



426 N. Blackstone
Tulare, CA 93274

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Held via Zoom Video Meeting
May 21, 2020
Minutes**

MODIFIED MEETING PROCEDURES DURING COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) PANDEMIC:

As per Executive Order N-29-20 from Governor Newsom, the Tulare Joint Union High School Board of Education Regular meeting, scheduled for May 21, 2020, was conducted via zoom video <https://url.tjuhsd.org/board-meeting>.

1.0 Opening Business

1.1 Call to Order

Board President Cathy Mederos called the regular meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. via Zoom video conference call.

Members Present: Frank Fernandes, Laura Fonseca, Craig Hamilton, Cathy Mederos, Kelley Nicholson

Members Absent: None

1.2 Adopt Agenda

On a motion by Frank Fernandes and second by Kelley Nicholson, the Board approved the agenda by the following 5-0 vote:

Ayes: Fernandes, Fonseca, Hamilton, Mederos, Nicholson

Noes: None Absent: None

2.0 Adjourn to Closed Session

3.0 Regular Session at 7:42 p.m.

Members Present: Frank Fernandes, Laura Fonseca, Craig Hamilton, Cathy Mederos, Kelley Nicholson

Members Present via Zoom:

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present:

Tony Rodriguez, Superintendent

Barbara Orisio, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Business

Lucy Van Scyoc, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum, Technology & Assessment

Tammy Aldaco, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services

Dan Dutto, Principal, High School Farm

Administrators Present via Zoom:

Jason Edwards, Director of Special Education

Michelle Nunley, Principal, Tulare Union High School

Michele Borges, Mission Oak High School

Kevin Covert, Principal, Tulare Western High School
Dereck Domingues, Principal, Sierra Vista Charter High School
Wendi Powell, Principal, Accelerated Charter High School
Steve Ramirez, Principal, Tulare Tech Prep/Countryside High School
Larriann Torrez, Director, Tulare Adult School

Others Present: Vivian Hamilton, Business Manager, Tracey Domingues, Board Stenographer

Others Present via Zoom: Donny Trimm, Director of Technology, Daniel Pierotte, Director of Facilities

3.1 **Pledge of Allegiance**

Board President, Cathy Mederos, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 **Community Relations**

4.1 Citizen Comments

Board President Cathy Mederos requested those who wish to address a matter on the agenda to do so at this time. There were no citizen comments.

5.0 **Reports by CTA/CSEA**

There were no reports from CTA/CSEA.

6.0 **Correspondence/Presentations**

Tony Rodriguez shared the following:

- The TJUHSD has been officially recognized by the state as a State Model for Implementing a Model SARB program.
- Barrett “Bear” Nunley, senior at TUHS, was selected as the State Male Scholar/Athlete for 2019-2020. This is a tremendous honor as only one male student is selected to receive this honor each year.
- Izaiah Ruiz, a junior at TWHS, was chosen as a Questbridge College Prep Scholar. He was among 3,779 students chosen from 12,600 applicants.

7.0 **Information Items**

7.1 **Proposed Board Calendar for July 2020 through June 2021**

Tony Rodriguez reported that the meetings are held the first and third Thursdays except for some months that change due to holidays or events that the Board Members would like to attend. The calendar is subject to change whenever the Board and/or Administration deems it necessary. Special meetings may be called at any time throughout the year as needed and circumstances may dictate. The Board held a brief discussion and requested the District hold two board meetings in July. The calendar will be revised to reflect the change and it will move forward for action at the June 11, 2020 meeting.

7.2 **Resolution 2020-24 in the Matter of Ordering Regular Governing Board Member Elections; Specifications of the Election Order**

If adopted, this resolution orders the election of our Board Members on November 3, 2020; makes certain specifications for county elections use in arranging our election; consolidates our election with the general election; and advises the Tulare County Office of Education in which newspaper to publish our notice of election. The Tulare Joint Union High School will be holding Board Member elections for the following Trustees whose terms will end in December of this year: Cathy Mederos (Trustee Area 1) and Frank Fernandes (Trustee Area 4).

7.3 **Ag Enterprise Report – Financial Information on the Ag Farm and Dairy Enterprise**

The Governing Board requested information regarding the financial status of the Agriculture Enterprises. Daniel Dutto presented a report to the Board that showed the current financial status of the Agriculture Enterprises. Mr. Dutto summarized the status of the Dairy and Enterprise through April. The Board held a brief discussion and Mr. Dutto responded to questions from the Board.

7.4 **Technology Update Report**

The Board received the Technology Update report for their review. Donny Trimm informed the Board they are going over the site plans for graduation and will be providing technology support including recording the graduations.

