

**CORCORAN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
September 8, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

President of the Board, Patty Robertson, called the regular meeting of the Corcoran Unified School District Board of Trustees to order at 6:00 p.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT/ABSENT

Trustees present were Patty Robertson, Sammy Ramirez, Bobby Toney, Karen Frey and Robert Alcorn

OTHERS PRESENT

Dave Whitmore, Elizabeth Mendoza, Lora Cartwright, LeeAnne Lucio, Robin Feldmann, Ivette Nunez, Brian Brazier, Melanie Johnson, DeLinda Chubbuck, Antonia Stone, JJ Albert, Pearl Prins, Laurie Haas, Carol Abeyta, Roseanne Salcedo, Dulce Sandoval, Rich Merlo, Pam Dihel, Gina Gonzales, and others.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Patty Robertson welcomed those present and led in the flag salute.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board voted to approve the agenda for the regular Board Meeting of September 8, 2020

Motion: Robert Alcorn Second: Sammy Ramirez

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Patty Robertson, Sammy Ramirez, Bobby Toney, Karen Frey, and Robert Alcorn

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Approve the minutes of the regular Board Meeting on August 25, 2020
2. Warrant Registers for:
 - a. August 21, 2020 for \$910,576.55
 - b. August 28, 2020 for \$369,134.02
3. Staff Development
 - a. For District staff Maria Sanchez to attend Trauma Informed Practice for Educators Virtual Conference on February 17, 2021
 - b. For High school staff Miguel Alvarez and Deanna Gabbard to attend Arts, Media, & Entertainment Sector Virtual Conversation on October 29, 2020
 - c. For High school staff Dustin Newby, Viktoria Granicy-Bognuda, Alisa Gomez, and Miles Robinson to attend CATA Fall Regional Virtual Meeting and Roadshow on November 20 and 21, 2020
 - d. For High school staff Robert Lerma and Deanna Gabbard to attend Education & Child Development Sector Virtual Conversation on October 9, 2020
 - e. For High school staff Alisa Gomez, Viktoria Granicy-Bognuda, and Vicente Corrales to attend Link Learning 101 Virtual Workshop on September 28 and October 8, 2020

Motion: Karen Frey Second: Sammy Ramirez

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Patty Robertson, Sammy Ramirez, Bobby Toney, Karen Frey, and Robert Alcorn

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Merlo started his report by wishing Board Clerk Bobby Toney a Happy birthday. He shared the Small Cohort State Guidance with the limitations not to exceed 14 students to two adults. The District has worked with the Department of Public Health on the plan and added details to it. It will be shared with the Board and labor groups. Services will be targeted to special education students and have them meet in small groups and small cohorts. District-wide, the estimated amount of special needs students averaged around 260. Mr. Merlo assured that the student's safety would be kept in mind. Students will be seen on campus for no more than an hour. 14 students will be in one classroom in one group. That particular group cannot intermingle with any other group, including the adults. Director of Educational Services Lora Cartwright stated that at this point, most groups are about seven to eight at the most with a teacher and maybe an aide. Temperature checks will take before a student is allowed on campus, and they will wash their hands before entering a classroom. Playground equipment will be off-limits.

Mr. Merlo explained Kings County's Blueprint for a Safer Economy. It is a readjusted model that allows industries to open based on the county's risk tier. Schools in counties in the widespread purple tier are not permitted to reopen for in-person instruction unless a waiver is received from the local health department for TK-6 grades. The Kings County numbers have dropped significantly, and we are pretty close to red. Mr. Merlo noted that we are currently at the purple tier, and if we ever reach red, Corcoran Unified can reopen schools, but does not see schools returning to a full schedule.

