

## **Regular Meeting of Board of Education - Conducted Telephonically - 6:00 p.m. (Monday, June 8, 2020**

### **1.1 Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

### **1.2 Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dr. Myrna Morales, Assistant Superintendent-Human Resources

### **1.3 Roll Call**

#### **Members present**

Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **1.4 Approve Agenda June 8, 2020 Regular Meeting of Board of Education**

Approve agenda of the Board of Education June 8, 2020.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **1.5 Approve Study Session Minutes April 28, 2020**

Approve the April 28, 2020 Study Session Meeting Minutes.

Motion by Linda Garcia, second by Carmen Gomez.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **Minutes: 1.6 Approve Special Meeting Minutes April 28, 2020**

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Sonia De Leon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **Minutes: 1.7 Approve Regular Meeting Minutes May 11, 2020**

Approve the minutes of the Regular meeting May 11, 2020.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Sonia De Leon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

## **2. Employee Representative Reports**

### **Reports: 2.1 Employee Representative Reports**

President Hansen received the following comment from TAP President Kim Goforth:

In July we will be transitioning to the 2020-2021 school year and she is so proud of all of the TAP and CSEA members. They pivoted to the unknown and did a tremendous job in the process. We did this by putting in extra hours, training one another in online programs, redesigning our curricula, building connections with our students and their families in the virtual world--all without extra pay. She hopes that the PUSD staff will be shown some financial appreciation over the summer that demonstrates that the extra work is truly valued. She knows budgets will be tight and/or unpredictable in the next few years but the District did receive COLA this year and this year we

have shown our dedication and flexibility every single day. We understand that our future will be tricky. Not only will we need to work differently, we will need to be completely transparent with our financials. Are we hiring consultants that are useful and necessary? Are teachers asked about these programs? Are these programs essential for our priorities during THIS time? Are we attending trainings that are valuable for us at this moment? Is there unnecessary travel happening while we are on a partial lock down right now? Paramount has always worked together as a family and I hope that we will continue to do so. Our future is unclear. Our community is looking to us for guidance. We need to collaborate on solutions and present them to our stakeholders as a unified community.

There was no comment received from CSEA.

### **3. Public Hearing**

The following public comment were received and read by President Hansen:

Comment received from: Padres Unidos de Paramount - We would like to know what strategies are the district creating for Special Education? They as parents feel that their children are not learning anything academically through remote learning. They assume there is a plan "B" for the students with Special Needs so they can achieve their goals. Also what measures will be taken once students return to school for those students who cannot tolerate facial masks? They want to know if the AAC services with I pads will continue through the extended school year for children that are none verbal and are implemented in their IEP? We also have concerns regarding the reduction of employees in the district and if the cuts will come from personnel working with special needs students? We believe if so, that will have more of a negative impact on our students, more than they are already experiencing.

Comment received from: James Mackey, IV

He thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity this evening to speak about a virus separate from COVID-19, but one, that has impacted and infected this country since 1619.

My name is James Mackey, IV, he is a husband, the father of three Black children, an Educator and Paramount High School Alumni from the Class of 95. First he wants to share with that many black parents are scared. As parents, they fear for the lives of their children every day. Many of them have trained their children on how to engage in proper etiquette and how to comply when encountering law enforcement officers. As members and alumni of the great city of Paramount, we know that this is larger than police brutality. This is a systematic virus that has spread far and wide into our schools and the minds of our students. Our students should not have to live in fear because of the color of their skin. History has taught us that these acts of unjust treatment did not begin with the recent tragedies of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and Ahmaud Arbery. The protests that have taken place recently are a result of centuries of a lack of love and respect for human life, solely based on the pigmentation of one's skin color. These Millennial and Generation Z led-protests are fueled by the memory of many children who have died at the hands of racism. The protest we have witnessed over the past two weeks are a shining example of how all of us, Black & Latino, White and Asian, and other communities can come together for a common goal: Equality and Justice for All. As a Higher Education Administrator, he is working with other leaders in the field of education to create a change in ideology and practice among our students and faculty. He looks forward to working with the Paramount Board of Education and other stake holders within the district to lead the charge in educating its students, community and law enforcement agencies with eradicating the nature of racism.

