



MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

October 15, 2024

Closed Session 6:00 PM / Board Meeting 7:00 PM

Education Center · 685 E. Jack London Blvd. · Livermore, CA · 94551

Board Members Present: President Emily Prusso, Clerk Kristie Wang, Members Craig Bueno, Steven Drouin, and Yanira Guzmán, were present.

Administrative Staff Present: Kelly Manke, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services; Kayla Wasley, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services; Michelle Dawson, Coordinator of Community Engagement; Geoff Warner, Chief Technology Officer; Chris Connor, Director of Elementary Education; Tracie Christmas, Director of Student Services; Marni Angelo, Principal; and, Dr. Torie F. Gibson, Superintendent.

Student Board Member Representative Present: Addie Hart representing Livermore High School and Gabriel Benitez representing Granada High School.

1.0 6:00 P.M. - CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Prusso.

2.0 6:00 P.M. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session by President Prusso.

The Board adjourned to Closed Session to discuss items 2.1 through 2.3. Staff in attendance included: Torie F. Gibson, Superintendent; Kelly Manke, Assistant Superintendent; Kayla Wasley, Assistant Superintendent; Tracie Christmas, Director of Student Services; Emily Prusso, Board President; Kristie Wang, Board Clerk; and Board Members Craig Bueno, Steven Drouin and Yanira Guzmán .

2.1 Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Leave/Employment Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957

2.2 Conference with Labor Negotiator Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6 Employee Organizations: California School Employees Association (CSEA) - Kelly Manke; Livermore Education Association (LEA) – Kelly Manke; Service Employees International Union (SEIU) – Kelly Manke

2.3 Confidential Expulsion - Student A - Pursuant to Education Code 48918

3.0 7:01 P.M. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

3.1 The meeting was reconvened to Open Session by President Emily Prusso with Clerk Kristie Wang, and Members Craig Bueno, Steven Drouin and Yanira Guzmán in attendance.

3.2 The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Emma C. Smith Staff.

3.3 Actions approved in Closed Session -

Board Member Craig Bueno reported that the Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the stipulated expulsion of Student A, pursuant to Education Code 48918.

3.4 Meeting Procedures - President Prusso reviewed all meeting procedures, including instructions for 8.0 Communication from the Public.

4.0 CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

4.1 The Superintendent will announce any changes to the agenda

Superintendent Gibson reported that there was once change to the Agenda: Under 5.1, staff is being recognized, not students.

5.0 RECOGNITIONS

5.1 Recognition of Emma C. Smith Staff

Ms. Marni Angelo, Principal, recognized the Learning Center Paraprofessionals. She shared that she was honored to recognize this group of individuals whose dedication and hard work are at the core of everything they do in the Learning Center. Their kindness, compassion and positive attitudes foster a welcoming atmosphere, setting the tone for the inclusive and nurturing environment that they strive to create every day.

6.0 STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS REPORT

6.1 Student Board Member Representatives will report on their school activities

Addie Hart from Livermore High School (LHS) reported that their Homecoming week was last week. Each class had a Skit and performance on Thursday. She congratulated the seniors who won the competition between the classes. Their Homecoming rally on Friday was very entertaining and they had exciting performances from the Varsity Dance Team, Varsity Cheer Team, Shooting Stars Cheer Team, and Drumline. She shared that their Homecoming dance was on Saturday, and said that everyone had fun dressing up, "Under the Lights."

Their Football team played Cal High last Friday and had a great game. They are hoping for another win next week when they play against Dublin.

She shared that this week is Unity Week. They will be hosting events that will focus on promoting kindness, acceptance, and unity. They are encouraging everyone to wear orange on Unity Day, October 16th, as a demonstration of solidarity against bullying.

Their teachers have indicated that they had a great professional development day with some even asking for more training on certain topics, like using AI, SEL curriculum, and Wayfinder, which is for brain breaks during class.

She also shared that ten students were honored last week by staff for their Cowboy HEROES awards where they demonstrated exemplary behavior on campus.