Mr. Merlo took the time to give principals a moment to update their status to the Board. Kings Lake Education Center Principal Brian Brazier confirmed that Mission Community's attendance is looking steady. He did admit that some students are having issues and might have them attend in class, especially the special education students. So far, Mr. Brazier says his site is doing an excellent job in Distance Learning. The most consistent with attendance has been in the Continuation High School class with 46 students. He feels that the morning attendance is better than in the afternoon. Special education teachers are working with students, and adult school enrollment numbers are up. Mr. Brazier was happy to announce that the citizenship class is up and running. The Corcoran Academy does not have any enrollment at this time. He is currently working on getting the Corcoran Adult School accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

High School Principal Antonia Stone and her support staff have conducted over 40 home visits. She admitted it was nice to go out to the student's homes and work with them. The sites teachers are posting their work and lessons to share with other teachers. Mrs. Stone acknowledged that her teachers are creative in the technology department of learning. This week held the fewest amount of technology issues for the site. She was able to do around 63 informal observations in which she saw a variety of zoom instruction meetings. Principal Stone is currently working with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) committee to determine what is needed to conduct a visit. The Future Farmers of America (FFA) students rescued nine different animals from the Creek Fires to temporarily care for and house them.

John Muir Principal Dave Whitmore stated that he and the sites teachers are excited to have students back on campus. John Muir teachers have had a worthy ideal of success during this Distance Learning and are getting better. The overall student attendance is at a more significant percentage compared to the first two weeks of school.

Principal JJ Albert was pleased to report that Mark Twain School is having fewer technical issues. Currently, the school is finishing with baseline assessments and has 90 percent of the students tested. The sites teachers have been adapting to the new curriculum and understanding the concepts they are teaching. There was a backorder on supplies, but the teachers stepped up and adjusted quickly.

John C. Fremont Principal Pearl Prins stated that the site is doing exceptionally well in attendance. The school started at 78 percent, and the numbers keep rising every day. Just as other schools had mentioned, Fremont's technical issues are lessening. Mrs. Prins appreciates her front office staff and how

they are assisting parents with troubleshooting. Teachers are holding solid instruction in Zoom. The Seesaw program showed over 85,000 posts with 9,000 visits from families. She was glad to announce the site will be welcoming students on campus soon and is excited about getting them the help need.

Bret Harte Principal Laurie Haas noted her teachers are doing very well at discovering various technical solutions. The school started the new schedule and has received numerous comments. Parents that find it easier to keep their children focused online. The site coaches, support staff, and Stacy Brockie have been busy testing students. Bret Harte is anxiously waiting to get all students on campus, but are currently preparing for special education students. Principal Haas admits that Distance Learning is challenging for many of her students because they are easily distracted at that age.

CHIEF BUSINESS OFFICER (CBO) REPORT

CBO Pam Dihel gave the Board an informational report of the total 2019-2020 Education Protection Account (EPA) that was received. These funds are an aspect of the customary LCFF Funds in which we are required to apply them to specific areas. The final amount received was \$4,006,674 and it was applied to teacher salaries. The resolution that was passed in June compliments the final expenditures. The District has been completing the necessary Facilities Inspection Tool (FIT) report and addressing any issues found that need repair. Mrs. Dihel expressed gratitude toward the staff and teachers for their patience for the slight disruptions at their sites. She also recognized the maintenance crew for accommodating and correcting the issues. The County will make a visit in October to review the findings.

CORCORAN FACULTY ASSOCIATION (CFA) REPORT

CFA President Roseanne Salcedo expressed that after several meetings, the teachers were disappointed that they could not work from home during Distance Learning. Mrs. Salcedo asked the board questions regarding approving the Reopening Plan/Distance Learning plan and considering the change in working conditions. She expressed that Distance Learning has been a challenge for both students and teachers and how teachers missed their classroom students, although, realizes that it is not safe yet to have students return. She is concerned that there are no plans in place for substitutes during Distance Learning. Mrs. Salcedo and the Corcoran Faculty Associations' hope that the board reviews their concerns and proposals with the student's education and the staff's safety in mind.

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (CSEA) REPORT

CSEA President Dulce Sandoval made the Board aware that the bargaining unit came to an agreement with the District. She expressed that the position of the Parent Liaison was an excellent resource for parents and hopes that the position is filled soon. Mrs. Sandoval would like to see that appropriate training be given to classified employees during the opening with small cohorts. She was sad to see a classified member leave the district and expressed that maybe this specific position need another person to help fulfill the many duties and responsibilities.

PUPIL PERSONNEL

The board discussed and approved an interdistrict agreement with Porterville Unified School District for Vivica Hudson (7) and Xavier Vargas (1) to attend Corcoran Unified School District for the 2020-21 school year.

