

## **Regular Meeting of Board of Education - Conducted Telephonically - 6:00 p.m. (Monday, October 12, 2020)**

### **1.1 Call To Order**

The Regular meeting of October 12, 2020 was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

### **1.2 Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dr. Deborah Stark, Assistant Superintendent-K-8 Educational Services

### **1.3 Roll Call**

Members present:

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

### **1.4 Approve Regular Meeting Agenda October 12, 2020**

Superintendent Perez informed the Board that a correction was need to item 7.2. The item should include RFP 7-19-20 and not Bid 4-18-19. The agenda was approved with the amendment noted.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **1.5 Regular Meeting Minutes September 14, 2020**

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Sonia De Leon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **1.6 Special Meeting Minutes September 21, 2020**

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

## **2. Employee Representative Reports**

April O'Connor- TAP President - President Hansen, board members, Superintendent Dr. Perez, executive cabinet and guests. My name is April O'Connor and I'm the president of the Teacher Association of Paramount. To start with, the level of effort of engagement with our teachers and students is inspiring. And this setting, it's not easy to build these relationships with students and parents, but our educators are going over and beyond. And I know that they look forward to meeting and speaking with parents this week during conferences. We are in mid October time. And it's about time that we go through and do some analysis of how things are working. We do need to do some reevaluation. At this point, our stakeholders have not been meeting for our back to school taskforce, LCAP or the budget committee since middle of August. None of these committees have had input from the parents or educators. Yet without this input that is dictated with the parameters of LCAP, spending still continues. Educators and parents are partners in distance learning, and we can see where the needs are. One site purchased, has spent for all their students so they would actually be able to focus in their environment. This is how teachers and parents work together to problem solve for their students. This is the kind of partnership that we need and the kind of communication we need to have with the district to make sure that we're in the best learning environment for our students. I'm asking the school board to make sure that we have meeting dates for these very important meetings for our stakeholders to participate in before we move forward in next steps. Thank you and have a good evening.

CSEA - Brent McCarty -Good evening Board President Hansen, Board Members, Superintendent Dr. Perez, Cabinet, and community. We want to begin by acknowledging the salary agreement before you. It took MANY sessions and many CONCESSIONS on the part of CSEA but we are proud that we came to this agreement with the district and our members have overwhelmingly approved it. Moving on - as we all know, COVID-19 isn't going away. We know that after tonight, the board and district are going to discuss the logistics regarding our students' return to school. As you know, CSEA and the district have NOT come to an agreement regarding our OWN return to work sites –

even though our members have been working since this all started. When you drive by our school sites and see cars in the parking lot, those are classified employees. When our children come pick up their books, chromebooks, breakfasts, and lunches – those are classified employees doing the work. We need assurance that our employees will NOT be forced to come into work while sick, risking our students' health and the health of others on our sites. As you know, CSEA has been compelling YOU – the board, to see that the federal minimum of 80 hours of COVID leave simply isn't enough. If we are to follow the word and the training that the district gave us on July 15, we are supposed to practice strict sanitizing guidelines and self-quarantining when COVID exposure happens. Members are concerned with the lack of transparency from the district in regards to notification of exposure or possible exposure at work sites. Our members continue to provide the services the district needs without having the reassurance that the district will take care of them when they need it. We look forward to discussing these and other issues with the District, soon.

**3. Public Hearing - The following public comments were provided live/received and read word for word - three (3) minute time limit applied.**