7.5 **Facilities and Transportation Update Report**

The Board received the Facilities and Transportation Update report for their review. Daniel Pierotte informed the Board that the concrete is now 99% complete at the TUHS 2 Story Building. The landscaping is 95% complete. In addition, we are currently waiting on Southern California Gas to lower their line so we can finish our storm drain. At TWHS, the roofing project will be complete the first week of June. We are still waiting for SCE to set up service in order to begin installing the marquee at ACHS. The installation of the new marquee at TWHS is complete. The fencing at the farm is complete and the remainder of the project consists of electronics handled by Giotto's. Daniel Pierotte responded to questions from the Board.

7.6 **COVID-19 Information/Update**

Tony Rodriguez updated the Board on actions the district continues to take in regards to school closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He distributed a handout that included the following information:

State Update

He reviewed Governor Newsom continues to keep schools in Stage 2, so schools remain closed. Stage 4 is the stage when schools can consider reopening. TJUHSD has officially announced that all schools in our district will remain closed for the 2019-2020 school year. Mr. Rodriguez will share guidance for schools on how to reopen from State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond and the CDE with the board when he receives that information.

The District is currently developing different schedule options for the 2020-2021 school year. They are including CTA and CSEA in planning meetings so that everyone has input.

Distant Learning

The District is continuing distant learning with students. The district will be providing PD to teachers on distant learning strategies to be ready for the blended learning model or if there is a closure again.

Survey Information

He shared survey results from the comprehensive sites. The data included enrollment, actual number of contacts and percentage of students contacted. The purpose of the survey was to get feedback from students on (1) how often their teachers are contacting them; and (2) offer support for those students who are struggling academically specifically seniors whose failing grade will have a direct impact on them graduating.

Graduations

The schools have developed plans for drive through graduations. This information has been shared through an Aeries Communication as well as on social media. Mr. Rodriguez shared a summary of the graduation plans with the Board.

Meals

Meals are still being served at the comprehensive sites. Over 156,772 meals (breakfast and lunch) have been served to date. The District is coordinating with Tulare City Schools for the summer meals.

Summer Interventions

Lucy Van Scyoc gave the board a brief overview of the Summer Intervention Program plan. Seniors who do not complete the required credits by graduation will be given the opportunity to attend the intervention program at their home site. If there is space available, at-risk juniors may also be allowed to participate in the intervention program. Dr. Van Scyoc responded to questions from the Board.

Mr. Rodriguez also shared a hard copy of Frequently Asked Questions that is posted to our website. This was shared with parents as a helpful guideline to support students when schools closed.

8.0 Action Items

8.1 **Approve Resolution No. 2020-23 Declaring May 2020 as Employee Appreciation Month**

Board President Cathy Mederos read aloud the resolution in recognition of declaring May 2020 as Employee Appreciation Month.

On a motion by Kelley Nicholson and second by Laura Fonseca, the Board voted to approve **Resolution No. 2020-23** Declaring May 2020 as Employee Appreciation Month by the following 5-0 vote:

Ayes: Fernandes, Fonseca, Hamilton, Mederos, Nicholson

Noes: None Absent: None

8.2 **Approve Brandman University Internship (Teacher) Credential Program Agreement for 2020-2023**

On a motion by Laura Fonseca and second by Frank Fernandes, the Board voted to approve the Brandman University Internship (Teacher) Credential Program Agreement for 2020-2023 by the following 5-0 vote:

Ayes: Fernandes, Fonseca, Hamilton, Mederos, Nicholson

Noes: None Absent: None

8.3 **Approve Resolution No. 2020-17 Approving the Dissolution of the Tulare-Porterville Schools Financing Authority**

On a motion by Frank Fernandes and second by Craig Hamilton, the Board voted to approve **Resolution No. 2020-17** Approving the Dissolution of the Tulare-Porterville Schools Financing Authority by the following 5-0 vote:

Ayes: Fernandes, Fonseca, Hamilton, Mederos, Nicholson

Noes: None Absent: None

8.4 **Approve Resolution #2020-18 to Permit Transfer of Funds among Various Funds to Meet Cash Flow Purposes for the 2020-2021 School Year**

8.5 **Approve Resolution #2020-19 for the Purpose of Reimbursing the General Fund (Fund 010) for Supplies and Services for the 2020-2021 School Year**

8.6 **Resolution #2020-20 to Permit Transfers from Various Funds to the Cafeteria Fund (Fund 130) for the Purpose of Reimbursing the Cafeteria Fund for Services and Supplies for the 2020-2021 School Year**

