the District, outline expenditure objectives, and are revised on an annual basis. For more efficient processing, the superintendent requests authority to make minor revisions to the LCAP per recommendations by the County Office.

Recommended Motion: Approve 2019-2020 LCFF Overview for Parents/Guardians and LCAP, and authorize superintendent to make minor revisions as presented.

Motion by Trustee Scott, second by Trustee Smith to approve the LCFF Budget Overview for Parent/Guardians, and the LCAP, and grant authority to the superintendent to make minor revisions without board approval as presented.

Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith  
Motion Passes

**6.4. Adopt 2019-2020 Proposed Budget**

Rationale:

The public hearing for the 2019-2020 Proposed Budget was held during the June 11, 2019, meeting. The Proposed Budget must be adopted at the same meeting of and following the adoption of the LCFF Overview for Parents/Guardians and LCAP. These plans state annual goals for the District, outline expenditure objectives, and are revised on an annual basis.



Recommended Motion: Adopt the 2019-2020 Proposed Budget as presented.

Trustee Smith asked if the 5.27% in the third year will be enough to cover cash flow needs.

Dana Vaccarezza advised that the third year out is a best estimate. The 5.27% gives the district a substantial amount of its needs. And the district would make adjustments as needed as it moves toward that time.

Motion by Trustee Andal, second by Trustee Norton to adopt the 2019-2020 Proposed Budget and Grant Authority to the Superintendent to Make Minor Revisions without Board Approval as presented.

Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith

Motion Passes

### **6.5. Approve 2018-2019 Alternative School Annual Report for Theodore Bird High School**

Rationale:

This report fulfills the requirement of California Education Code section 58510. It shares general information about Theodore Bird High School as well as detailed information about the enrollment, ethnicity, CAASPP test results, and CDE Dashboard ratings.

Recommended Motion: Approve Report as presented.

Roy Morlan shared that a new person at CDE is requiring the alternative schools to create this report. It gives similar information as a WASC report.

Motion by Trustee Andal, second by Trustee Scott to approve the 2018-2019 Report as presented.

Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith

Motion Passes

### **7. PUBLIC COMMENT for closed session items**

Rationale:

Members of the public are welcome to address the board at this time regarding closed session items: Time is limited to five (5) minutes per speaker, with a cumulative time of twenty (20) minutes. This is a time for members of the public to comment and for board members to listen.

There was no public comment.

### **8. CLOSED SESSION**

The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 7:17 pm.

**8.1. Personnel Matters Pursuant to Government Code section 54957;**

**8.1.1. Release of One Classified Employee (Employee No. 2018/19-C)**

**8.1.2. Public Employee Interview and Appointment: Sonora High School Principal**

**8.2. Student Matters Pursuant to Education Code Sections 35146, 48900 et seq. and 48912 (b);**

**8.2.1. Student 2018/19-C**

**8.2.2. Student 2018/19-E**

**8.2.3. Student 2018/19-G**

**8.2.4. Student 2018/19-U**

**8.3. Conference with Legal Counsel-Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9;**

Rationale:

Name of Case: Tuolumne County Farm Bureau vs. Sonora Union High School District  
One Case: Case Number: CV62157

**9. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

The meeting reconvened to Open Session at 8:44 pm.

**9.1. Report Out from Closed Session**

**9.2. Personnel Matters Pursuant to Government Code section 54957;**

**9.2.1. Release of One Classified Employee (Employee No. 2018/19-C)**

Recommended Motion: Release Employee No. 2018/19-C as presented.

Motion by Trustee Norton, second by Trustee Scott to approve the release of Employee No. 2018/19-C as presented.

Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith

Motion Passes

**9.2.2. Public Employee Interview and Appointment: Sonora High School Principal**

Recommended Motion: Appoint Stakeholders' and Superintendent's Recommended Candidate as Sonora High School Principal.

Motion by Trustee Smith, second by Trustee Scott to appoint Lance Morrow as the Sonora High School Principal, effective the 2019-2020 school year, pending positive contractual negotiations.

Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith  
Motion Passes

**9.3. Student Matters Pursuant to Education Code Sections 35146, 48900 et seq. and 48912 (b);**

**9.3.1. Student 2018/19-C**

Motion by Trustee Andal, second by Trustee Smith to allow Student 2018/19-C to return to the district with placement at Cassina High School.

Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith  
Motion Passes

**9.3.2. Student 2018/19-E**

Motion by Trustee Andal, second by Trustee Norton to allow Student 2018/19-E to return to the district with placement at Cassina High School.

Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith  
Motion Passes

**9.3.3. Student 2018/19-G**

Motion by Trustee Norton, second by Trustee Smith to extend the expulsion for student 2018/19-G to include the 2019-2020 fall semester.

Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith  
Motion Passes

**9.3.4. Student 2018/19-U**

There was no action taken.

**9.4. Conference with Legal Counsel-Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9;**

Rationale:

Name of Case: Tuolumne County Farm Bureau vs. Sonora Union High School District  
One Case: Case Number: CV62157

Trustee Riggs read the following statement:

During closed session, the Board took action to approve a settlement agreement, in the pending litigation regarding the Wildcat Ranch property. The substance of the agreement includes defined Brown Act practices; a supplemental production of public records; the District's arrangement to pay the Farm Bureau's attorney's fees; and

acknowledgement that should the District wish to sell the Wildcat Ranch property again, it will take the steps necessary to designate the property as surplus, regardless of the previous actions taken by the District. This settlement agreement is not an admission of liability by either party but represents a compromise of disputed claims between the district and Farm Bureau. The Farm Bureau has approved the terms of the agreement.

Trustee Riggs disclosed the following information that occurred during closed session:  
Motion by Trustee Riggs to approve the settlement as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Andal-Aye

Trustee Norton-Aye

Trustee Riggs-Aye

Trustee Scott-Aye

Trustee Smith-No

Motion Passes


#### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Rationale:

Pursuant to Board Bylaw 9322, late agenda material related to open session can be inspected in the superintendent's office at 100 School Street, Room FL-2, Sonora, California. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if any person needs special assistance to participate in the meeting, please contact the superintendent's office at (209) 533-8510 ext. 1, 48 hours prior to the meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Norton, Board Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Miller, Ed.D, Board Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cindy Costello, Recording Secretary