**Lisa Lappin** (Telephonic) - This is Lisa Lapin veteran teacher from who retired in 2018. For the record in her statement of candidacy, Mrs. Garcia writes that she promises to do research about air quality and always listen to teacher's concerns. In June, 2014, I emailed all PUSD Board members asking you all, please, to attend the meeting. Paramount unified city home regarding whether Carlton Forge be given a permit to burn diesel fuel 24/7 to fuel their forklift. No one from the Board attended. Concerned, residents and teachers asked that electricity be used instead of diesel to reduce emissions reaching Lincoln school as we had learned in January, 2015 from AQM D that Carlton Forge was admitting elevated levels of hexavalent chromium, nickel that we're reaching a metal monitor, on top the district office, no PUSD Board members attended the commissioners meeting and we were unanimously overruled. I forwarded the previous Board a petition to the Director of the Department of Toxic Substance Control, requesting that they test the soil in Paramount for toxic deposition for a mile around Carlton Forge, only Board member Pena would sign it. I took it to Sacramento with 500 signatures when DTSC attempted to take soil samples. In October 2014, the Department Government Agency DTSC was refused access to Lincoln school. In 2016, I emailed Board members Pena and Garcia about a meeting regarding toxic emissions to be held in Paramount. No former Board members attended at that meeting. We learned that a metal forging company was grinding map toxic metal and the open air next to Gaines school. I sent an email that the former Board please advocate for this to stop. There was no response. Furthermore Mrs. Garcia's statement reads that all the schools have been thoroughly tested when only Lincoln, Zamboni and Gaines have been partially tested. This is Garcia credits the Board with obtaining most MERV 16 filters. Board member De Leon and I were responsible for actively seeking a grant provider for these MERV 16 filters that will be installed and, or have been in six of the 20 schools. So these are just facts that I can forward you the data to support and I just want to put on public record.

**Monica Rodriguez** (Telephonic - Spanish) -Good evening members of the Governing Board, superintendent, and parents that are listening via internet. As mothers of children with special needs, we are very aware to the unacceptable fact that our children are always segregated and are the last ones to be considered. The support that are offered to them in the departments of special education without this district being the exception is the minimum that the law requires. Our children do not receive the opportunity to develop their maximum potential and their abilities to grow academically and socially independent. It is not surprising that when our children leave school they are not adequately prepared to succeed with labor and social skills. As you can understand, at the time that we had to take the virtual classes due to the pandemic has generated a great change with anxiety and suffering in our children and it has us parents extremely worried by the academic regress that is evident. For the same reasons that our children have needs based on their IEPs, the virtual learning is tremendously difficult for them. The space that the parents can count on is reduced. There are other children in the households that take classes at the same time and the noise does not allow them to concentrate. To this date, this Board of Education has been mute to these urgent needs and we have not heard of any type of advice of how parents can support our children. We hear that there is tutoring for general education students, but again the needs and the rights of our children on an integral education is ignored. Enough with so much segregation. 'Our children's lives also count. Our children must be included in the support programs that the District offers to other students. The parents of students with special needs demand clear answers about our children's education during this time of the pandemic. What has the District done to prepare for our children's return to school? How are they going to make it so that they can achieve the goals set out in their IEP? How are you going to support our students to overcome the tremendous impact that virtual learning is causing in their education? We will not accept one more day of exclusion, discrimination, and

educational negligence for our students with special needs. We need to be included now. Thank you. More than words, we expect prompt action. Good night.

**Gerald Cerda** (Telephonic) - Good evening President Hansen, Board members, Superintendent and fellow residents of Paramount. Tonight I was listening to some of the conversations and I noticed that there was a little pushback and we do understand that there's a Brown Act and the first amendment and trying to suppress the residents or dictate the residents and what they can and cannot say on a public meeting is clearly incorrect. Tonight I would like to mention that I've been canvassing in our community and there's a lot of folks that have brought up many concerns with the school district. For one is that the folks in the wrestling still haven't gotten any CIF recognition, even though they did really good the last two years that's something that's overdue and should be addressed immediately if it's due. The other thing is with students with special education is there's rumors that they're going to start soon. But some parents have brought up the option of probably teaching outdoors or in a gym or in a cafeteria, something where they they're shaded from the elements to do some, some schooling, some education, maybe the groups could be smaller maybe 15 to 1 teacher ratio versus a 30 or 40 whatever is going on right now. But that was a good idea from a parent that was mentioned as we were canvassing for the election. But there's a lot of folks out there that have good ideas and it seems like the district, our district is always the last one to implement them. There's other school districts South and North of Paramount that have already started these sports program. And it seems like we're the last ones as well. So it seems like we need to look forward and start implementing the idea of that and the concerns that the residents are mentioning. So we don't fall back too far behind. So that's some of the concerns that some of the residents have brought up as I've been canvassing here for this election for November the third. But thank you very much and I appreciate it. Thank you.

