

# Bard Briefs



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE **JUNE 25, 2020** BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Due to COVID-19 related social distancing measures, the June 25<sup>th</sup> Board of Education Meeting was conducted entirely online, via virtual/video conferencing.

## ► **Moment of Silence**

The Board held a moment of silence for: Design39 Campus 5<sup>th</sup> grader Jillian “Izzie” Oberiano, who unexpectedly passed away June 15<sup>th</sup> due to complications from surgery.

## ► **Congratulations on the following Administrator Appointments:**

- Ken Wall, Director of Information Technology (from Program Manager for IT)
- Christine Carrera, New Assistant Director of Preschool, ESS, ASES (from SDCOE)
- Harmeena Omoto, AP transfer to Design39Campus (from Meadowbrook MS)
- Kimberly Otero, New AP at Stone Ranch ES (from Morning Creek ES)
- Kristin Sullens, New AP at Meadowbrook MS (from Chula Vista)
- Ryan Keller, New AP at Black Mountain MS (from Coronado)
- Monique Kanouse, New AP at Poway HS (from Orange County)



## ► **Final Meeting for Student Board Member Mariana Akins**

Superintendent Phelps thanked Rancho Bernardo High School graduate Mariana Akins for her faithful and impactful service. During her time on the Board, Mariana advocated for facilities improvements, helped expand the ADL’s No Place for Hate program on elementary and middle school campuses, and represented student voices for alternative graduation plans in the middle of COVID-19 emergency school closures. We will miss Mariana and wish her luck at TCU!

## ► **Superintendent and Board Recognition**

The Superintendent and Board recognized student and staff accomplishments at school sites and the District. The entire list can be found beginning on page 173 in the agenda packet here:

<https://powayusd.com/PUSD/media/Board-Images/BoardAgendas/2020/06-25-2020-Board-Agenda.pdf>

Superintendent Phelps recognized Abraxas High School for being awarded the 2020 California Continuation Education Association (CCEA) “Exemplary Program Award” for the student-run aquaponics and compost garden.

## ► **Public Comments**

The Board heard comments from the public regarding:

- Need for PUSD to improve anti-racism efforts and feedback and support for anti-racism resolution
- Desire to hold graduation ceremony on July 30
- Requests to fully reopen schools in the Fall
- Parent advocacy group sandiegoschools.net
- Request for independent audit of attorney expenditures
- Concern over District funding 1:1 devices
- Request for additional teacher training for new educational software
- Feedback and concerns regarding Fall reopening options

### ► **PUSD’s Community Advisory Committee Annual Report**

Rosabel Agbayani, Chair of the CAC for Special Education provided the annual report for the 2019-20 school year. She reviewed the CAC’s 2019-20 Goals, which included family outreach, resource collection and distribution, education for staff and families, appreciation for staff, as well as oversight and advice for PUSD. Ms. Agbayani also reviewed goals for 2020-21, which include continued outreach, creating opportunities for learning, and continue to provide guidance in special education.

### ► **Adoption of 2020-21 Budget**

The Board adopted the proposed 2020-2021 General Fund budget based on the Governor’s May Revise, which reflected a drastic decrease to education funding. (PUSD is required to adopt the proposed budget now, but it is considered a placeholder because it will be revised after the state announces the new budget). On Monday, June 22, the Governor reached a budget deal with the California Legislature. Although details have yet to be communicated, we are anticipating that the budget deal reverses the Governor’s cuts and keeps K12 funding at current levels.

For now, the 2020-21 adopted budget includes the following key assumptions:

- 7.92% reduction to LCFF base grant funding, 0% cost of living adjustment (COLA), STRS rate of 16.15%, PERS rate of 20.7%, and special education statewide target adjustments of \$645/ADA
- Based on the Governor’s May revise, revenues for 2020-21 were projected at \$381.2 million and expenditures at \$422.7 million. After other financing sources, a \$40 million deficit.

### ► **Approval of the 2020-21 Reopening Plan**

- The Board was presented with information regarding initial reopening plans to safely and effectively reopen Poway Unified schools for the 2020-21 school year. After meetings with the Poway School Employees Association (PSEA), Poway Federation of Teachers (PFT) as the reopening Planning Committee, as well as parent and staff subcommittees, and surveys sent to parents and staff, the District recommends providing two learning models: full on-campus learning with health and safety protocols (based on state/county guidelines), and a fully virtual learning academy. The slide presentation and the accompanying video explanation, as well as sample virtual learning academy schedules, and reopening FAQs, will be shared on our website soon.

### ► **Approval of resolution “Affirming Poway Unified School District’s Commitment to Fight Racism and Correct Systemic Inequity”**

The Board approved a resolution that reaffirms the District’s commitment to actively fight discrimination in all forms by providing racially and culturally diverse curriculum resources and course offerings for students, coupled with professional learning for teachers and staff focused on cultural proficiency and anti-bias training. The resolution will allow staff to examine and confront the biases in the district and actively engage students, families, and the community to create a plan to address problematic practices that are contributing to inequitable outcomes.

### ► **Approval of the 2020-21 Local Control Accountability Plan Federal Addendum Immigrant Provision**

For 2020-21, Poway Unified became eligible to participate in Title III, Part A, Immigrant funding as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act. The Board approved the Addendum, includes strategies in support of our students identified as Immigrant in anticipation of our application for federal funding via the Consolidated Application. The total anticipated Immigrant funding allocation for 2020-2021 is \$85,000, and is subject to change upon final appropriation announcements.

### ► **Approval of resolution “Supporting Safe Firearm Storage”**

In support of student safety, the Board approved a resolution to ensure parents and legal guardians are informed of their responsibilities for keeping firearms out of the hands of unauthorized users. Firearms should be securely stored when not in use, whether in a safe, vault, or other locked box, or with a trigger or cable lock. Safe storage of firearms reduces firearm related violence, suicides, accidental shootings by children, and thefts of firearms.

Studies have shown that 73 percent of children under 10 know where their parents' firearms are stored, and 36 percent have actually handled them – even in homes where parents believe their children do not know where the firearm is. Other data shows that suicide by firearm is often an impulsive act, occurring within five minutes of ideation.

► **Annual Special Tax for Community Facilities Districts 2-16 & Mello Roos**

- The Board approved resolutions 73-2020 through 109-2020, establishing the annual special taxes for Community Facilities Districts numbers 2-16. Each fiscal year, prior to August 10, the Board of Education (“the Board”) is required to approve the annual special taxes to be levied for each Community Facilities District (“CFD”) and Improvement Area (“IA”) in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, Chapter 2.5, Part 1, Division 2, Title 5 of the Government Code of the State of California, Section 53311 et. seq. (“the Mello-Roos Act”). Information can be found at [www.pusddata.com](http://www.pusddata.com), and also on page 58 of the Board Agenda [here](#).

► **Approval of the 2020-21 Annual Service Plan and Annual Budget Plan for the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)**

- The Board approved the SELPA plan that describes the full continuum of services that ensures access to appropriate instruction and services for all students with disabilities from birth to 22 years of age, including children with low incidence disabilities. The Annual Budget Plan provides an overview of anticipated special education revenue and expenditures for the 2020-2021 school year.

**Future meetings:**

Regular Meetings:

**Thursday, August 13, 2020 (No July Board Meeting)**

The following dates are the remaining board meetings for 2020:

Thursday, September 10, 2020

Thursday, October 15, 2020

Thursday, November 12, 2020

Thursday, December 17, 2020

*Published by the Poway Unified School District Communications Office  
For more information about PUSD, visit our website [www.powayusd.com](http://www.powayusd.com)*



#TeamPUSD #PowayUnified