



**SHASTA UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
Board Room
2200 Eureka Way
Redding, CA 96001**

**October 19, 2023
ADOPTED MINUTES**

A special meeting of the Governing Board of the Shasta Union High School District was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Trustee Peple in the Shasta Union High School District Board Room.

ROLL CALL: Trustees Constance Peple, Ron Zufall, Mike Doran and Andrea Hoheisel were present. Also present: Superintendent Jim Cloney, Chief Business Official David Flores, Associate Superintendent of Instructional Services Leo Perez and Associate Superintendent of Human Resources Jason Rubin.

There were no requests from the audience to speak to any items on the closed session agenda. The Board adjourned to closed session at 5:03 p.m. to discuss the following: 1) Public Conference with legal counsel - anticipated litigation. Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: 1 case.

The Board reconvened into open session at 5:55 p.m. The Board had no action to report out from closed session. Student Board Member Riley Combs was present for the open session portion of the meeting. Trustee Peple led the pledge of allegiance and Trustee Zufall recited the mission and vision statements.

RES. 23-194 That the Board approve the agenda, as presented. (Motion Doran, second Peple, carried 3-1. Student Board Member Combs: Aye)

RES. 23-195 That the Board adopt the Intent Resolution to Begin Transition to By-Trustee Area Elections. (Motion Zufall, second Doran, carried 4-0. Student Board Member Combs: Aye)

RES. 23-196 That the Board approve the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policies for District, EHS, FHS, SHS, PHS and SCA. (Motion Doran, second Zufall, abstain Hoheisel, carried 3-0. Student Board Member Combs: Aye)

RES. 23-197 That the meeting adjourn. (Motion Doran, second Hoheisel, carried 4-0. Student Board Member Combs: Aye)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were not comments.

PRESENTATION:

Professional Learning Community Interventions: Instructional Coaches Kelli Smith, Tanya Randolph and Kari Goldenson conducted a presentation on the Professional Learning Communities (PLC) and response to intervention. PLCs allow staff time to collaborate to understand a problem, propose, and enact new ideas and analyze the effects of their teaching on student learning. The presentation highlighted the PLC cycle, the three tiers to student intervention, and the characteristics of an effective tier two intervention. Sample bell schedules from other schools were provided to demonstrate where targeted learning could occur and when teachers could conduct PLCs.

Trustee Peple inquired if staff can look at past student performance. Ms. Goldenson stated that they can now go as far back as middle school.

Trustee Hoheisel inquired what options are available for students who do not need academic intervention and how students are accounted for during a targeted learning schedule. Ms. Goldenson explained that students will have options to choose from that could range from a Career Technical Education class to a general study hall. New software allows the schedules to link with Aeries and attendance would be taken.

PRESENTATION:

Professional Learning Community Interventions (continued): Jim Cloney explained that in order to find the time to implement the full PLC and response to intervention process, the District will need to negotiate the schedule with the labor groups during negotiations. Trustee Zufall inquired how long it would take to fully implement the process. Ms. Randolph stated that research shows it takes three to five years to create a high-functioning response to intervention process and that we are currently in year two. Ms. Goldenson stated that the District would like to be ready by the spring of 2025.

Trustee Doran inquired what the data shows. Ms. Randolph stated that it is effective amongst all students. Trustee Pepple inquired if the District would be able to staff the process, specifically in math. Mr. Cloney stated that the District would. Mr. Perez stated that the District has invited the labor groups to be a part of the planning process including professional development trainings.

DISCUSSION:

By-Trustee Area Election Resolution: Jim Cloney stated that CVRA governs how different municipalities, districts, and boards elect their members. The SUHSD Board has always been an at-large District meaning those who live within the District and obtain the most votes within the District are elected. Due to CVRA, the Board will transition to a by-trustee area election which will divide the District into multiple trustee areas of roughly equal population size, based on Census data, and voters in each of the areas elect a trustee. Mr. Cloney stated that legal counsel has recommended the Board switch to a by-area election by January 1. Incumbents will not lose their seat immediately and the new boundaries will take effect at the November 2024 election. Multiple Board meetings will need to be held before January 1 and may include presentations from the demographer and legal counsel. He recommended the Board approve the resolution to move forward with the process.

Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5141.6 School Health Services: Jim Cloney stated that a first reading of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5141.6 School Health Services was conducted at the August 8, 2023 Board meeting. Per the Board's request and as recommended by Administration, the policies were tabled at the September 12, 2023 regular Board meeting. The policies are being brought back for a second reading. Leo Perez provided a handout outlining what health services are listed on the policy, examples of those services in the District and what, if any, parent notification is involved.

Trustee Pepple stated that she opposed the following: "The Board further recognizes that schools are uniquely positioned to increase health equity and to help ensure that all students have access to necessary health care services." She stated that she does not have a problem with the services currently offered but is concerned with what the District may do going forward. Trustee Pepple emphasized that the focus of schools should be on education and that parents should be trusted. Mr. Perez stated that it is the schools responsibility to intervene when necessary.

Trustee Zufall inquired what the policy needs or does not need. Trustee Pepple recommended the Board return to the current policy, and Trustee Hoheisel requested the current policy be emailed to the Board.

Trustee Doran noted that whether the policy is optional or not, the District is required to comply with state law. He inquired if the public is given proper notice of the policy and if Administration recommends approval of the policy. Mr. Cloney stated that parental notification is outlined in Board policy and many topics are covered in the Student Parent Handbook. He recommended the Board approve the policies as a matter of professional practice to ensure compliance. Mr. Cloney stated that approving the CSBA policy recommendations is the safest way to remain in compliance with Education Code.