**Sandra Enriquez** – Hello Board Members and guests. I find it very concerning when I learn of services being offered by the PUSD in a community FB page vs. official notification in form of a letter in the mail or automated message. Especially, when I know there are parents not on FB who can benefit from the information being shared. What I am referring to, is that desks are being offered to students who need them. As a Parent of a Special Ed Student, it was disappointing to see the lack of support for our kids. For example; on page 7 of the students continuity plan, it's say's "hotspots" were being prioritized for students with disabilities, but to date, each time I ask for a hot spot I'm being told they are out, I feel the Special ED kids have been the most impacted by this pandemic, you need to show better support to their educational needs and ensure they are receiving all services they are rightfully entitled to.

**Carmela Hernandez** - Hello Board Members, and PUSD Cabinet, my name is Carmela. I am a member of the California School Employees Association Paramount Chapter 447. I have been employed Paramount Unified for 5 years as a nutrition services work. I work at west campus. I love my job and serving the community. I am proud to be an essential worker making a difference in people's lives. Respectfully, Carmela PUSD nutrition services work CSEA Chapter 447 member.

**Evelyn Smith**- When will we get a raise.

**Anonymous**- Hello everyone, I am a teacher in Paramount Unified. Two weeks ago, we were notified in the morning of our staff meeting that we have Parent Conferences in the week of the 12th. As more and more information in being loaded on us, more and more teachers started to turn their cameras off. Why? The reason is because we are crying and didn't want our peers to see our ugly cry faces. Many messaged in the chat agreeing to the amount of work we need to do to schedule conferences in addition to our nonstop phone calls home. We are constantly put to the test of how much our plates can fill. It is already full and more and more things are still being added on. We wipe our tears and in 5 minutes, we put on our fake happy face to start our class. We are overwhelmed and exhausted with all the work that we need to do. Let me explain my Thursday's schedule last week. I wake up and immediately start to prepare for the day's lesson. Lunch break was cut short because a student needed my help while I'm replying back to 5 different emails. I continue to teach until 1:50 p.m. Some students stayed longer because they needed my help. I open another google meet to start my office hours at 1:50 in which 5 students were in attendance. Each student requires something different and it's definitely testing my multi-tasking skills to be able to respond to each student's needs while opening up different tabs to fill my 3 different monitors. Parent Teacher Conferences were nicely scheduled by our support staff at 2pm and I'm really grateful for that and I had to open another google meet to attend this meeting so I can give my two cents regarding about this particular student's 13 missing assignments. So now, I'm on 3 different video conferences while having headphones to listen and muting and unmuting myself for different video conferences to speak. As students are completing their work and is able to do it on their own, they start to leave. Parent Conference has

completed and now I'm working with that particular student to complete their 13 missing assignment. I stay with this student until 5pm and was able to complete 7 of 13 missing assignment. With feeling success, I am now exhausted. However, I'm not done planning for the next day's lesson. So here I am rushing through dinner so I can start planning. Because I have 2 different courses to prep, I didn't finish planning until 10:30pm which totals to more than 12 hours of working time a day. Everyone keeps telling me to "balance and don't work after contract time." I am thinking, how is that even possible? If I stop at contract time, my 5 students wouldn't receive my help, my one particular student wouldn't be able to complete 7 assignments, and my classes will not be ready for the next day. That day, I know I was THERE for my students and I am ALWAYS THERE for my students. Can the district be THERE for us teachers? When do we get a break? We need less on our plate, more help with paperwork, more help with phone calls home so I can actually focus on being a teacher to create more engaging lessons. Thank you and please do something for us. We need help!

**Alex Gonzalez** - I've watched the last three tech Tuesday videos with my wife and they have been very helpful and informing. It is hard to understand how to support our kids with the computers at home so these help a lot. I've noticed our kids schools are also including some computer stuff in there meetings too so it's good that parents have a lot of options to get help. Good job.