#### **4.1 Board Member Reports**

Board Member Gomez shared that she attended the CSBA regional 24 zoom meeting where CSBA is Assistant Executive Director Dennis Myers provided an overview of the May revision. She keeps updated with the CSBA and Governor Newsom and State Superintendent, Tony Thurmond. She personally wished to thank each and every classified staff, who she considers heroes for risking their health and safety to provide meals to our students, many of whom rely on school meals for their daily nutrition. She also congratulated all the teachers of the year, classified employees of the year, administrators of the year support providers of the year, retirees and employees with

special years of service. She thanked, Henry and Durrell Jackson for putting on the video that Dr. Perez sent. She congratulated the Class of 2020 for their accomplishments and added that the Class of 2020 will never be forgotten.

Board member De Leon commented that it would be disingenuous to share her report of all the activities that she has participated since they last met without explicitly putting everything that is transpiring in our lives as Board members, as private citizens in the context of the still ongoing COVID-19 warranty and ongoing historical protest against police brutality sparked by the murder of George Floyd, people of all colors, religions, gender, political persuasions, and professions, including teachers. This is a great teaching moment for all socially conscious educators, truly historical moment from which we as educators must learn from and allow it to inform our teaching lessons and curriculums in order to contribute as teachers, not to just a more caring and safer environment, but most importantly, to contribute with our teaching to more caring, safer, and just nation with these concerns in mind and heart. She participated in a productive zoom meeting with the California Latinos School Boards Association on the urgent need to diversify the teacher pipeline. She met with James Mackey, a respected American African American motivator speaker in order to consider affected events, programs, and activities that will help our teachers, students, parents, and administrators deal and resolve better issues in which the ugliest social illness of racism is impacted. One of the topics that was discussed is the need for all schools to implement ethnic studies as an effective way to fight racism. She thanked LAUSD Board member, Nick Melvin for providing a productive meeting. She was also invited to a very important event by the United by parents United for paramount, which is a wonderful and dedicated group of parents who advocate for students with disabilities. The parents gave out free masks, a plastic shield mask and hand sanitizers for 75 families with children with disabilities. There are so many parents who made this event possible and thanked to the following parents who help with the distribution, Silvia Diaz, Daisy Funes, Monica Rodriguez and Adidas Mendez. She included in her report, the peaceful protest at the Paramount police substation that she as a private citizen attended. She shared that as educators must be clear on the choice that we made when we decided to become teachers. We believe in the power of education, not of guns or batons, whenever a school district hires a police officer, instead of another teacher, another counselor we have given up permission to make education and not force the key to our future. We teachers educate not incarcerate.

Board member Garcia commented that distance learning that we have had has been very challenging, a challenging experience for all of our students and everyone involved. We need to reflect on the work that was accomplished and what we need to work on. We also have the protesting happening, which is a very sad thing for all of our students and all nationalities. We are very diverse here and it is a sad thing to see what is happening. She congratulated the District's students and employees and wished to let them know that what they have done for us has been remarkable and she truly appreciate them. She attended the grab and go at the high school and is looking forward to the graduation being held this week at the schools. She wished to congratulate all of the Class of 2020.

Vice President Cuarenta thanked her colleagues for sharing what they have been doing. She shared that her heart breaks for members of the African American community and all people of color who have been grieving as a result of the tragic and unnecessary deaths. She understands the anger and frustration displayed by those who have taken the streets and protest. And I know that many more standing United with them just as ideal and the desire to see to it that the systematic change is brought about. As a result, as a member of the governing board of the paramount unified school district she has a unique opportunity to work with educators who are working tirelessly, tirelessly to provide our young people with a world class education that will equip them to be the driving force for change. She encouraged to join her in being hopeful and optimistic about the future because of the role they play in working with young people and to do everything they can to support our students throughout this difficult time, and to provide the encouragement they need to remain hopeful, to keep fighting for a better future and to unite everyone. Our community serves students, families, community members, teachers, and staff.