8.7 **Approve Resolution #2020-21 to Permit the Transfers from Various Funds to the Warehouse Revolving Fund (Fund 660) for the Purpose of Reimbursing the Warehouse Revolving Fund for Supplies for the 2020-2021 School Year**

8.8 **Approve Resolution #2020-22 to Permit Transfers from Various Funds to the Employee Benefit Fund (Fund 672) to Cover the Cost of Medical, Dental, Vision and Life Insurance for the 2020-2021 School Year**

On a motion by Laura Fonseca, and second by Kelley Nicholson, the Board voted to approve **Resolution #2020-18, Resolution #2020-19, Resolution #2020-20, Resolution #2020-21, and Resolution #2020-22** as one action item by the following 5-0 vote:

Ayes: Fernandes, Fonseca, Hamilton, Mederos, Nicholson

Noes: None Absent: None

8.9 **Approve Leach Group, Inc. as Inspector of Record for Solar Projects**

On a motion by Craig Hamilton and second by Frank Fernandes, the Board voted to approve Leach Group, Inc. as Inspector of Record for Solar Project by the following 5-0 vote:

Ayes: Fernandes, Fonseca, Hamilton, Mederos, Nicholson

Noes: None Absent: None

9.0 **Consent Items** (Action)

It was moved by Laura Fonseca, and seconded by Kelley Nicholson, to approve the Consent Calendar by the following 5-0 vote:

Ayes: Fernandes, Fonseca, Hamilton, Mederos, Nicholson

Noes: None Absent: None

- 9.1 Approve Minutes of Regular Board Meeting held on May 7, 2020 [Rodriguez]
- 9.2 Approve Expenditures (Purchase Orders, Payment Vouchers, etc.) [Hamilton]
- 9.3 Approve AESOP Customer Agreement with Frontline Technologies Group, LLC for 2020-2021 [Orisio]
- 9.4 Approve 2020-2021 Agriculture Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Application (Ag Incentive Grant) [Dutto]
- 9.5 Approve Agreement with School Services of California for Fiscal Budget Services [Hamilton]
- 9.6 Approve Agreement between First Quality Produce and Tulare Joint Union High School District to Provide Food and Supplies to the Food Service Department for the Period of 2020-2021 School Year [Hamilton]
- 9.7 Approve Agreement between Focus Packaging and Supply Co. and Tulare Joint Union High School District to Provide Food and Supplies to the Food Service Department for the Period of 2020-2021 School Year [Hamilton]
- 9.8 Approve Agreement between Fresno Produce, Inc. and Tulare Joint Union High School District to Provide Food and Supplies to the Food Service Department for the Period of 2020-2021 School Year [Hamilton]
- 9.9 Approve Agreement between Galasso's Bakery and Tulare Joint Union High School District to Provide Food and Supplies to the Food Service Department for the Period of 2020-2021 School Year [Hamilton]
- 9.10 Approve Agreement between Gold Star Foods, Inc. and Tulare Joint Union High School District to Provide Food and Supplies to the Food Service Department for the Period of 2020-2021 School Year [Hamilton]
- 9.11 Approve Agreement between P & R Paper Supply Company, Inc. and Tulare Joint Union High School District to Provide Food and Supplies to the Food Service Department for the Period of 2020-2021 School Year [Hamilton]
- 9.12 Approve Agreement between Producers Dairy Foods, Inc. and Tulare Joint Union High School District to Provide Food and Supplies to the Food Service Department for the Period of 2020-2021 School Year [Hamilton]
- 9.13 Approve Agreement between Sysco Central California and Tulare Joint Union High School District to Provide Food and Supplies to the Food Service Department for the Period of 2020-2021 School Year [Hamilton]
- 9.14 Approve 2020-2021 Agency Agreement between Tulare Joint Union High School District and Tulare County Office of Education for Janitorial Services for County Classrooms [Pierotte]

10.0 **Review 12-Month Board Calendar**

The Board received the 12-month Board Calendar for their review.

11.0 **Any Other Business**

Vivian Hamilton provided an update regarding the revised Multi-Year Projections and the Proposed Budget Reductions for 2020-2021 and its potential impact upon TJUHSD.

Public Comment:

Listed below are the people that provided public comment and the topics they addressed.

- Paul Mendes, Absolute Comfort Limousine, LLC, 7249 W. Goshen Ave., Ste, B, Visalia, CA 93291, spoke about parents reserving vehicles from his company for their student's graduation. He informed the Board he offers Class C vehicles (not only limos). Cathy Mederos thanked Mr. Mendes for his comment but this should

have been discussed under the COVID 19 update under graduations. The Board requested Daniel Pierotte, Director of Facilities, contact Mr. Mendes for further discussion.

