



426 N. Blackstone
Tulare, CA 93274

**Special Meeting of the Board of Education
Held via Zoom Video Meeting
May 28, 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 of the Tulare Joint Union High School District Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 28, 2020, at the Tulare Joint Union High School District Office.

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

Members Present via Zoom:

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 7:23 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
Tammy Aldaco, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services
Lucy Van Scyoc, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum, Technology & Assessment

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 **Information Items**

5.1 **Information on Budget Study Session**

The previous two board meetings, the District presented possible reductions to the Board to reduce the district's projected deficit due to the cuts to the revenue by the state. The District reviewed the budget information to get final direction from the Board on reductions and to do a final review of the multi-year budget projections.

Vivian Hamilton presented information to the Board on the General Fund Proposed Budget as of May 28, 2020. She reviewed the projections by year. A discussion was held on the CARES Act and HEROES Act and the Board was informed the projections do not include CARES Act money. The Federal government has to apportion the monies before they distribute it to schools. Vivian Hamilton stated the CARES Act is one-time money that has to be spent by December 31, 2020. The Board asked if it is possible to receive a potential budget factoring in the CARES money.

Cathy Mederos

- She was hoping the revenue reported would be higher.
- She responded to David Flores' comment about spending down our reserves by stating if we dip into the reserves to pay salaries, the monies could easily be expended within the next three years.
- She attended the graduation today at Sierra Vista Charter High School and said they did a phenomenal job. She thanked the staff for making it special for the students.

Craig Hamilton

- He inquired about the ADA rate and if the district is still taking daily attendance.

Frank Fernandes

- He asked if we have talked to other districts in the surrounding areas about how they are handling staffing reductions. (Tony Rodriguez said the Tulare County Superintendents meet every week and every district is in the same situation. No details have been shared on budget cuts.)
- He asked if we have received any information on offering sports, specifically football, next year. He said parent in the community need answers. (Tony Rodriguez responded we are waiting for guidance from the State and CIF and we are hoping to receive information in the next week or two).

Filomena Rocha (CSEA President)

- She asked if there is there a potential to show what the budget would like with the CARES money knowing that it will be given for the 2020-2021 year.

- She asked any chance are there additional pages similar to the ones presented last Thursday. With an itemized list? (Vivian Hamilton: No).
- She stated 2020-2021 is the last year for the 2% increase. CSEA starts negotiations with the district in 2021-2022.
- She asked if June 11, 2020 is when these reductions go to the Board for action. (Vivian Hamilton responded No, the 11th is a public hearing for public comments on the budget. The budget will go to the Board for approval on June 25, 2020.)
- She said she spoke with some parents who have students with fair projects, and they appreciate Tony's (Rodriguez) decision to allow for them to come up with a plan to still work with their animals at the farm.

David Flores (CTA President)

- He asked for further clarification on the proposed budget presented tonight. He said we need to deficit spend more rather than imposing massive cuts to teachers. He said reserves are intended to be spent on a rainy day and that day has come. In his opinion, if we do not have the personnel in place, the district will struggle providing quality education to students and that is what we are in the business of doing.

Frank Mello (Teacher, TUHS)

- He asked if there is a ballpark amount that CARES will be. (Approximately \$1.4 M).

Mike Powell (Athletic Director, TWHS)

- He responded to the inquiry about offering football in the fall. At this point, CIF has not placed any restrictions on the sport. Safety procedures will be at the discretion of the school district. As of now, all summer activities are scheduled to take place as planned. A CIF meeting is scheduled on June 9, 2020 at 2:15p.m. We hope to have more direction from CIF after the meeting.

Public Comment

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

Rosemary Casos (Parent)

- She appreciated the extra efforts of the district to reach out to parents and ask for their input regarding reopening school next year. (Lucy Van Scyoc stated the district has received over 900 responses to date. The district wants input from our stakeholders –parents, CTA, CSEA- as we plan for what our school year will look like next year. The survey was sent to parents by Aeries Communication and posted on social media.)

Larry G (No last name provided)

- He asked how will we be addressing the mental health issues for our students due to our current state? (Tony Rodriguez: We will have to be even more sensitive to our student's needs. All psychologists, counselors, and YSB will continue to be available to support our students.)

6.0 Any Other Business

The Board reviewed the graduation schedules for the comprehensive sites:

June 2, 2020 – Tulare Western High School at 10:00 a.m.

June 3, 2020 – Tulare Union High School at 10:00 a.m.

June 4, 2020 – Mission Oak High School at 10:00 a.m.

7.0 Adjourn to Closed Session/Executive Session

8.0 Disclosure of Action Take in Closed Session/Executive Session

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

Personnel Report

On a motion by Laura Fonseca and second by Craig Hamilton, 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 **Isidro Carrasco** as Principal, at Mission Oak High School, effective July 1, 2020.

No further action was taken in the Closed Session/Executive Session to report.

7.0 Adjournment

The regular meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Next Meeting

Regular Board Meeting, June 11, 2020, Staff Development Room, TJUHSD District Office, with Closed Session starting at 6:30 p.m. The regular meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. (unless otherwise posted).

Board Stenographer

Secretary to the Board of Trustees