President Hansen commented that she appreciates the comments that everyone has made as it has been a very serious issue, and she knows it's something that they will be discussing for months to come. She thanked everyone for joining them this evening. She thanked all staff for the incredible efforts they were exerting each and every day, and been willing to work long hours to manage the needs of our students and our parents. Many have not been able to go to your regular jobs or you're working from home because of the COVID-19 lockdown, you have had to become a teacher yourself. You've also been faced with keeping your family safe and healthy and making sure their emotional needs are met. She shared that Ms. Cuarenta and she serve on an Ad Hoc committee with the

City of Paramount and they have been studying for the last few months the traffic congestion around PHS West campus and Paramount Park school in the morning and afternoon and they have identified a solution that they feel will ensure the safety of students. Two items that they have been wrestling with are the state budget and how it affects Paramount Unified and the reopening of schools and how we can best ensure the health and safety of students and staff. Separate committees have been working for weeks to gather information needed, to make recommendations to the Board of Education. Parents and staff have been given an opportunity to give their opinions through surveys. And we ask that you respond so that we are able to gather information from as many people as possible as we make these decisions. She congratulated the graduates of 2020 and wished them well. They look forward to the graduations later in the week.

## **4.2 Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Ruben Frutos, Assistant Superintendent-Business Services shared with the Board that the Senate and Assembly reached an agreement on the 2021 state budget to close the projected shortfall. As was explained at the last meeting, they anticipate 14 billion in additional federal fund supports and triggered reduction in the event that those funds do not materialize. They are also expecting to use \$12 billion in state reserves. The plan from the legislature rejects the governor's may revise proposals to reduce proposition 98 by \$8 billion, which consists of the 10% reduction to our funding formula, the loss of custom living adjustments and reductions to the state preschool reimbursement rates as well as about \$350 million in other reductions to categorical programs. So there is a two prong approach, one from the legislature and one from the governor shoot the federal funds, not materialized by September the legislative proposal call post for an additional trigger solutions, including additional deferrals by June 12. The main state budget needs to be in print in order to comply with the state 72 hour in print rule. Both houses of the legislature are expected to vote on June 15, which is the constitutional deadline to approve the state budget. The trailer bills detailing the proposals for school districts like ours may not necessarily be approved by them. However, it is expected that the assembly will be done by June 19, which is when their recess starts. It is expected that we will get a lot more information on June 15th to June 19th for our district as budget information continues to evolve at the state level and the deadlines for budget adoptions approach. Ggovernor Newsome implemented an executive order to allow districts to consolidate the LCAP public hearing and budget adoption in one Board meeting completed by July 1<sup>st</sup>. The governor's order provides districts under this uncertainties with some additional days to incorporate the new information and into the school districts budgets for Paramount Unified. It also allows our district to incorporate the required parameters provided by LACOE. So instead of a public hearing tonight and adoption on June 22nd, both processes will be completed in the June 22nd meeting as provided by the governor's executive order.

Dr. Myrna Morales, Assistant Superintendent-Human Resources shared that this will be the last week of the Back To School specialty small group meetings. The task force has collectively developed, drafts of school schedules to be used in a blended learning model that will allow students to safely come back to school while maintaining physical distancing you've made have noticed a change in terms from social distancing to physical distancing. And that was at the request of our social emotional group, who said, we are still together. The many guidance documents that are out there have been reviewed, and to ensure that we have covered all aspects, that are needed to return to school, our comprehensive social, emotional plan was shared with teams for feedback to consider all the support that students, staff and parents will need. We know that Paramount Unified School District quickly responded to provide distance learning without missing one day. Our teachers provided lessons. Now that we have more time, the teachers have worked to see what is needed to fortify distance learning in the areas of what trainings are needed for teachers, students, parents, and for our classified staff to assist in redesigning the curriculum that goes along with an online format or a blended format, and what the needed equipment is to be successful in delivering lessons and receiving these lessons, including providing our K-2 students with devices, parent and teacher surveys have been distributed, and the data collected will help us in planning for the fall. We have had a COVID protocol that was developed and shared last week with the small specialty groups. We received great feedback and we will continue to refine the plan. The task force will work on a communication mechanism to use over the summer to provide everyone updates so that they are aware of what to expect when they return. They will review the questions and answers the questions that have been collected and the answers that are available thus far. And we look forward to sharing all of their work at our Board meeting on June 22nd.

Dr. Perez announced to viewers that currently the District is surveying parents and families about the schedules for the fall of 2020. She encouraged parents to please provide feedback. Their input is very essential for the District as they continue to plan and bring forward to our Board of Education, a plan at the end of June.

