



**POWAY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AT A REGULAR MEETING**

**September 24, 2020**  
District Office Community Room

The Board of Education met in the Community Room with COVID-19 physical distancing measures in place for Board Members and Staff. Due to the physical distancing requirements, members of the public still needed to submit comments online as indicated in the agenda; the intent was not to limit public participation but to protect public health by following the recommended guidelines and San Diego County's order limiting attendance at public assemblies.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Board President Michelle O'Connor-Ratcliff called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. to receive public comment on the closed session agenda items. Following public comments, all Board members convened to closed session in the Board Conference Room. The closed session was adjourned at 5:46 p.m., and Board members reconvened in the Community Room to begin their regular meeting and relay any reportable action taken during closed session.

Public Comments: Kathy Winters, Jessica Vogelsang, Stephanie Green, Jie Xu, Harold Small, and Abigail Velazquez, Sophie Masson, Lucy Beard, Tara Andersen and 47 other people submitted comments for non-agenda closed session item 2.7.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER – PUBLIC SESSION**

**2.0 CLOSED SESSION**

- 2.1 Pending/Existing Litigation Pursuant to Government Codes 54954.5, 54956.9, 54956.9(a), 54956.9(d)(2) or (3), 54956.9(d)(1) or (4), and 54956.9(e)(3)**
  - a. Case No. 2020040874**
  - b. Case No. 2020060809**
  - c. Case No. 2020060365**
- 2.2 Conference with Legal Counsel Anticipated Litigation Pursuant to Government Codes 54954.5, 54956.9, 54956.9(d)(2) or (3), and 54956.9(d)(4), 54956.9(e)(2)-(5), 54957, and 54957.1**
- 2.3 Pupil Personnel – Student Expulsion(s), Disciplinary Matter(s), and Other Confidential Student Matters Pursuant to Education Codes 35146, 48900(c), 48912, 49070, and 54957**
  - a. Case No. 2018-2019.20 – Readmission**
- 2.4 Negotiations – PFT, PSEA Unit I and Unit II, Management/Confidential Pursuant to Government Code 54957.6**
  - a. Agent Negotiator: James Jimenez**

- 2.5 Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Reassignment/Resignation/Nonelection Pursuant to Government Codes 54954.5(e), and 54957
- 2.6 Public Employee Appointment/Employment Pursuant to Government Code 54957
  - a. **Superintendent’s Evaluation and Goals**
- 2.7 Conference with Real Property Negotiator Pursuant to Government Code 54956.8

**3.0 RECONVENE / CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3.1** Board President Michelle O’Connor-Ratcliff reconvened the meeting in Public Session at 6:02 p.m. and led the salute to the flag.

**3.2 Report Out of Closed Session**

2.1-a: Clerk Zane reported that in the matter of Pending/Existing Litigation, **Case No. 2020040874**, on a motion by Mrs. Couvrette and a second by Mrs. Beatty, the Board voted to approve the final settlement. *Ayes: O’Connor-Ratcliff, Couvrette, Zane, Beatty, and Patel. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.*

2.1-b: Clerk Zane reported that in the matter of Pending/Existing Litigation, **Case No. 2020060809**, on a motion by Mrs. Couvrette and a second by Mrs. Beatty, the Board voted to approve the final settlement. *Ayes: O’Connor-Ratcliff, Couvrette, Zane, Beatty, and Patel. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.*

2.1-c: Clerk Zane reported that in the matter of Pending/Existing Litigation, **Case No. 2020060365**, on a motion by Mrs. Couvrette and a second by Mrs. Beatty, the Board voted to approve the final settlement. *Ayes: O’Connor-Ratcliff, Couvrette, Zane, Beatty, and Patel. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.*

2.3-a: Clerk Zane reported that in the matter of Pupil Personnel – Student Expulsion(s), Disciplinary Matter(s), and Other Confidential Student Matters, **Case No. 2018-2019.20 – Readmission**. The Board will take action in open session, agenda item 8.1.

There was no other reportable action taken in closed session.

**3.3 Members in Attendance**

All Board members were in attendance, including Student Board Member Emily Bylsma.

