

**MORGAN HILL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION  
THEMED STUDY SESSION MINUTES**

November 16, 2021, 6:00 PM  
Closed Session, 5:00 PM  
MHUSD Board Room / ZOOM

**Attendance Taken at 5:03 PM:**

Present:

Adam Escoto  
John Horner  
Iván Montes  
Heather Orosco  
Mary Patterson  
Wendy Sullivan

Absent:

Carol Gittens

**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.3.a. Recommendation for Expulsion and Rehabilitation Plan for Student E 21/22-001**

**A.4. 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: Dr. Carmen Garcia, and Superintendent, Designated representative: Karen Rezendes, Lozano Smith**

**A.5. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE-DISCIPLINE / DISMISSAL / RELEASE / REASSIGNMENT / COMPLAINT (Government Code 54957 and 54957.1)**

**A.6. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION**

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

*The meeting was called to order at 6:13 PM and President Sullivan led the Pledge of Allegiance*

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

*The Board and Staff introduced themselves*

**D. CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT (Government Code 54957.1)**

**E. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Heather Orosco and a second by Ivan Montes.

Yes Adam Escoto

Absent Carol Gittens

Yes John Horner  
Yes Iván Montes  
Yes Heather Orosco  
Yes Mary Patterson  
Yes Wendy Sullivan

Yes Ravi Bhagat, Student Board Member Preferential Vote

## F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### F.1. Approve the Minutes from the Regular Board meeting of November 2, 2021

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Ivan Montes and a second by Mary Patterson.

Yes Adam Escoto  
Absent Carol Gittens  
Yes John Horner  
Yes Iván Montes  
Yes Heather Orosco  
Yes Mary Patterson  
Yes Wendy Sullivan

Yes Ravi Bhagat, Student Board Member Preferential Vote

## G. PUBLIC COMMENT / COMMUNICATIONS

*The following individuals addressed the Board:*

*Diya Kandhra, Student and Susan Kirchoff, Student, addressed the Board regarding suggested updates and implementations to the Environmental Stewardship resolution on behalf of the Morgan Hill Youth Climate Action Team (MHYCAT).*

*Amy Smith, Parent and Ethan Goldrick, Parent, addressed the Board regarding concerns with COVID testing and masking protocols.*

*Cortney Brooks, Employee, addressed the Board in recognition of Transgender Week.*

## H. CONSENT ITEMS

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Ivan Montes and a second by Heather Orosco.

Yes Adam Escoto  
Absent Carol Gittens  
Yes John Horner  
Yes Iván Montes  
Yes Heather Orosco  
Yes Mary Patterson  
Yes Wendy Sullivan

Yes Ravi Bhagat, Student Board Member Preferential Vote

### H.1. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

#### H.1.a. Approve Amendments to Special Education Contracts in the Sum of \$106,936

## I. GENERAL BUSINESS - PUBLIC SESSION ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

### I.1. Elect Representative to the Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization

Armando Benavides and Denise Ramón Herrera, Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization candidates for District 1, addressed the Board to advocate for their candidacy.

*The Board discussed candidate qualifications and selected the following candidates to move forward:*

*Armando Benavides = District 1*

*James Pernis = District 3*

*Ellen Wheeler = District 5*

**Motion Passed:** To select Armando Benavides, District 1, James Van Pernis, District 3 and Ellen Wheeler, District 5 as candidates to move forward in the Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization passed with a motion by Wendy Sullivan and a second by Adam Escoto.

Yes Adam Escoto

Absent Carol Gittens

Yes John Horner

Yes Iván Montes

Abstain Heather Orosco

Yes Mary Patterson

Yes Wendy Sullivan

## **I.2. Adopt Resolution to Join the Children's Movement of California**

*The Morgan Hill Unified School District recommended joining the Children's Movement and thereby joined a statewide chorus of education, health and social service, parent and student leaders in advocating for stronger supports for kids.*

*Board discussion included acknowledgement of Trustee Patterson for raising awareness of this resolution, no financial impact and next steps related to this resolution.*

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion to approve the Resolution to Join the Children's Movement of California

Passed with a motion by Heather Orosco and a second by Adam Escoto.

Yes Adam Escoto

Absent Carol Gittens

Yes John Horner

Yes Iván Montes

Yes Heather Orosco

Yes Mary Patterson

Yes Wendy Sullivan

## **I.3. Student, Parent & Community Engagement, Extra Curriculars and Communication Study Session**

*Superintendent, Dr. Carmen García and Staff presented the District's current focus on Student, Parent and Community engagement.*

[211116 Engagement and Communication Study Session Presentation](#)

*The Board provided input and direction on items discussed in the presentation.*

## **I.4. New Business: Future Agenda Items**

Trustee Sullivan, requested an update to board regarding District internet and phone lines issues; BOE office hour discussion; update on the Student speakers request on sustainability; census data results and how they affect Trustee Area maps and implementing school site BOE presentations.

Trustee Escoto, requested a study session regarding other District models for Trustee representation.

Trustee Montes, requested combining the Trustee area and District representation discussion and follow up on bathrooms for transgender Students.

Trustee Horner, requested a discussion on Board office hours; a discussion on adding a Clerk position to the Board; follow up on the Morgan Hill Youth Climate Action Team (MHYCAT) request and creative partnerships for District internet/phone issues.

Trustee Patterson, requested a study session to report out Trustee CSBA Annual Education Conference learnings; input on running again for Delegate Assembly; follow up on MHYCAT and BOE/Superintendent monthly site visit schedule.

## **J. PUPIL DISCIPLINE**

### **J.1. Recommendation for Expulsion and Rehabilitation Plan for Student E 21/22-001**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Heather Orosco and a second by John Horner.

Yes Adam Escoto  
Absent Carol Gittens  
Yes John Horner  
Yes Iván Montes  
Yes Heather Orosco  
Yes Mary Patterson  
Yes Wendy Sullivan

## **K. ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 PM*

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Dr. Carmen García, Superintendent