Lucy Albera, Director-Nutrition Services share that they are continuing meal service at four meal distribution locations, Collins, Mokler, Los Cerritos and Wirtz from 8:30 AM to 11:00 AM. and will be continuing this type of meal service throughout the summer. She shared information on the pandemic EBT card, the CDE, the department of education of California, it's offering additional food benefits, benefits to families to buy groceries while schools are closed during COVID-19. All children who attend PUSD are eligible to receive the P EBT card because the District provides meals under the community eligibility provision, which is called CEP and provision. Once they receive the PBT card, they receive \$365 per eligible school aged child, since then the families have received. The state has received nearly 1.5 million PPT cards that has been issued to all eligible families throughout California, and over \$900 million in PBT purchases. Total weekly meals are averaging about 29,000 for total of breakfast and lunch and total meals and thus far since the school closures about 323,000 meals. Thank you.

Dr. Debbie Stark, Assistant Superintendent-Educational Services shared that all of our enrollment for grades K-5 for both new and returning students takes place online through an online math program called Schoolmint. Information was sent via tech and on the website, and have also passed out flyers at all elementary schools. In addition, a banner was posted at each of our elementary school campuses. As of last week, we have had over 3,400 K-5 students enrolled online and this number increases each week and we continue to monitor. The use of Schoolmint in grades K-5 now completes a K-12 sequence because all of our students, elementary, middle, and high school now enroll online well transition to summer school this year, summer school is a little bit different. This year, we have invited all of K-5 students to sign up for summer school. A link was sent via text to all parents and after just about a week, we've had over 900 parents respond. The focus for summer school will be on literacy and math, and it will include online learning and also follow up activities that are offline. As part of the survey that we sent out to parents, and as part of the registration process, we're asking parents what their technology needs are at home. If they have technology, especially for grades K-2, so that they can access the curriculum,

Dr. Ryan Smith, Assistant Superintendent-Secondary Educational Services shared at the secondary level they are well underway with plans for the summer school program at the high schools. There have three main categories of courses that will be offered this summer. The first category is credit recovery for students who might have failed a course somewhere during their time in high school and Edgenuity will be used as the primary platform. We have students that have signed up for those courses through the counseling department, their counselors have identified them notified parents. There are also various summer enrichment courses for example, a summer bridge program for eighth graders who are transitioning into ninth graders. Our counselors at the high schools have worked with the counselors at the middle schools, as well as teachers and staff at both middle schools and high schools to identify students who would benefit from participating in a summer bridge program. There are also various advanced placement prep type courses that happen during the summer as well. We also have a summer geometry course for students who are looking to get ahead in their math curriculum students that are currently ninth graders, or perhaps even 10th graders are encouraged to sign up. In addition, he shared about summer offerings that will be providing a barrier resources through Khan Academy for any student who is interested in improving their skills in really any course area that Khan provides. That would be English, math, science, computer science, history courses, as well, as well as SAT prep. Information will be sent out to all parents and students soon about how they can access that over the summer.

Dr. Elida Garcia, Director-Special Education shared that summer school planning for special education department has already started registration for extended school year. It started that last week and running registration through Friday, June 12th. The ESY schedule will take place June 22nd through July 17 and parents be registered both online and by phone and parents have gotten that information via, connect ed message as well as a written notice. The department is also finalizing curriculum resource guides and are looking at, incorporating academic skills throughout, within language arts and math for the students who have more moderate to severe needs. They are looking at Healthy living kind of learning theme for their curriculum resource guide. And at the middle school, they will be spotlighting a book, into book club type of format for them along with math and reading resources. The teachers will be trained in the technology platform to do it as why instruction as well as the curriculum resource guides and this will happen during the week of July 15th.

Mr. Jim Monico, Interim Director-Student Services shared that they continue connecting and supporting foster youth and the homeless community. There are 98 foster youth students and 128 homeless students over the past few weeks. The foster youth mentor staff has really focused on checking in, cell phones and emails to conduct with

each student, along with their focus on wellness as being a forefront of the conversation and helping with assignments. During these unsettling times, we continue to reach out to food banks and other organizations to help with securing food and other daily essentials for our families in need. We have participated in home deliveries and or parent pickups for foster youth and homeless families using social distancing, porch and doorstep drop-off deliveries. Recently, we partnered with TAP for the second time and set up a grocery parking lot drive through handing out \$25 gift cards and a box of nonperishable thick donations from the Salvation Army and the Los Angeles Dodgers, along with other grocery items and from other organizations with the Domino's gift cards, uh. We are in the process with DCSF or possibly securing up to 83 laptops and computers and 23 cell phones that will be donated or gifted by DCFS to some of our foster youth students.