**3.4 Welcome to Public**

Student Board Member Emily Bylsma welcomed the public and offered instructions on the procedure for addressing the Board during the Public Comments segment of the meeting.

**3.5 Approval of Agenda/Sequence**

On a motion by Mr. Zane, and a second by Mrs. Couvrette, the agenda/sequence was approved with item 9.1 to be heard after item 4.3 on the agenda. Preferential vote Aye by Student Board Member Emily Bylsma. *Ayes: O’Connor-Ratcliff, Couvrette, Zane, Beatty, and Patel. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.*

**4.0 ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

**4.1 Student Board Representatives**

Student Board representatives Jose Torres from Del Norte High School and Maddie Migliori from Mt. Carmel High School, reported on events and activities at their respective schools.

#### 4.2 Public Comments

Public Speakers were requested to submit comments by the Public Comment Form Link <https://bit.ly/PUSDpubliccomments>, between 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., prior to the start of the 6:00 p.m. Open Session Regular Meeting. If indicated on the form, comments submitted via the online Public Comment Form were read aloud by our Chief Communications Officer, Christine Paik, during Agenda Item 4.2 “Public Comments” or the corresponding agenda item. **Public Comments were limited to 400 words or three minutes, with fifteen minutes of Public Comments per topic.**

Public Comments:

- Michael Rennie submitted a comment regarding the Performing Arts.
- Andrew Thompson submitted a comment regarding ethnic diversity.
- Lola Awoniyi-Oteri submitted a comment regarding racial equity.
- Dhalia Balmir submitted a comment regarding racism and discriminatory behaviors.
- Darla O’Rourke, Robert Meyer, Tricia O’Boyle, Jessica Vogelsang, Tatiana Dupuy, Jennifer Greenhall, Jeffrey Wolfe, Carol Wong-Clark, Todd Teta, Lindsay Cabaniss, and 11 other people submitted comments regarding the Surplus Real Property known as the Black Mountain Rancho Southern Site.

#### 4.3 Reopening Plan Update

Following discussion, on a motion by Dr. Patel, and a second by Mr. Zane, the Board approved moving forward with elementary schools reopening as presented. Preferential vote Aye by Student Board Member Emily Bylsma. ***Ayes: O’Connor-Ratcliff, Couvrette, Zane, Beatty, and Patel. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.***

Public Comments: Amanda Fitzsimmons, Steve Inman, Darlene Rodriguez, Andrew Daughetee, Eve Lanhan, Sam Zakkout, Jennifer Aase, Nellie Tran, Lenice Sechrste, Bill Huff, and seven other people submitted comments regarding the reopening of PUSD schools.

*Board President Michelle O’Connor-Ratcliff, called for a brief recess at 8:46 p.m., resuming at 8:53 p.m.*

Following further discussion, the Board of Education came to a consensus agreement that all secondary middle schools and high schools will have flexible reopening models.

*As approved in Agenda item 3.5 Agenda/Sequence, item 9.1 was heard after agenda item 4.3.*

#### 9.1 Special Education Reopening Update

This item was presented as information only.

#### 4.4 Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) - Administrator of the Year Awards

This item was presented as information only.

**5.0 CONSENT CALENDAR**

**5.1 Approval of Consent Calendar**

- a. Approval of Minutes

**5.2 Consent Calendar – Personnel Support Services**

- a. Approval of Certificated Personnel Report No. 03-2021
- b. Approval of Classified Personnel Report No. 03-2021

**5.3 Consent Calendar – Business Support Services**

**5.4 Consent Calendar – Learning Support Services**

- a. Adoption of High School and Middle School Spanish Supplemental Instructional Materials
- b. Approval of the Agreement for Participation in San Diego County’s Career Technical Education (CTE)

**5.5 Consent Calendar – Student Support Services**

- a. Approval of Resolution No. 16-2021 Entitled “Character Counts! And Red Ribbon Week for Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Prevention”
- b. Approval of Resolution No. 17-2021 Entitled “Dyslexia Awareness Month October 2020”

**5.6 Consent Calendar – Technology and Innovation**

**5.7 Consent Calendar – Superintendent**

- a. Acceptance of Gift(s)

On a motion by Mr. Zane and a second by Mrs. Beatty, the Consent Calendar was approved as presented, with Mrs. Couvrette making a statement regarding item 5.4(b). *Ayes: O’Connor-Ratcliff, Couvrette, Zane, Beatty, and Patel. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.*

**6.0 PERSONNEL SUPPORT SERVICES**

**6.1 Change of the District’s Current Carrier from Aetna to Anthem Blue Cross and the Drug Plan Coverage from OptumRx to EmpiRx for 2021 Plan Year**

This item was presented as information only.