**Patricia Quintero** - Hello Board Members, and PUSD Cabinet, my name is Patricia Quintero. I am a member of the California School Employees Association Paramount Chapter 447. I have been employed at Paramount Unified for 14 years as an Instructional Aide For Special Ed. I work at Collins. I love my job and serving the community. I am proud to be an essential worker making a difference in peoples' lives. Since the pandemic, many of us have been called back to work at our sites. Even with distance learning. We understand that as public school employees, our work is essential and that families, our kids, parents and teachers are counting on us. But we are risking exposure to COVID-19 every time we come to work. The District can follow all the health guidelines - install the plexiglass and give us face coverings but we are still taking a risk. We also know that it can take a long time to recover if you do get sick and we can quickly run out of sick days even with the Cares Act. I don't want to go to work if I'm sick. I don't want to spread the virus. But if I don't have enough sick days, what choice will I have? That is why we are asking you today to approve the additional 80 hours of leave we are asking for. To make sure classified employees can afford to stay home if they need to and keep our loved ones and community safe. Respectfully, Patricia Quintero PUSD Instructional Aide For Special Ed  
CSEA Chapter 447 member

**Brent McCarty**- Hello Board Members, and PUSD Cabinet, my name is Brent McCarty. I am a member of the California School Employees Association Paramount Chapter 447. I have been employed Paramount Unified for 14 years as a maintenance worker. I work at operations. I love my job and serving the community. I am proud to be an essential worker making a difference in peoples' lives. Since the pandemic, many of us have been called back to work at our sites. Even with distance learning. We understand that as public school employees, our work is essential and that families, our kids, parents and teachers are counting on us. But we are risking exposure to COVID-19 every time we come to work. The District can follow all the health guidelines - install the plexiglass and give us face coverings but we are still taking a risk. We also know that it can take a long time to recover if you do get sick and we can quickly run out of sick days even with the Cares Act. I don't want to go to work if I'm sick. I don't want to spread the virus. But if I don't have enough sick days, what choice will I have? That is why we are asking you today to approve the additional 80 hours of leave we are asking for. To make sure classified employees can afford to stay home if they need to and keep our loved ones and community safe. Respectfully, Brent McCarty  
PUSD Maintenance worker CSEA Chapter 447 member

**Alex Maldonado** - Good Evening Board Members, and PUSD Cabinet. My name is Alex Maldonado. I am a member of CSEA and I have been employed by PUSD for 10 years as an Instructional Material Distribution Technician. I work at EVERY site. I TRULY love my job and serving our students. I am proud to be an essential worker, making a difference in our students' lives. Since the pandemic started, many of us have been called back to work at our sites - I have been back full time since May. I do understand that the work we do is essential, mine included as our students need books and digital access to be able to attend class remotely with their WONDERFUL teachers. In my particular situation, I am blessed to be alone most of the time in my section of the warehouse. Other employees are not as fortunate. I know that our night custodians are still being transported together in vans to go to sites, our food service workers HAVE BEEN working non-stop since March, technology and support staff have also been coming in, though with rotations. While we do all accept the risk in our work, we feel that the district isn't doing enough to safe guard their employees against COVID. The Cares Act only guarantees 80 hours of leave in case we're exposed to, show symptoms of, or test positive for COVID. COVID sickness can last for more

than 2 weeks and our members can quickly exhaust those 80 hours. Evictions and job losses are happening at levels unseen since the Great Depression - if our members run out of sick time and have exhausted their CARES leave due to a previous exposure or illness, they may be forced to come in while sick. This would put our students at risk and other employees as well. That's not a decision that ESSENTIAL district employees should have to make. I want PUSD to put their money where their mouth is and agree to give our members an additional 80 hours of COVID-related leave. I am honestly stunned that we are now in OCTOBER and we still haven't come to an agreement. You can do better. Thank you.