At the May 19, 2020 board meeting, the Board requested an update on the multi-year projections and proposed reductions. That information was provided to the Board for their review. They held a discussion and Vivian Hamilton and Tony Rodriguez responded to questions. Mrs. Hamilton informed the board she reviewed the list of reductions and made some adjustments. The 2019-2020 budget may reflect a slight savings depending on salary and benefits this year. The Tulare County Office of Education uses a software program that calculates revenue amounts, but that has not been updated yet, so ending balances are still unknown. The projected deficit in 2020-2021 does not include the CARES Act or HERO monies. Furthermore, potential cuts the district is facing could be reduced if the Governor receives the assistance he has requested.

Laura Fonseca

- She said it appears we would not meet our goal of a balanced budget even with adjustments to the multi-year projections.
- She is not comfortable with losing two counselor positions.
- She is not ok with deficit spending. The Board has always been cautious when it comes to the budget and they want to do better for students.
- She still would like to meet one more time before the first board meeting in June.

Craig Hamilton

- He stated the list presented on May 19 had more detailed information. (Vivian Hamilton presented the list tonight by line item for simplification purposes.)
- He asked who has been involved in the proposed budget reduction planning process. (Tony Rodriguez responded that he has met with the District Administration, the Cabinet team, CTA, and CSEA).
- He stated the Board knew the 4x4 was expensive when they approved that schedule. He would like to know how much the 4x4 costs the district and what the value is to students. He also asked why is it too late to change the school schedule from a 4x4 in 2020-2021.
- He requested updated information on the dairy to determine if it is feasible to continue the operation of the dairy.

Vanessa Cervantes (CSEA Labor Negotiator)

- She asked if the current reductions and layoffs are considered savings to the district in 2020-2021. (Vivian Hamilton responded, Yes). Ms. Cervantes was informed the Board will not take any action tonight. This is information only. The district will need to meet with bargaining units before action is taken.
- She said she agrees with David Flores that they need direction from the Board so they can meet with bargaining unit as well as District Administration.
- She would like to explore other avenues to discuss mitigating costs in order to save jobs.

David Flores (CTA President)

- He asked for further clarification of projections, revenue, and deficit. He asked if the Board is willing to deficit spend? He would like more direction from the Board so that their bargaining unit can begin discussions with District Administration. He requested immediate guidance so they can begin working jointly with the district to exhaust every avenue to save money without sacrificing positions.

Frank Fernandes

- He asked what efforts has the district made to inform the community about the current budget crisis we are in. It is important to him that we are transparent. (Vivian Hamilton responded that a Public Hearing Notice will be posted before the June 11, 2020 board meeting on the 2020-2021 Proposed Budget. If the community would like to share input, they should do so at that time).

A discussion was held about setting a date for another Budget Study Session. The Board set Thursday, May 28, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. for the Special Board meeting.

12.0 **Adjourn to Closed Session** at 9:46 p.m.

13.0 **Reconvene in Regular Session**

13.1 **Action from Closed Session**

Cathy Mederos reported out on the following information from Closed Session:

Personnel Report

On a motion by Laura Fonseca and second by Frank Fernandes, the Board voted to approve the regular personnel report by the following 5-0 vote:

Ayes: Fernandes, Fonseca, Hamilton, Mederos, Nicholson

Noes: None Absent: None

1. Approve Employment of **Claude Lausten** as Special Education Teacher, at Tulare Western High School, effective August 10, 2020.
2. Approve Employment of **Holly Davis** as Special Education Teacher, at Mission Oak High School, effective August 10, 2020.
3. Approve Employment of **Joshua Avila** as Band Teacher - Director, at Tulare Western High School, effective August 10, 2020.
4. Approve Reassignment of **Luis Cobarruvias** as English Teacher, at Tech Prep High School, effective August 10, 2020.
5. Accept Resignation of **Michele Borges** as Principal, at Mission Oak High School, effective June 30, 2020.
6. Accept Resignation of **Matt Jones** as Freshman Class Advisor, at Mission Oak High School, effective June 4, 2020.
7. Approve Transfer of **Ester Garcia** as Campus Food Service Manager, at Tulare Western High School, effective July 1, 2020.

14.0 **Adjournment**

The regular meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Next Meeting

Special Board Meeting, May 28, 2020, Staff Development Room, TJUHSD District Office, with Closed Session starting at 6:30 p.m. The regular meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. (unless otherwise posted)

Board Stenographer

Secretary to the Board of Trustees