**6.2 Governing Board Appointee to the Personnel Commission**

Following discussion, on a motion by Mr. Zane, and a second by Mrs. Beatty, the Board approved Ms. Margaret Wyatt to continue as the Governing Board Appointee to the Personnel Commission as presented. *Ayes: O’Connor-Ratcliff, Couvrette, Zane, Beatty, and Patel. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.*

**7.0 BUSINESS SUPPORT SERVICES**

**7.1 Approval of Project Scope and Authorization to Negotiate a Design Services Contract for Del Norte High School Expansion, Field, and Lighting Project to Baker-Nowicki Design Studio**

Following discussion, on a motion by Mr. Zane, and a second by Mrs. Couvrette, the Board approved the Project Scope and Design Services for Del Norte High School. Preferential vote Aye by Student Board Member Emily Bylsma. *Ayes: O'Connor-Ratcliff, Couvrette, Zane, Beatty, and Patel. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.*

**7.2 Authorization to Issue a Request for Proposal for Lease-Leaseback Construction Services for the Del Norte High School Expansion, Field, and Lighting Project**

On a motion by Mr. Zane, and a second by Dr. Patel, the Board approved the Lease-Leaseback Construction Services for Del Norte High School (resolution no. 15-2021) as presented. Preferential vote Aye by Student Board Member Emily Bylsma. *Ayes: O'Connor-Ratcliff, Couvrette, Zane, Beatty, and Patel. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.*

**8.0 LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES**

**8.1 Readmission of Student on Expulsion**

On a motion by Mr. Zane, and a second by Mrs. Couvrette, the Board approved the readmission to Poway Unified School District for Case No. 2018-2019-20. *Ayes: O'Connor-Ratcliff, Couvrette, Zane, Beatty, and Patel. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.*

Public Comment: Dhalia Balmir submitted a comment regarding suspended and expelled students.

**8.2 Approval of the Poway Unified School District Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan for 2020-2021**

On a motion by Mr. Zane, and a second by Mrs. Couvrette, the Board approved the PUSD Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan for 2020-2021 as presented. Preferential vote Aye by Student Board Member Emily Bylsma. *Ayes: O'Connor-Ratcliff, Couvrette, Zane, Beatty, and Patel. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.*

*As approved in Agenda item 3.5 Agenda/Sequence, item 9.1 was heard after agenda item 4.3.*

**9.0 STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

**9.1 Special Education Reopening Update**

This item was presented as information only.

**Board Meeting time extension vote:**

On a motion by Mr. Zane, and a second by Dr. Patel, the Board approved to extend the Board of Education meeting past 10:30 p.m. *Ayes: O'Connor-Ratcliff, Couvrette, Zane, Beatty, and Patel. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.*

**10.0 TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

**10.1 Classroom of the Future Foundation's Achieve Award to Pomerado Elementary School**

This item was presented as information only.

**11.0 SUPERINTENDENT**

12.0 **REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

12.1 **Board Member Reports**

Board members reported on their activities and events attended since the previous meeting.

12.2 **Superintendent's Report**

The following updates on current issues and events were presented:

- Dr. Kim Phelps congratulated Dr. Jennifer Burks and Mr. Scott Corso for receiving awards from the Association of California School Administrators, Region 18, which includes San Diego and Imperial Counties.
- Dr. Kim Phelps announced that Poway Unified School District has been awarded the California School Boards Association's Golden Bell Award for school culture and safety.

13.0 **CLOSED SESSION**

There were no additional items discussed in Closed Session.

14.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

  
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Michelle O'Connor-Ratcliff, President

  
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T.J. Zane, Clerk

  
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Marian Kim Phelps, Secretary

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