Dr. Perez concluded with and shared that with the support of the Board, the District will be providing Chromebooks to all of our students in the fall that are in TK through grade two as well and all of our students in the district a will be provided with a technology device for the home.

## **5. 1 Board Meeting Calendar**

President Hansen shared with the Board that she would like to see if there is a possibility that the July meeting could be changed to July 6th or July 27th and informed Superintendent Perez that would necessitate her working with the Executive Cabinet and reaching out to the Board to see if either of those dates would work for them.

The following question was received: is there a reason the 13th does not work (Gomez)

There were no changes to the Board Meeting Calendar.

## **6. Consent Items**

### **6.1 Approve Consent Items 6.2 - 6.7**

Resolution: Recommend of approval of Consent items as presented.

Recommend of approval of Consent items as presented.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **6.2 Personnel Report 19-12**

Resolution: Accept Personnel Report 19-12 as submitted. The report includes details, assignments, terminations and employment of personnel. Certain assignments listed in this report may be contingent upon allocation of funding in the 2019-20 State Budget Act and related legislation.

Recommend of approval of Consent items as presented.

The following question/discussion took place: why are stipends being paid for dates dating back to August, 2019, the teacher induction support provider and also the curriculum specialist dating back to July, 2019 (Gomez).

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **6.3 Consultant Services - Human Resources**

Resolution: Approve the Consultant Services Request authorizing contracts with consultants or independent contractors who provide specialized services, as submitted

Recommend of approval of Consent items as presented.

The following question/discussion took place: want to take in consideration what the president of TAP had mentioned and that we need to be very crucial and determine do these programs, or does this creation of an employee assistant program, does it really benefit the employees and to what impact does it benefit them (De Leon), is this position essential (De Leon).

President Hansen shared a comment she received from TAP President Kim Goforth - Because Kim is not in the audience and we are not a live meeting, she has texted her to say this is a very essential program and because trauma is real and this is a service that our employees value.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

#### **6.4 Consultant and Contract Services -Educational Services**

Resolution: Approve the Consultant and Contract Services request authorizing contracts with consultants or independent contractors who provide specialized service as submitted

Recommend of approval of Consent items as presented.

The following discussion/questions took place: how many visual impaired students do we have in the District (Gomez), there is a formula that we use for it to not exceed \$170,000 is that correct (Gomez), why the additional \$131,000 from LCAP funds (Gomez), don't understand with so many nurses being around, why one was not secured (Gomez), how many applications did we get for the nurse position (Gomez)

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

#### **6.5 Carl D. Perkins Grant Applications for Grades 7-12**

Resolution: Approve the submission of application for Carl D. Perkins Grant for the 2020-21 school year.

Recommend of approval of Consent items as presented.

There were questions/discussion on the following: but how are we using this grant for special education (De Leon), what programs can a students with special needs apply for or go to? So you would say, is this more a program for a mild-moderate, or moderate to severe or both (De Leon)

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

#### **6.6 Memorandum of Understanding with the Long Beach Guidance Center**

Resolution: Approve Memorandum of Understanding with Long Beach Guidance Center for the 2020-2021 school year.

Recommend of approval of Consent items as presented.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

#### **6.7 Memorandum of Understanding with United Friends of the Children, Foster Youth - College Readiness Program**

Resolution: Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with United Friends of the Children, Foster Youth - College Readiness Program for the 2020-2021 school year.

Recommend of approval of Consent items as presented.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

#### **6.8 Carl D. Perkins Grant Application for Adult Education**

Resolution: Approve the submission of the application for Carl D. Perkins Grant for the 2020-21 school year.

Recommend of approval of Consent items as presented.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **6.9 Purchase Order Report 19-12**

Resolution: Approve Purchase Order Report 19-12 authorizing the purchase of supplies, equipment, and services for the District.

