

**MORGAN HILL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

September 15, 2020, 6:00 PM

Closed Session, 4:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

**Attendance Taken at 4:03 PM:**

Present:

Adam Escoto  
Jeanne Gilliard  
Carol Gittens  
John Horner  
Heather Orosco  
Mary Patterson  
Wendy Sullivan

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

**A.1. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION TOPICS**

**A.2. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

**A.3. PUPIL PERSONNEL - Student discipline Education Code 48918 (c)(K-12)**

**A.4. LIABILITY CLAIMS - Governmental Code Section 54956.95**

**A.5. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION - Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: one case**

**A.6. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION - Pursuant to subdivision (a) of Government Code 54956.9**

**A.6.a. EL 17/18-001 v. Morgan Hill Unified School District Case No. 17CV319128**

**A.7. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Government Code 54957.6) Morgan Hill Classified Employees Association (MHCEA) and Morgan Hill Federation of Teachers (MHFT), Designated representative: Fawn Myers / Morgan Hill Educational Leaders Association (MHELA), Unrepresented employees, Designated representative: Steve Betando, and Superintendent, Designated representative: Karen Rezendes, Lozano Smith**

**A.8. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS (Government Code 54956.8)**

**A.9. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE-DISCIPLINE / DISMISSAL / RELEASE / REASSIGNMENT / COMPLAINT (Government Code 54957 and 54957.1)**

**A.10. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT (Government Code 54957)**

**A.11. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT / PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Government Code 54957) Title: Superintendent**

**A.12. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION**

**B. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*President Gittens called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance*

## **C. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF**

*Board Members and Staff introduced themselves*

## **D. RECOGNITIONS / PRESENTATIONS**

## **E. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Wendy Sullivan and a second by Adam Escoto.

Yes Adam Escoto  
Yes Jeanne Gilliard  
Yes Carol Gittens  
Yes John Horner  
Yes Heather Orosco  
Yes Mary Patterson  
Yes Wendy Sullivan

## **F. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

*Trustee Orosco requested she be recused from item I.1.a and was placed in the ZOOM wait room while the vote for consent item I.1.a took place.*

**Motion Passed:** I.1.a passed with a motion by Carol Gittens and a second by Wendy Sullivan.

Yes Adam Escoto  
Yes Jeanne Gilliard  
Yes Carol Gittens  
Yes John Horner  
Recuse Heather Orosco  
Yes Mary Patterson  
Yes Wendy Sullivan

*Trustee Orosco returned from the ZOOM wait room back into Open Session.*

**Motion Passed:** Remaining consent items minus I.1.a passed with a motion by Heather Orosco and a second by Wendy Sullivan.

Yes Adam Escoto  
Yes Jeanne Gilliard  
Yes Carol Gittens  
Yes John Horner  
Yes Heather Orosco  
Yes Mary Patterson  
Yes Wendy Sullivan

## **G. PUBLIC COMMENT / COMMUNICATIONS**

*Sally Casas, Community Member, addressed the Board regarding the Edward Boss Prado Foundation tutoring program and announced they are in need of headphones, expressed concerns with students accessing hotspots and inquired where the District tutoring locations are and how communication is distributed to non-English speaking families.*

## **H. COMMUNICATIONS**

**H.1. Closed Session Action Report (Government Code 54957.1)**

**H.2. Report: Student Board Member**

Quetzalle Negrete, Live Oak High School Student Board Member, reported on an upcoming school fundraiser for Ann Sobrato high School.

### **H.3. Reports: Superintendent / Staff**

Superintendent Betando, updated the Board on the School Resource Officer Program and will bring back more information at an upcoming meeting; acknowledged the incredible work going on throughout the District, whether working from home or in the work place and encourage us all to reach out to each other and stay connected.

### **H.4. Reports: Employee Groups: Morgan Hill Classified Employee Association / Morgan Hill Federation of Teachers / Morgan Hill Educational Leaders Association**

Danielle Nunes, Morgan Hill Classified Employee Association President, presented a slideshow honoring all the Classified Employees who have helped with a beautification project at school sites.