All student athletes will attend a Mental Health and Sports assembly presented by Grant Parr to support coaches, athletes, and mental health.

She closed by asking all to remember, "It's a great day to be a Cowboy!"

Gabriel Benitez from Granada High School (GHS) shared that he is eager to report on a handful of topics now that they are a quarter of the way through the school year.

First off, Athletics: GHS leadership and administration made the decision to move the football student section from the right side of the bleachers to the center of them, so that students can be in the middle of all the action. They saw a very successful debut for their pink-out game on the 4th. Football began EBAL match-ups in the Valley Division last Friday with lots of excitement from Matadors. Varsity volleyball placed second in the LHS tournament. Their cross-country teams performed well at the Scott Bahs Invitational, and now their winter sports are quickly approaching, with tryouts beginning on November 4th.

School Events: The dance team hosted a clinic, boasting 100+ participants. They are also preparing for Unity Day, where the whole school will deck out in Orange to show their unity.

Next up is Academics: Now that it is October, they have had three amazing students recognized by the Rotary Club of Livermore GHS Student of the Month. Gabriel Benitez, Delaney Aumua, and Grace Heaney have been the three honorees so far. Their AP Psychology class, taught by Alexis Bailey had an engaging Brainwalk project, where students could show off their art skills with a psychology twist.

Lastly, their librarian, Adair Spence, has organized a school board candidate informational meeting, where some of the prospective board members can share their plans and ideas for when they are voted in.

He closed by saying that he is glad he can report on so many great things happening at GHS right now, and exclaimed, "Stay classy!"

7.0 EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION REPORTS

7.1 Employee Associations will report on activities

Ms. Aimee Thompson, President of the Livermore Education Association (LEA), representing teachers, nurses, counselors, psychologists, speech pathologists and teachers on special assignment commented.

Ms. Thompson and Tara Lutz, Vice President of LEA, met with scientists from Quest to discuss the Climate Resolution. The conversation was very productive and they are happy to support the Climate Resolution brought forward by the students. She thinks a key to success for the project is going to be in planning to create educational opportunities for students that can be implemented seamlessly without creating additional work for teachers.

She shared that their first meeting of the High School Schedule Committee, and that it was productive. The group was quickly able to narrow down the options and agree on a basic structure. In the afternoon they were less productive, as more data was needed to move forward. She noted that Dr. Gibson sent the requested data to the group, and has been answering questions as they are asked.

Ms. Thompson noted that data received looked like every option has a cost if the current class sizes of 32 are maintained. One consideration is how many periods of teaching should constitute a full-time job. She commented saying that neighboring districts define a full time teaching position as teaching 5 periods. The current schedule has teachers teaching 6 periods at a time. While in trimesters, full-time teachers taught 4 periods. Teachers have noticed the increase in workload as the number of students they are responsible for has gone from 120 to 180. Another consideration is the structure and amount of preparation time for teachers. She noted that one of the things a teacher learns in the credential program is that they should expect to spend twice as much time planning instruction as they do delivering that instruction. She commented saying that these topics may sound teacher centered, but they are student centered. The number of periods teaching, the percentage of day in front of students vs. percentage of time preparing for that instruction directly impacts the quality of instruction delivered to students. The number of student contacts a teacher is responsible for at one time directly impacts the service they can deliver to students. She said that they want to do the best for students, and that that requires putting structures in place to support their work.

Once they have completed the work for the High School Schedule they will need to start the discussion for elementary and middle school. They feel the need to create structures to allow all of their teachers to deliver the best for students, and that includes providing adequate time and structure for teacher preparation.

Ms. Thompson closed by wishing everyone a happy Unity Day.

Ms. Kirstin Governor, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Chapter President, commented.

She understands that we are unable to negotiate wages until December when the First Interim Report is presented. She noted that the budget constraints are affecting all of us at the District.