**Anonymous** - I think it needs to be addressed how school is being taught online. I'm a senior in two AP classes, and in my experience work is piled on day by day as I'm given tests every week. This would be more manageable in an average classroom setting, but it's online, and we're in the middle of a pandemic. The stress is accumulating for me and my fellow students. Not to mention the students who have other problems to deal with. What I'm trying to say is that the stakes for a good grade is so high, even during this time. Students are more concerned with turning in assignments on time rather than learning the actual material. Direct teaching is being watered down by the amount of homework due. I want to know what the board thinks about this legitimate issue.

**Observant Teacher** - I've taught here for 12 years now. I love my job, love my students and families, and love my colleagues. Normally, I'd used my name (you all know me), but I am fearful of retaliation by two of our board members if things get worse. I've never been political but I've always been observant. One of the reasons Paramount has been a great place to teach has been the stable supportive leadership of the board. Sadly, this could change for the worse in a month. I've observed from afar the divisiveness, hostility, and disrespect that two new members of the board brought with them in 2018 on behalf of "constituents" they claim to represent. Since joining the board Gomez and De Leon haven't accomplished anything at all other than making the district look bad on YouTube by complaining about everything. They haven't visited my school ever or most others according to TAP, don't know what's happening in any of our classrooms according to TAP, and seem to be caught up in issues that aren't really the district's problem like ranting on and on about air quality in the city. With them around the culture in the district has gotten worse not better despite the strong foundation in place before they arrived. Just watch any board meeting. Between them and their crazy "constituents" they are a circus. We don't need more of this on the board. We don't need their like minded friends or family members on the board. I hope the people of paramount choose wisely in November.

**Hailey Giczy** - Hello Board Members, and PUSD Cabinet, my name is Hailey Giczy. I am a member of the California School Employee Association Paramount Chapter 447. I have been employed Paramount Unified for 4 years as a Senior Library Technician. I work at Paramount High School Senior Campus. I love my job and serving the community. I am proud to be an essential worker making a difference in peoples' lives. Since the pandemic, many of us have been called back to work at our sites. Even with distance learning. We understand that as public school employees, our work is essential and that families, our kids, parents and teachers are counting on us. But we are risking exposure to COVID-19 every time we come to work. The District can follow all the health guidelines - install the plexiglass and give us face coverings but we are still taking a risk. We also know that it can take a long time to recover if you do get sick and we can quickly run out of sick days even with the Cares Act. I don't want to go to work if I'm sick. I don't want to spread the virus. But if I don't have enough sick days, what choice will I have? What choice will my colleagues have? Limiting our ill time during the pandemic will force sick people to come to work and get others sick. That is why we are asking you today to approve the additional 80 hours of leave we are asking for. To make sure classified employees can afford to stay home if they need to and keep our loved ones and community safe. Respectfully, Hailey Giczy PUSD Senior Library Technician CSEA Chapter 447 member

**Anonymous** - My daughter is in kindergarten and is on the computer too long. She has headaches and sometimes I don't have her go on in the afternoon because of it. It is too much time on the computer. I talked to teacher about it at back to school night and the poor lady looked like she was going to have a breakdown. I don't want to get her in trouble, my son had her a couple years ago and she is a great teacher. This is too much! When are parents going to have a say in this?

**Nelda McCone Praytor** - Dear President Hansen, members of the board, and Dr. Perez, I know that you will be hearing a presentation on the new grading policy. Under this policy, there is a pass or fail option for select students in grades 6 through 8. I have students that I have not seen in class at all, and a few that I have seen on an infrequent basis due to wifi issues. I can't in good conscience give these students passing grades when they have not completed any assignments at all. I also don't feel right about giving them a D or F, when their ability to

complete their assignments is based on Wifi, which is probably based on income. I am asking that you include an option of No Mark for middle school as well as high school. Thank you for your consideration.

