



**SHASTA UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD**

**Board Room
2200 Eureka Way
Redding, CA 96001**

**September 23, 2020
ADOPTED MINUTES**

A special meeting of the Governing Board of the Shasta Union High School District was called to order at 5:00 pm by Trustee Ayer in the Shasta Union High School District Board Room.

ROLL CALL: Trustees Joseph Ayer, Constance Pepple, Gregory Hartt and Jamie Vericker. Also present: Superintendent Jim Cloney, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources Jason Rubin, Associate Superintendent of Instructional Services Milan Woollard and Chief Business Official David Flores.

Trustee Ayer led the pledge of allegiance and Trustee Hartt recited the Mission and Vision Statements.

RES. 20-201 That the Board approve the agenda, as presented. (Motion Vericker, second Hartt, carried 4-0).

RES. 20-202 That the Board approve the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan. (Motion Pepple, second Hartt, carried 4-0).

RES. 20-203 That the Board approve the amended fee proposal from PBK for Shasta High School Shops Building Modernization. (Motion Pepple, second Vericker, carried 4-0).

RES. 20-204 That the Board approve change orders 1.1, 2, 3 and 5 for Enterprise High School classroom remodel to be ratified for a net increase to Ark Design Construction and Roofing, in the amount of \$16,312.42. (Motion Vericker, second Pepple, carried 4-0).

RES. 20-205 That the meeting adjourn. (Motion Pepple, second Vericker, carried 4-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Online comments were received and read between in-person speakers from Justin Wilkes regarding distance learning accommodations before moving to phase three, Sandra Fisher and Tamara Watson regarding concerns moving into phase three, Kimberly Wilkes, Jessaca Lugo, Kara Norderum and Melissa Magana regarding getting our kids back to school full time and in person classes five-days a week. Amanda Patrick and Beth Watt spoke and requested to open schools five-days a week.

DISCUSSION:

Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: Mr. Cloney mentioned the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan replaced the LCAP for this year and has a deadline of September 30th for approval.

Trustee Hartt confirmed there had been no changes to the draft since the September 8th Board meeting.

Trustee Pepple stated it was well written.

COVID-19: Public comments were received from Layne McLean who expressed the need for students to feel safe in order to learn, Gary Connolly said we want to see our kids five days a week but we need a clear plan and Sean Ferguson stated we will never please everyone and suggested the disruption of the learning environment by transitioning too fast. Beth Watt again requested that schools be open five-days a week and stated distance learning is not working for students.

Mr. Cloney stated obviously there is a huge variety of opinions on the issue of reopening and our District is monitoring the situation closely. We all agree five days is the best for kids but how to get there safely is what needs to be determined with staff in mind.

Trustee Pepple asked when is the end of the quarter.

Mr. Cloney said October 9th and further stated moving to phase three with three-foot distance between desks will change class size and that work is ongoing and will result in schedule changes. Mr. Cloney mentioned waiting longer will make the change more difficult.

Trustee Ayer asked why we would want to wait.

Mr. Cloney stated the staff survey results show the staff feels a shift to phase three will result in an increase in their exposure and looking at the last three-days we are hoping this is not an upward trend. There was a suggestion of four-days face to face with a target of the most needy kids. And in the parent survey the request for five-day return to classes.

Trustee Pepple mentioned when you combined the results of uncomfortable with very uncomfortable that is not an insignificant number.

Mr. Cloney mentioned we have done interviews for additional teachers at Shasta Collegiate Academy. He further stated that we will not make everyone happy but the goal is to maintain student needs and the survey results have varied opinions.

Trustee Ayer stated it is not a simple majority and that make our job tough.

Mr. Cloney said none of the survey results have given a clear direction.

Trustee Pepple mentioned the survey results are not really solid anywhere.

Mr. Cloney stated our District is doing the best we can with what we are doing.

Trustee Pepple said we all agree we want what is best for kids.

Mr. Cloney mentioned the Pioneer High School kids needs are higher. Mr. Cloney further stated it would be nice if this decision was black and white but we are well past black and white and suggested October 12th as a logical date for transition to next phase. Mr. Cloney said he doesn't see waiting until November 1st or after Thanksgiving.

Trustee Pepple asked if October 12th gives the District time to be ready.

Mr. Cloney said if we move kids the work will be done on October 8th or 9th and also suggested getting notice out to the parents.

Trustee Pepple asked what if 20% of parents don't think they would have their kids return to classes.

Mr. Cloney stated I don't see that we could staff for 20% more students at Shasta Collegiate Academy.

Trustee Vericker asked what if we have thirty kids that want to attend Shasta Collegiate Academy.

Mr. Cloney mentioned that we had interviewed and hired one more teacher for Shasta Collegiate Academy and our teachers are working very hard to meet the student need.

Trustee Vericker stated class size is paramount.

Mr. Cloney mentioned of concern is the hallways at lunch. Further stating teens will be teens and given the volume of kids at lunch to split-lunch would be more manageable.

Trustee Vericker asked if there are other considerations.

Mr. Cloney said our volume of students make it more difficult than the smaller Districts.

Trustee Vericker stated that there are no other schools in our scale.

Mr. Cloney suggested some of the other Districts also have more space available to them.

Trustee Ayer asked if our class sizes are smaller.

Mr. Cloney said no.

Trustee Ayer confirmed that it is a facility issue.