She added that with the four highest positions in the District collectively earning over a million dollars, Child Nutrition Assistant employees are the lowest paid making \$20.37 per hour. Next, Custodian I makes \$23.59 per hour.

Ms. Governor shared that the new management was hired for high wages. Some management received large raises that are twice the amount some in this District are making in a year. Hiring new management people, and giving raises to others in management was important to Administration. It was so important that you found money for that during our financial hardships. She commented saying that they are important too. They clean the campuses, feed these kids, watch them on the playgrounds, teach them and care for them. She added that the school district doesn't run without all of us together, and that we are all a piece of a puzzle that builds this school district. Without one piece of that puzzle, the schools that children attend can't operate effectively. The employees that you don't have money for are just as important as the management that already received money.

Ms. Kirsty Governor commented about the need to be able to start negotiations on the non-economic items. They have met their obligation to sunshine the articles. She stated that stalling these negotiations is not bargaining in good faith, and that their members deserve better than that.

8.0 COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

A) Audience Communication

1. Sabrina Hankins, SEIU VP, commented in regards to Health Benefits.
2. Janet Zimmerman, SEIU Member, commented regarding wages and workplace conditions.
3. Sher, Community Member, commented regarding her experience with a Board Candidate.
4. Jeff Siragusa, Community Member, supports and defends victims of harassment against people by a Board Candidate.
5. Nancy Chrisp, Community Member, people with disabilities can be valuable, and believes that a Board Candidate is not qualified.
6. Cathryn, Community Member, feels that a person was removed from the volunteer position at the request of a Board Candidate opponent.

B) Correspondence

Board Clerk Kristie Wang announced that there were no Board Correspondences.

9.0 DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

9.1 PUBLIC HEARING: Regarding the Composition of Potential Trustee Voting Areas Associated with the District's Transition to a By-Trustee Area Election System in Advance of the Preparation of the Trustee Voting Area Maps by Demographer Douglas Johnson from NDC Corporations (Dr. Torie Gibson)

President Prusso opened the Public Hearing.

Dr. Torie Gibson introduced Douglas Johnson from NDC Corporations. Mr. Douglas Johnson presented the Public Hearing and information regarding the composition of potential trustee voting areas associated with the District's transition to a by-trustee area election system in advance of the preparation of the trustee voting area maps.

President Prusso asked if there were comments.

Public Comments: None

Dr. Gibson let all know that you can find information on the District website for more information, i.e., video of the Board Meetings with Closed Captions in English and Spanish.

9.2 Approval of Resolution No. 014-24/25, Responding to Climate Change through Education (Mr. Vaughn Draggoo, Quest Science)

President Prusso introduced Vaughn Draggoo, Quest Science Center, to present the Resolution along with Shrish Premkrishna (12th Grade, LHS), and Thaarak Sriram (12th Grade, LHS).

Public Comments:

1. Tricia Pontau, Sustainability Program Manager for the City of Livermore, thanked the Board for considering this Resolution, and shared that the City will work alongside the students.
2. Tara Boyce, Parent, commended the students and is happy to see that this topic has become part of our education.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **Craig Bueno** Moved, and Member **Kristie Wang** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion to 'Approve Resolution No. 014-24/25, Responding to Climate Change through Education.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 5 - 0.

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| Emily Prusso | Yes |
| Kristie Wang | Yes |
| Craig Bueno | Yes |
| Steven Drouin | Yes |
| Yanira Guzmán | Yes |

10.0 CONSENT ITEMS - MOTIONS

10.1 Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between LVJUSD and Livermore Education Association (LEA) re: Use of Personal Cellular Devices for Emergency Communication

10.2 Approval of Revised Job Description - YouthBuild Case Manager to Case Management Specialist

10.3 Approval of Revised Classified Managers/Confidential 2024-2025 Salary Schedule

10.4 Approval of Employment of Personnel

10.5 Confirmation of Resignations

10.6 Approval of Leaves of Absence

10.7 Approval of Employment of Extracurricular Coaches, 2024/2025

10.8 Approval of Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures Quarterly District Report

10.9 Approval of Out-of-State Conference for One Staff Member to Attend the EDspaces 2024 Conference in Texas, November 11-14, 2024

10.10 Approval of Out-of-State Conference for One Staff Member to Attend the Schools to Watch Leadership Retreat in Nevada, October 25-26, 2024.