Recommend of approval of Consent items as presented.

There were questions/discussion on the following: PPE Supplies, could we have received a discount by bidding on these items out by one vendor instead of having four vendors to save money (Gomez), these are PPE supplies that we bought to last us through this school is that correct (Hansen)

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **6.10 Consultant Services - Business Services**

Resolution: Approve the Consultant Services requests authorizing contracts with consultants or independent contractors who provide specialized services and authorize the Superintendent or designee to execute all necessary documents

Recommend of approval of Consent items as presented.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

## **7. Action Items**

### **7.1 Addendum to Employment Agreement between Paramount Unified School District and Dr. Ruth Perez**

Approve the addendum to employment agreement between Paramount Unified School District and Superintendent Dr. Ruth Perez.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **7.2 Employment Agreement between Paramount Unified School District and Dr. Ruth Perez**

Approve the extension to employment agreement between Paramount Unified School District and Superintendent Dr. Ruth Perez.

Motion by Linda Garcia, second by Carmen Gomez. Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

Nay: Sonia De Leon

### **7.3 Employment Agreements - Assistant Superintendents**

Approve the extension to employment agreements for Assistant Superintendents Mr. Ruben Frutos, Dr. Myrna Morales, Dr. Ryan Smith and Dr. Deborah Stark.

The following comments were received from the Board: Board Member De Leon commented that in reference to the contract she feels like it wasn't really discussed. The classified and the certificated staff their contracts for the



CSEA employees has not been changed or since 2017 and the teachers hasn't been since 2019. She was hoping that we would have that collaborative conversation of the community and stakeholders to determine what positions we cut. When Verdugo was around, we only had three assistant superintendents. We currently have four, and I know times are tough, but we need to have those discussions of cutting a position instead of just approving and having these individuals insuring themselves a three-year contract without anyone else. Everyone else being left behind and she feels that is unethical and unfair.

Board Member Gomez commented that she noticed that on the contract that says that the superintendent evaluates the assistant superintendents, but does the Board get to see the evaluations?

Vice President Cuarenta commented that she respects all of her colleagues comments, but she does want to add while Dr. Verdugo is amazing in his own, he did great for our students. She would recommend that any colleague or any community member look to the strategic plan that was created 2017 to 2022 it will really solidify what our administrators, our employees the very people who are in these contracts, what they've done and what we should all believe they will do for our students. And she trusts that the data will speak for itself that Dr. Stark, Mr. Frutos, Dr. Morales and Dr. Smith have done great for our students and they will continue doing so, thank you.

Motion by Linda Garcia, second by Carmen Gomez  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta  
Nay: Sonia De Leon

#### **7.4 AB 288 Agreement with Compton College**

Approve the AB 288 Agreement with Compton College to continue offering a pathway for students to earn an Associate's Degree in Administration of Justice by the time of graduation.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

#### **7.5 School Study/Incentive Trips**

Approve the school sponsored study/incentive trips to provide students with experiences that extend grade-level curriculum.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Yesenia Cuarenta.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

#### **7.6 Los Angeles County Office of Education: Tobacco-Use Prevention Education-Vaping Awareness Mini Grant**

Accept the funds from Los Angeles County Office of Education: Tobacco-Use Prevention Education-Vaping Awareness program to provide presentations on the dangers of vaping.

Motion by Linda Garcia, second by Carmen Gomez.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

#### **7.7 Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Award**

Accept funds for the CTE Incentive Grant Award to develop students' skills enrolled in Career Technical Education Programs.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

#### **7.8 Approval and Adoption of Science Textbooks and Instructional Materials for Grades 9-12**

Approve the adoption and purchase of texts and instructional materials for high school science classes in 2020-21.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Sonia De Leon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **7.9 Physical Education Exemption for High School Students**

Approve physical education course exemptions for students who meet the criteria for either the Two-year exemption or the Permanent exemption.

Motion by Linda Garcia, second by Sonia De Leon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **7.10 Memorandum of Understanding with University of California -Early Academic Outreach Program- EAOP**

Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with The University of California Irvine's Early Academic Outreach Program to continue to provide college outreach services to students at Paramount High School in 2020-21.