Trustee Pepple raised concerns regarding the collaboration of the District and local and state agencies and health care providers as outlined in the policy. Trustee Zufall emphasized the importance of students receiving services from professionals and health care specialists. Trustee Doran inquired if this policy applied to the recent tragedy at Enterprise High School (EHS). Mr. Cloney explained that existing staff did a great job supporting staff and students and that we utilize Shasta County Mental Health as a backup plan if needed.

DISCUSSION:

Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5141.6 School Health Services (continued): Trustee Pepple stated that the more the District expands, the worse we do to educate. Trustee Zufall stated that the policy would spread the District even wider. Trustee Hoheisel stated that she met with Leo Perez to discuss the policy and shared similar concerns. Trustee Doran made a motion to approve the policies. There was no second and the motion died for lack of a second.

CSBA Policies: Jim Cloney stated that at the last Board meeting Trustee Pepple requested Assembly Bill (AB) 1078 be on a future agenda. Mr. Cloney reported that CSBA released a special batch of policies in response to AB 1078 and thought this would be a good opportunity to discuss the assembly bill. He stated that the policies are presented as a first reading as a matter of practice and Administration has no intention of having the Board approve them.

Trustee Hoheisel stated that the AB removes the authority of the Board regarding textbooks and library books. Trustee Zufall emphasized the importance of local control.

Mr. Cloney reported that the policies outline different pathways to resolve a uniform complaint. He stated that the policies are mandated, not optional, and that he recommends approving them in order to remain consistent with current law.

Trustee Doran stated that this seems like the type of law that would get constitutionally challenged. Mr. Cloney stated that the AB was written in reaction to a board in southern California that did not adopt a book that referenced Harvey Milk. Trustee Zufall stated that the Board did what they thought the public wanted them to do and that the public can recall the Board.

Trustee Pepple inquired if the Board is required to pass the policies. Leo Perez replied no, but the District is bound to follow the law. Trustee Pepple inquired how history should be taught, if the curriculum meets state standards and what repercussions would occur if the Board did not approve the policy.

Trustee Zufall left the room from 7:36 p.m. to 7:40 p.m.

Mr. Cloney stated that current curriculum is standards aligned and does not violate AB 1078. He explained that the Board would not have any repercussions unless the Board refuses to adopt a book and that he additionally would follow up with legal counsel. Trustee Pepple requested Administration conduct a presentation on AB 1078 at a future Board meeting.

RECESS: 7:47 p.m. – 7:58 p.m.

Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policies: Jim Cloney stated that the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy for the District and each school site must be Board approved as a condition of receiving Title 1 federal funds. He stated that Trustee Hoheisel has requested the Board discuss parent involvement policies in further detail. Mr. Cloney stated that he recommends the Board approve the presented policies to remain in compliance with the Federal Program Monitoring.

Trustee Hoheisel provided a handout to the Board including a policy Anderson Union High School District approved requiring staff to notify parents if a student discloses they are transgender, preferably within three days, and a summary of a recent lawsuit from Escondido, CA regarding students who are transgender. Trustee Zufall stated that he feels staff should not lie or conceal information from parents regarding their student. He noted that Anderson's policy is an overreach and shouldn't have repercussions for staff.

Mr. Cloney provided an overview of the three lawsuits in California regarding student rights/transgender students and stated that around seven CA school districts out of 1,000 have adopted policies not in line with current law. He stated that the current law will be either legislated or litigated and schools will eventually get clarity. Mr. Cloney provided an overview of the District's current practice when a student informs a staff member they are transgender and explained the Gender Support Plan. Administrators and counselors are encouraged to work through the process with the student and involve the family.

DISCUSSION:

Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policies (continued): Trustee Hoheisel inquired what can be done to protect female athletes and if there is a policy that prevents a biological male from using the girls' locker room. Mr. Cloney stated that the District along with the majority of all schools in the area are part of the Northern Section California Interscholastic Federation (NSCIF). The NSCIF sets the rules for athletic participation and under current guidelines a transgender female can participate in girls' sports. Mr. Cloney stated that part of the gender support plan includes a section on the use of restrooms and locker rooms. A transgender girl has the right to use girls' restrooms. Trustee Hoheisel inquired if a policy could be in place requiring a transgender girl to use a private bathroom. Mr. Cloney stated that a policy like that could lead to litigation. Mr. Cloney recommended the Board not take a stance at this time as it could lead to litigation.

Mr. Perez highlighted the changes to the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policies and stated that the District has expanded the various groups of parents that are involved in the process.

Trustee Hoheisel requested the Board discuss a parent notification policy at a future Board meeting.

Substitute Teachers: Trustee Zufall stated that he has heard from multiple staff members that it can be difficult to find qualified and reliable substitute teachers. He inquired if there is anything that can be done in order to attract more substitute teachers. Jason Rubin stated that the District utilizes software to find substitute teachers to ensure teachers are not solely responsible for finding a sub. He reported that he is meeting with the Administration team and Leo Perez tomorrow to discuss how to better schedule department meetings across the District to ensure they don't fall on the same day which could cause a sub shortage. Trustee Zufall inquired if the pay is enough and if there are enough subs in the area. Mr. Rubin stated that Mr. Cloney and the local superintendents meet and agree on sub pay to ensure it is fair and equitable. He reported that there are just not enough people to cover the current needs but did note that it has improved since COVID. Mr. Rubin stated that the District will continue discussions on how to attract subs. Mr. Flores stated that there is a shortage for classified substitutes as well. Trustee Hoheisel stated that she has heard that subs are in fear of not being able to teach.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:00p.m.

Ron Zufall, Clerk
Board of Trustees

Jim Cloney, Executive Secretary
Board of Trustees