Mr. Cloney stated after much discussion with our labor groups, the 12th is our target date. Our next Board meeting is the 13th. I will use my best judgement, is the Board ok with that scenario that the goal is to make the move we can on the 12th. We have already moved that way in our Special Education Department.

Trustee Ayer asked if there is a different workload in October versus December.

Mr. Cloney explained it is optimal academically. Mr. Cloney further stated if we transition with no distance learning it will be easier because that is more normal. The trouble will be if we aggressively send students and staff home. If we went to phase three we will likely send more kids home. But our teachers will rise to the challenge as they always do. We will continue to look at data. The numbers are currently up in Shasta County. And the downside is if kids are not taking distance learning seriously.

Trustee Ayer mentioned Elementary School Districts are opening but I understand theirs is a different kind of opening.

Mr. Cloney stated two large Elementary Districts transitioned to phase three with an opt-out system for families that wanted to stay distance learning with their same teacher but if we have a student distance learning is very different in the high school setting because there is a different teacher for each class period in a day.

Trustee Ayer said it is like comparing apples versus oranges that is how different elementary school is from the high school setting.

Mr. Cloney mentioned the variables are different which makes it hard because of our volume.

Trustee Ayer asked about the incompletes from last spring, how are the students doing.

Mr. Cloney said there has been much effort but we won't know until Friday, September 25th. We give a certain amount of Fs every semester but those can be made up with summer school and anytime school. We will need to invest heavily in those programs.

Trustee Pepple asked are you considering more time to kids for incompletes.

Mr. Cloney said this was discussed at CCC and we fell back to teacher discretion.

Trustee Pepple stated none of us have been here before, I would like the students given the opportunity to get completed status.

Layne McLean mentioned we are doing that if the students are showing efforts.

Trustee Hartt stated he appreciates looking at data. The concerns are understood but someone is going to be upset. Therefore, I fall back on the data. Surveys, while helpful are still opinions. You asked the Board for support. I lean on data and guiding bodies. I say, lean on the best guidance. Everyone has best interest of students in mind. Whatever is decided, we will move forward from there.

Mr. Cloney said in the staff survey it was asked if as an employee, would you request accommodations or request leave if we return to classes.

Trustee Hartt acknowledged the big risk to staff but mentioned if staff wear masks and kept six feet distanced, taking precautions, as long as they do their part they are taking the necessary safety precautions. Trustee Hartt further stated uncomfortable versus safe is a perception.

Mr. Cloney mentioned the teachers take six-foot distancing seriously and kids are very respectful but it is a constant effort.

Trustee Hartt asked about the idea of some kids for four-days, are the kids selected by staff or parents.

Mr. Cloney stated that is the dilemma.

Trustee Hartt asked if thoughts had been given to student choice.

Mr. Cloney mentioned the trouble would be managing class size and the work load for teachers changes. If we target the 12th or 19th we are good but beyond the 19th would be too disruptive to both teachers and students learning.

Trustee Hartt said the Board will lean on your expertise as far as dates.

Trustee Ayer asked Doctor Hartt should our expectation be that schools should not have a case of COVID.

Trustee Hartt replied, no that is not the expectation and zero cases is not realistic.

Trustee Ayer reiterated that the expectation is not to be zero cases.

Mr. Cloney said our District had two cases with contact tracing and quarantining but we are up against privacy rules. We do our best to give accurate information.

Trustee Ayer stated we have done a good job and we need to celebrate our accomplishment.

Mr. Cloney reiterated our school nurses have done a great job and our health clerks and other staff.

Trustee Ayer mentioned in the last couple years our District has done a great job and I am proud to be a part of it.

Trustee Vericker mentioned the survey is a planning tool but the data doesn't give details. Trustee Vericker further stated that we acknowledge we don't have data about what will happen with full return but we appreciate your efforts.

Mr. Cloney said we have principals looking at class size, adding sections, split lunches and we are working with labor groups. Mr. Cloney continued stating not everyone is going to be happy but in the best interest in kids our target goal is October 12th. When we have cases we will act swiftly and watching local conditions regarding an outbreak at one of our schools.

Trustee Ayer stated the best part is talking and planning ahead.

Trustee Pepple stated the Board trusts the Administrations judgement.

Mr. Cloney said we will keep the Board informed.

Trustee Ayer thanked parents, teachers and staff for efforts.

Shasta High School Shops Building Fee Proposal: Mr. Flores stated the amendment to PBK was for work that had to be done.

Change orders: Mr. Flores said the change order for Enterprise High School classroom remodel was to repair damage found.

ADVANCE PLANNING:

Next Meeting Date: Regular Board meeting is October 13, 2020.

There were no requests from the audience to speak to any items on the closed session agenda. The Board adjourned to closed session at 6:28 p.m. to discuss the following: 1) Conference with Labor Negotiator (G.C. 54957.6) Agency designated representatives: Jim Cloney – Superintendent, David Flores – Chief Business Official, Jason Rubin – Associate Superintendent/H.R. and Milan Woollard - Associate Superintendent/Instructional Services. Employee Organizations: Shasta Secondary Education Association (SSEA), Educational Support Professionals Association (ESP), California School Employees Association (CSEA) and Management/Supervisory/Confidential.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Ron Zufall, Clerk
Board of Trustees

Jim Cloney, Executive Secretary
Board of Trustees

Bd. Min. 09-23-20 /jac