Motion by Vivian Hansen, second by Carmen Gomez.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **7.11 Edgenuity, Inc. Summer Licenses**

Approve the purchase of 2020 Summer School Edgenuity Digital Licenses.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **7.12 2019-2020 Budget Adjustments as of May 31, 2020**

Approve the 2019-2020 Budget Adjustments for the General Funds, Unrestricted and Restricted, Adult Education Fund, Child Development Fund, Deferred Maintenance Fund and Measure I Fund.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **7.13 Notice of Completion – Field Service Contract**

Accept as completed the Field Service Contract as listed above and authorize the Superintendent or designee to file the Notice of Completion and make payment to all contracted parties upon expiration of the lien period and determination that no liens are outstanding.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **7.14 Resolution 19-35, Assignment of Delinquent Tax Receivables**

Adopt Resolution 19-35,

Assignment of Delinquent Tax Receivables, authorizing the District to extend its contract to participate in the selling and assignment to a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) any or all of its rights, title and interest in the collection of delinquent and uncollected property taxes and assessments for three fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **7.15 Authorization to Make Appropriation Transfers**

Authorize the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools to make appropriate transfers at the close of the 2019-2020 school year.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **7.16 Authorization to Use State Government Contract and Piggyback Bids**

Authorize staff to use State-level contracts as described, and further authorize the Superintendent or designee to sign all documents as required for use of cooperative bid contracts

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Sonia De Leon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **7.17 Authorization to Renew Student Nutrition Supplies, and Field Service Contracts**

Authorize renewal of food and building supplies and field service contracts. Further, authorize the Superintendent or designee to execute all necessary documents.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **7.18 Emergency Meal Distribution Equipment Grant Application**

Ratify the submission for the Emergency Meal Distribution Equipment Grant Application.

Motion by Sonia De Leon, second by Carmen Gomez.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **7.19 Memorandum of Understanding Between Los Angeles County Office of Education and Paramount Unified School District**

Ratify the Memorandum of Understanding between Los Angeles County Office of Education and Paramount Unified School District to assist families with providing tools to facilitate online distance learning initiatives during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Motion by Linda Garcia, second by Carmen Gomez.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

### **7.20 Award Waste Hauling and Recycling Services**

Award contract for Waste Hauling and Recycling Services to Consolidated Disposal Service, L.L.C. dba Republic Services and authorize Superintendent or designee to execute all necessary documents.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta

## **8. Discussion**

### **8.1 Culturally Responsive Teaching - Yesenia Cuarenta**

Vice President Cuarenta wished to first define what culturally responsive teaching is and wants to emphasize that if any community member or stakeholder wants to know what our current staff members did when they came to Paramount and what they continue to do, she invites them to look at the Strategic Plan. When Dr. Perez came in and her staff, they really did a great job of really decreasing overall suspension, truancy, and chronic absentee rates for all students. To ensure that no student group is overrepresented in them, specifically African American students. She has spoken with some of our students. She herself had an experience with an educator in our district that made

some comments that are very biased to the students that she works with. She defined what culturally responsive teaching is. So culturally responsive pedagogy is a student centered approach to teaching in which the student's unique cultural strengths are identified and nurtured to promote student achievement and a sense of wellbeing about this cultural place in the world. Given that a majority of teachers hail from the middle class European American background, the biggest obstacle to successful culturally responsive instruction for most educators is disposing of their own cultural biases and learning about the backgrounds of the students that they will be teaching. The process necessary for preparing to teach in a culturally responsive classroom could be broken down into three general categories, exploring one's own culture, learning about other cultures and learning about students' culture. She has met with Dr. Smith and Dr. Stark, and they did a great job of explaining the programs in place.

President Hansen commented that she would like to better understand what is being done now and maybe ask the superintendent to get with her executive cabinet and hear what is being done now and where the missing pieces may be and where we are trying to go with this. This was a great discussion and she thinks we have work to do, and let's keep focus on this. She is glad that the state board was trying to get their act together and finally decide what they feel the proper curriculum is. There will be a lot of good conversation now with what's happened in the last few months. And it may be that there will be some serious changes made.