Jim Levis, Morgan Hill Federation of Teachers President, acknowledged all the Classified Employees and all their hard work; updated on the recent changes to the State of California COVID safety designation system and waiver request option stating Santa Clara County is still at risk and assured the Board that the District is continually working together to ensure the safety of students, employees and community. In addition, MHFT President Levis requested the Board endorse Proposition 15 at the next Board of Education meeting.

Patrick Buchser, Morgan Hill Educational Leaders Association President, welcomed new Fiscal Services Supervisor, Lisa Lee; acknowledged all schools and adults who have been helping students with distance learning and announced today was National Online Learning Day.

### **H.5. Reports: Board Members**

Trustee Patterson, reported attending Back to School Nights and acknowledged all the Teachers for doing a tremendous job and attended a presentation on Schools to Prison Pipeline.

Trustee Escoto, reported attending the Schools to Prison Pipeline presentation and Back to School Nights; participated in discussions with the Kiwanis Club as to how best support schools with gaps in science programs.

Trustee Horner, thanked Staff for their flexibility during the current situation and attended the Schools to Prison Pipeline presentation.

Trustee Sullivan, reported attending the City/School Liaison meeting sharing internet connectivity information and acknowledged teachers for their Back to School Night presentations, specifically an RSP Teacher who took time to share his perspective.

Superintendent Betando, acknowledged the MHUSD Board of Education Trustee Candidates, Ivan Montes and Pam Torissi, running in Trustee Area 5.

### **H.6. Calendar: Upcoming events**

President Gittens read aloud the calendar of upcoming events.

## **I. CONSENT ITEMS**

### **I.1. BUSINESS SERVICES**

#### **I.1.a. Ratification of contracts executed pursuant to Board Policy 3312**

#### **I.1.b. Approve Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget Development Calendar**

**I.1.c. Adopt resolution approving Gann Appropriation Limit**

**I.1.d. 2019-2020 Capital Facilities (Developer Fees) receipts and expenditures**

**I.1.e. Adopt resolution to accept donations made to the Morgan Hill Unified School District and increase budgets**

**I.2. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

**I.2.a. Approval of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan**

**I.3. HUMAN RESOURCES**

**I.3.a. Biennial review and proposed revisions to Board Bylaw 9270, Conflict of Interest Code including Appendix of Designated Employees and Disclosure Categories**

**I.3.b. Adopt resolution proclaiming the week of October 11-17, 2020 as the Week of the School Administrator**

**I.3.c. Approve personnel action to employ, re-employ, promote, reassign, accept resignation, accept retirement, and authorize related compensation**

**I.4. SUPERINTENDENT**

**I.4.a. Approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting of September 1, 2020**

**J. GENERAL BUSINESS - PUBLIC SESSION ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION**

**J.1. Charter School Annual Review**

*South Valley Charter School Executive Director Paige Cisewski and Principal Susan Pfefferlen presented their annual report to the Board.*

*Board discussion included Prop 51 process, request to share information on returning to in-person instruction, financial status and demographics, process for contact tracing of COVID 19 and reporting out information, social emotional support programs and teacher assignments for in-person and distance learning.*

**J.2. Summer School Report Out**

*Tori Sorensen, Director of Equity Programs introduced Summer School Principals Darren McDonald (Kinder- 8th grade) and Chris Thompson (High School) who provided a report on the 2020 virtual summer school programs.*

*Board discussions included acknowledging those students who finished their high school diplomas and all the teachers and staff who helped make the summer program successful, continued distance learning summer school option in the future, mathematic camp, pre and post survey results and consistent efforts for making resources available to parents.*

**J.3. MHUSD's 2020-2021 Learning Program Status, Current Public Health Orders, and Waiver Options**

*The following individuals addressed the Board:*

*Ashley Boden, Community Member, addressed the Board regarding access to outside hands on learning opportunities.*

*Art Cohen, Community Member, addressed the Board regarding questions around the return to in-person instruction and suggestions on what the District should think about.*

Doug Thorburn, Community Member, addressed the Board regarding questions about the re-opening plan and teacher input for the plan.