10.11 Approval of Out-of-State Conference for Two Staff Members to Attend the Florida Association of International Baccalaureate World Schools Fall Workshops, November 10-13, 2024.

10.12 Approval of the Measure J Bond Program Contract Amendment/Change Order Ratification

10.13 Approval of the Service Agreement with Revolution Foods for the 2024/2025 Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P)

10.14 Approval of the Purchase Order Summary Report for September

10.15 Approval of October 1, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Public Comments: None

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **Craig Bueno** Moved, and Member **Steven Drouin** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion to 'Approve Consent Items - Motions No. 10.1 through 10.15.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 5 - 0.

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| Emily Prusso | Yes |
| Kristie Wang | Yes |
| Craig Bueno | Yes |
| Steven Drouin | Yes |
| Yanira Guzmán | Yes |

11.0 CONSENT ITEMS - RESOLUTIONS

11.1 Resolution No. 015-24/25, Red Ribbon Week – October 23-31, 2024

11.2 Resolution No. 016-24/25, Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Equipment

Public Comments: None

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **Steven Drouin** Moved, and Member **Yanira Guzmán** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion to 'Adopt, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 015 and 016-24/25.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 The motion **Carried** 5 - 0.

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| Emily Prusso | Yes |
| Kristie Wang | Yes |
| Craig Bueno | Yes |
| Steven Drouin | Yes |
| Yanira Guzmán | Yes |

13.0 CONSENT ITEMS REMOVED FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION/VOTE

13.1 Consent items removed for separate discussion will be placed here and voted on separately

There were no items removed for separate discussion or vote.

14.0 BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND REQUESTS

14.1 Board Members reported on their activities and/or made requests to staff.

Trustee Craig Bueno shared that in 21 days we have a national, state and local election. He encouraged everyone to exercise the right to vote.

Trustee Kristie Wang began by sharing that GHS IB students and their teacher Adair Spence hosted a "Get to Know Your Ballot" night for the community to meet candidates for our school board and city council. She attended part of the meeting for the high school schedule committee. She shared that the middle school cross country championships are on Friday. Livermore Pridfest is on Saturday at Bankhead Plaza from 12-6pm.

Trustee Steven Drouin met with several community stakeholder groups to check in and chat. On October 16th, he will be attending the Joe Michell Fun Run, where they are running to raise funds for the school. He also mentioned that tomorrow, October 16th is Unity Day where community members are encouraged to wear and share orange to send a visible message of building commUNITY through kindness, acceptance and inclusion to prevent bullying. Friday, October 18th he will be attending the Fall Fest at East Avenue. He shared that he is uncertain he will go through the haunted house.

Trustee Steven Drouin asked Superintendent Gibson for clarification regarding the SEIU Sunshining process.

Superintendent Dr. Gibson explained the laws around Sunshining. We are waiting to hear in writing what the two articles are that they would like to bring to the bargaining table.

Trustee Craig Bueno clarified that SEIU has not met the legal threshold on the sunshine.

Superintendent Gibson shared that this was correct, and that this is going through legal counsel. She has also spoken with higher ups in SEIU to find common ground. Their legal counsel and LVJUSD legal counsel are in communication.

Trustee Craig Bueno reiterated the importance of the relationship with the people that work at our District.

Trustee Yanira Guzmán shared that last Thursday was world mental health day. She brought this up because our schools have Wellness centers and counselors. Last Thursday her child was able to use those resources. She thanked Ms. Machi and Ms. W. They did a phenomenal job showing compassion and empathy. She got her own private tour of the Wellness Center. She wanted to remind families that these are available at our campuses, when they just need a break to self-regulate and go back into their daily routines.