Dr. Perez shared that reflecting on what she has heard, 2020 has really turned out to be an incredible year, not only the pandemic, but what's happening across our country right now with regard to culture. One of the conversations that we've had on the executive team with regard to everything that we have learned in the last few months. We have all learned a lot in the process of meeting the needs of our community in different ways. People talk about going back to back to normal, but what is normal number one, and do we want to go back to the way we have always done things before and because we've learned so much and we have grown, and a lot of that has been positive things that we have learned as educators and as citizens and as community members. She thinks that in discussing this with her executive team when the pandemic is over, when everyone is back physically in sight, she would really like to have a forum with our internal community, as well as our external community, to look at what we've learned and what we want to continue to put in practice. As we reflect on everything that we have learned. would like to echo everything that the Board has said, and continue to work on it. This is a continuous work in education. Dr. Perez shared that the District does offer ethnic studies in the school system.

Board Member De Leon commented that she has been pushing the agenda to include ethnic studies. A constituent asked her "how do we go about teaching our students about race and racism? She asked for clarification in what Dr. Perez said that we already have ethnic studies and if so, where at? She added that she has been speaking to teachers at the high school and they never mentioned that ethnic study group or program. She is now learning it is embedded into the Compton College but it's only for a small narrative of students. Other school districts have moved forward and they already have ethnic studies. She is hoping that someone can seek their information on how and move forward.

Board member Garcia thanked Ms. Cuarenta for bringing this forward and commented that she believes that it is time for this program to get started. She thinks it could be healing in the process and very useful for everyone at a time like this. It shouldn't have had to have come down to something as terrible as this before we had just done something about it. She shared that Victor Thompson has a Pacific Islanders conference every year and it is a wonderful program that he has put on for several years now.

Board member Gomez commented that last year, we had two forums that she did when she was president. The first thing she asked was we need ethnic studies in our school district and nothing had ever been done. So she echoes what Board member De Leon says. We need to start having these kinds of classes in our curriculum.

Dr. Ryan Smith added that at this point in time an ethnic studies course is embedded into our work with Compton College as an offering for students that are currently in our AB 288 program and are moving through that program. That is a natural part of the curriculum that we offer to that particular group of students at this time. He added that the state of California is in the process of developing a model curriculum and that model curriculum has been in the works for quite some time.

## **9. Announcements**

**9.1 President Hansen announced that the next Regular Meeting would be Monday, June 22, 2020, 6:00 p.m**

### **9.2 Employee Comment Per Government Code 54957**

President Hansen responded to a comment from a previous Board meeting in February of accusations that were made by a Board member about the law firm the district employs. She accused the firm of providing mortgages to superintendents and when questioned, she said she could provide proof, she has not. She also stated that the firm did not have a very good reputation. The law firm responded to the accusations and President Hansen wants the record to reflect what the memo that was sent to the Board of Education said. In part, the memorandum said the comments made from Mrs. De Leon were accusatory in nature and have the effect of tarnishing of Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo. The law firm. The memo went on to state, they have been in business over 40 years, represent over 450 public school districts, community college districts, California state university, and the Regents of the university of California. The law firm has received numerous awards over the years, have a diverse well-rounded and global staff post educational conferences and regularly present seminars to over 33 educational organizations throughout the state. To respond specifically to the allegations made by Mrs. De Leon, the memo stated what this firm is accused of is a total falsehood. And we hope this information puts to rest any questions about the ethics of the law firm and underscores the caution to be exercised in making public comments that have no basis in fact, thank you.

## **10. Closed Session**

10.1 Conference with Labor Negotiator per Govt. Code 54957.6

10.2 Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation per Govt. Code 54956.9 (b)

10.3 Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release per Govt. Code 54957

## **11. Reconvene Open Session**

The Board reconvened to open session at 8:13 p.m. Board President Hansen announced that in Closed session the Board discussed the following:

10.1 Conference with Labor Negotiator per Govt. Code 54957.6

10.2 Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation per Govt. Code 54956.9 (b)

10.3 Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release per Govt. Code 54957

In Closed Session the Board took action on the following: The Board of Education approved a resignation agreement and general release with certificated employee#4805.

Motion by Linda Garcia, secondy by Carmen Gomez.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Yesenia Cuarenta

Nae: Vivian Hansen

## 12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Motion by Linda Garcia, secondy by Carmen Gomez.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Carmen Gomez, Linda Garcia, Sonia De Leon, Yesenia Cuarenta, Vivian Hansen