Motion: Karen Frey Second: Bobby Toney

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Patty Robertson, Sammy Ramirez, Bobby Toney, Karen Frey, and Robert Alcorn

The board discussed an interdistrict agreement for Jacob (2) and Azia Aguilar (5) to attend Hanford Elementary School District for the 2020-21 school year.

Motion: Sammy Ramirez Second: Robert Alcorn

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Patty Robertson, Sammy Ramirez, Bobby Toney, Karen Frey, and Robert Alcorn

RESOLUTIONS

The board discussed and approved Resolution No. 1301 – Budget Revisions

Motion: Patty Robertson Second: Karen Frey

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Patty Robertson, Sammy Ramirez, Bobby Toney, Karen Frey, and Robert Alcorn

The board discussed and approved Resolution No. 1302 – GANN Limit

Motion: Karen Frey Second: Robert Alcorn

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Patty Robertson, Sammy Ramirez, Bobby Toney, Karen Frey, and Robert Alcorn

ACTION ITEMS

The board discussed and approved the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Federal Addendum

Motion: Sammy Ramirez Second: Karen Frey

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Patty Robertson, Sammy Ramirez, Bobby Toney, Karen Frey, and Robert Alcorn

ADMINISTRATION

The Board discussed and approved the 2020-21 Tentative Agreement with the California School Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter #214

Motion: Robert Alcorn Second: Karen Frey

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Patty Robertson, Sammy Ramirez, Bobby Toney, Karen Frey, and Robert Alcorn

BUSINESS

The Board discussed and approved 2020-21 Agreement with Kidd P. Crawford for Professional Services

Motion: Sammy Ramirez Second: Bobby Toney

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Patty Robertson, Sammy Ramirez, Bobby Toney, Karen Frey, and Robert Alcorn

2019-20 Unaudited Actuals

Mrs. Dihel presented a report on the 2019-20 Unaudited Actuals and what it reflects for finishing out the year. It shows revenues earned and expenses incurred from July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020. She spoke of the District's Enrollment and Average Daily Attendance (ADA), which shows a decrease in ADA at 3112, being 47 lower than last year. She reviewed total Revenue of \$45,623,573, with the most being from the LCFF funds at just over \$36 million. The LCFF funds are 71.5% of base funding. The District did receive additional Supplemental and Concentration of 24.7% funds. The total Expenditures are \$45,052,801, with the most substantial portion of the expenses used toward salaries and benefits totaling 76% of total Expenditures at over \$34 million. The 2019-20 General Funds net change to the Fund Balance was an increase of \$570,772. Assigned Fund Balance totaled \$8,370,304, which is 16.47% of unrestricted funds. This includes the required 3% Reserve, Mandated Costs, Site Improvement, and Cash Flow. The summary of Interfund Activity was a transfer from General Funds to Adult Ed with a \$22,050 contribution and Capital Outlay Major Projects for future Master Facility Projects with an \$857,831 toward the COP payment. Mrs. Dihel made the Board aware that the Kings County Office of Education will hold a meeting regarding Cash Flow deficit, the State will be issuing an "IOU" at the end of the year in which the District will be applying for a "loan" called a TRANS if needed for those funds. There is a large cafeteria fund balance that will be helpful to put toward another freezer for the District storage of food. Food Service Director Terri Thomas will be compiling quotes to bring to the Board soon.

The Board discussed and approved American Incorporated to replace 10 Air Conditioning Units

Motion: Sammy Ramirez Second: Patty Robertson

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Patty Robertson, Sammy Ramirez, Bobby Toney, Karen Frey, and Robert Alcorn

PERSONNEL

The Board discussed and approved the Personnel Assignment Order 2020-21 #4

Motion: Karen Frey Second: Robert Alcorn

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Patty Robertson, Sammy Ramirez, Bobby Toney, Karen Frey, and Robert Alcorn

MEETINGS

- Regular Board Meeting, September 22, 2020
- Regular Board Meeting, October 13, 2020
- Regular Board Meeting, October 27, 2020
- Regular Board Meeting, November 10, 2020

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S)

Superintendent Merlo would like to set up a date and time to give the Board a tour of the new facility.

ADJOURNMENT WAS AT 6:56 p.m.