President Emily Prusso shared that last week she was able to join the Alameda County Teacher of the Year Awards. Our teacher Dayana Albornoz from Lawrence Elementary was nominated, and said that it was an amazing and exciting event. The award was well deserved.

President Prusso was also able to attend the High School Schedule Committee Meeting. She shared that she was excited to listen to the teachers work out what they want. Seeing trends that came up, lots in agreement about what they are looking for. It was heartening for them to see how much of the students schedule in mind and how it would affect the student as well. She said it was great to experience. She thinks we will get to a conclusion that will be beneficial to our teachers and students, and the Community.

She experienced Homecoming at Livermore High School (LHS). She had fun and got to go to the game. She mentioned the AC out in the Gym, but the kids didn't care.

She had the opportunity to meet with the Tri-Valley Regional Occupational Program (TVROP) delegation that came from the State to visit our ROP program. Superintendent Julie Duncan is an advocate for TVROP. She goes and speaks to our State Congress. She is amazing in the way that she advocates for funding and our Career Tech Education. Because of the many times that she has been at the capitol, they asked if they could tour our ROP Program. There were people here from the Governor's Office, from the Department of Finance, and also from our Senator's Education Committee. It was really exciting for them. They went to LHS for Automotive Tech classes. Got to watch kids working on the cars. They also visited Middle College and spent time on our Las Positas Campus, which is also part of our ROP. Superintendent Duncan has worked hard to get equal and fair funding for our Career Tech students. She noted that TVROP Moto is Careers by Choice, not by chance. She believes that students should have an opportunity to choose a career that is going to be beneficial to them. Not everyone is made for college. She loves that in this District, or this Valley, we really support that.

15.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

15.1 The Superintendent reported on District activities

Superintendent Gibson reported that many of the topics she was going to talk about were already mentioned.

She shared that she was really excited about the High School Committee Meeting. She thanked the staff that participated and Tara and Aimee for helping put the group together. It was completely teacher driven as to who participated. It was such a great day to be able to sit with a large group of teachers. She made it very clear to the group that they are the decision makers. She is just the facilitator. Her role is to simply help keep all 'coloring within the lines,' so that we are legally compliant. And to provide whatever data is needed along the way. They have asked for data pretty much every day. She is enjoying watching the wheels turning with all of them, and she is very excited for the next meeting. After they have the next committee meeting, if once we get to the point where we are ready to move forward, she has asked that they will then show from that room to do a formal presentation to the Board and community as to their recommendation.

Dr. Gibson also shared that she attended the PCIC meeting which was fantastic. Had a GHS Bingo presentation, which she said was fun. They also shared information from each site as to what is happening at the schools, and all of their activities. Shared some really great ideas. They had a pretty robust conversation about the By-Trustee Area Process as well. And said it was great getting them involved.

She will be attending DLAC next week and have the same conversation about By-Trustee.

Friday is the Great California Shakeout. We have been going through training here at the District Office so that we are prepared for all the roles that we play depending on the job duties.

Last night she attended the City council meeting where the District was presented with a Proclamation from the City Council for October being Anti-bullying Week. She shared that it was a great time to meet the council members and to accept the Proclamation on behalf of the District.

She agreed with President Prusso that the LHS event was really great. Her brother was into Career Technical Education (CTE), and she has a huge heart for Future Farmers of America (FFA). She believes that students should have different pathway options.

She noted like everyone else that it's Unity Week, and that employees at the District will be wearing orange and taking photos.

She shared that there is a Special Board Workshop on Thursday, and that they will have some great robust conversations around the template for the school sites that will be used to move forward for data conversations around Special Education, English Language and suspension rates, and a second Public Hearing.

16.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, President Emily Prusso adjourned the Meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Board President

Board Clerk

Approved and entered into the proceedings of this Board this 12th day of November, 2024.