Kelley Funk, Community Member, addressed the Board regarding distance learning and concerns for the twelfth-grade students.

Cortney Brooks, Staff Member, addressed the Board regarding all the work that has gone into distance learning and requests the Board to allow teachers to continue to deliver instruction safely to students online.

Superintendent Betando presented an update on the current status of the new COVID-19 county-by-county colored tier status system created at the State level on August 28th, 2020.

Superintendent Betando requested the Board listen to input from employees and the community about the new State COVID-19 monitoring process and District options and provide direction to staff for next steps.

Board discussions included success in distance learning thus far, binary approach to in-person and distance learning structures, in-person versus distance learning choice when campuses re-open, grade level options for the return of students, MHFT and MHCEA survey for returning to in-person instruction, prioritizing community needs, model on how to re-open with flexibility, SRO's and home visits, acknowledgement for Superintendent Betando and his discussions with National Leaders, student need at their developmental stages and following science when considering returning to in-person instruction.

The Board paused discussions to motion to extend the meeting.

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion to extend the meeting to 10:30 PM by Mary Patterson and a second by Wendy Sullivan.

Yes Adam Escoto  
Yes Jeanne Gilliard  
Yes Carol Gittens  
Yes John Horner  
Yes Heather Orosco  
Yes Mary Patterson  
Yes Wendy Sullivan

Continued Board discussions included concerns with returning, monitoring conditions and making sure we are all ready to return and clarity on the Board's role with the decision to return to in-person instruction.

Superintendent posed the question to the Board as to how involved in the details of the return to in-person instruction they would like to be. The Board requested Staff plan the details of the in-person return and then bring the plan back to the Board for approval, including social emotional supports.

#### **J.4. Approve 2019-20 Unaudited Actuals for the General Fund and Restricted Non-General Funds**

Victoria Knutson, Director Fiscal Services, presented the Unaudited Actuals Financial Report, which reflects the prior year activity and ending fund balances.

Board discussions included Chromebook and hotspot financial assistance, cash deferrals and shifting of expenses.

**Motion Passed:** Approve as submitted passed with a motion by Carol Gittens and a second by Wendy Sullivan.

Yes Adam Escoto  
Yes Jeanne Gilliard  
Yes Carol Gittens  
Yes John Horner  
Yes Heather Orosco  
Yes Mary Patterson  
Yes Wendy Sullivan

#### **J.5. Public Hearing: Resolution regarding sufficiency of textbooks and instructional materials**

*Public Hearing Opened: 10:08 PM*

*No public comments*

*Public Hearing Closed: 10:09 PM*

*Board discussions included digital version of textbooks and health class clarification.*

#### **J.6. Board Self-Evaluation Survey and Process**

*Board President Gittens reviewed and led a discussion on a proposed self-evaluation survey as well as a proposed self-evaluation procedure and timeline.*

*Board discussions included clarification of the document and process, producing the document electronically and timeline for the process.*

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion to move forward with the proposed timeline and process by Mary Patterson and a second by Adam Escoto.

Yes Adam Escoto  
Yes Jeanne Gilliard  
Yes Carol Gittens  
Yes John Horner  
Yes Heather Orosco  
Yes Mary Patterson  
Yes Wendy Sullivan

#### **J.7. New business: future agenda items / recognitions**

*Trustee Escoto requested a special meeting with community group presentations and data around School Resource Officers.*

*Superintendent Betando updated the Board regarding a formal complaint made against a Board Member which has escalated to step two status. Step two will involve the district hiring an outside investigator and investigation findings will be brought forth to the Board at a future board meeting during open session.*

*Trustee Patterson requested a resolution in support of Proposition 15 be brought to a future board meeting.*

#### **K. PUPIL DISCIPLINE**

#### **L. ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 PM*

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Steve Betando, Superintendent