**Anonymous** - I don't think enough gratitude is ever expressed in your meetings. They are too negative now. Never used to be that way. Changed a couple of years ago. Let's start a new trend and express thanks for the good work that teachers, staff and administrators are all doing. I'd like to start by thank Dr. Perez for all she has done for our district since coming here. Our district is more innovative, supportive, and well run than ever and it's due to her leadership. She has also brought in great leadership in people like Dr. Frutos, Dr. Jeffrey, Dr. Smith, Dr. Wolff, Ms. Kraus, Dr. Scott, Mr. Nuthall, and others who have brought a needed fresh perspective and changes to the district while at the same time they have worked well with those who were already here. Thank you Dr. Perez for all you have done! Thank you for bringing in new leaders and making change. Bravo. It's not easy what you do. Gratitude is the way forward.

**Anonymous** - Good evening. I am a teacher and I am very concerned about the decisions being made and the workload teachers are enduring currently. It's getting worse every day and more things are being put on our plates. I would like to ask the district and the board to talk to teachers and parents and respectfully search for the facts on what is happening. There has not been a back to school task force meeting since before school started. There have not been any School Site Council meetings since before March. There have not been any LCAP meetings with teachers and parents present yet both the district and some members of the board continue to publicly tell parents decisions are being made based on input from us. They are not. I do not see how we can create a better environment for students. parents, and teachers when we do not work together, there is no pushback, no questions, no asking to modify or change things that could improve, and everyone keeps voting yes and pushing things through. How does this create the change I hear so many of you talk about? Do you know many school districts have a day of only asynchronous instruction so their teachers can plan or grade? Do you realize the extent of teacher training now is go to a resource folder and find your answers? Do you realize we weren't even taught basic things like how to create a test on Schoology or post an assignment from a google doc? All of us have self-taught ourselves, are still teaching ourselves, yet we get more put on our plate every week: parent conferences without a modified schedule, collaboration forms now must be turned in weekly, IEP meetings are scheduled during our planning time plus paperwork to be filled out, evaluations and goal setting are due soon; more and more paperwork is being added yet no time is being added to do the basic things teachers need to do: create lessons and assessment. School board members have the power to make the change people want but instead of approving everything that comes across your desk, at some point, you need to talk to the people doing the work and create your own wants and needs for the people you represent. You are in control of that. Nothing is approved without your votes so please vote accordingly.

**Very concerned parent and community member** - Good evening President Hansen, Board Members, Superintendent Perez and audience. I submit my comment for tonight after tuning into the September 21st meeting and doing a little research when I heard a parent comment about a service her student was using and happy with. What I also heard was her comment about her being informed that Board members voted NO on other services that would help students. Rather than to listen and watch all the previous meetings I researched the minutes of your meetings and watched only a few meetings to see what services that would benefit students had been voted against by Board members. As a parent and voting community member of this district, I was appalled to have seen that Board member Gomez and De Leon voted no on services that would benefit our students who are our future. De Leon you voted against Carnegie Learning, Gaggle, an Agreement with Compton College for an Administration of Justice Course that would also give our students College Credit. Gomez and De Leon you recently voted against Sports for Learning and an Agreement with USC. WOW!!! in the eyes of a parent, I would think that student success is priority!!! I hope that it speaks volumes for students who will be voting in the years to come if you have the audacity to run again. As I mentioned previously, I am a voting community member for this District and I also did my research on who you are supporting or endorsing. Gomez, your HUSBAND is running for Board, that is a conflict don't you think, I know i do. Is Cuevas also a family member of yours? De Leon, you are endorsing Cerda who all he seems to care about is the Air quality based on what I have read and heard which as a resident, that issue is more for the City and the Air quality department. What I was happy to see after my research is that both employee associations for teachers and the classified staff did not endorse any of your candidates. I am glad that I tuned into the Board meeting from September 21st and thank the parent who spoke up as I now too will be watching these meetings more often to see how this Board conducts themselves. I also want to thank all staff for all the support they are providing our children and families during this time.

**Erika Marton** - Hello Board Members, and PUSD Cabinet, my name is Erika Marton. I am a member of the California School Employees Association Paramount Chapter 447. I have been employed Paramount Unified for thirteen years as a Senior School Office Assistant. I work at West Campus . I love my job and serving the community. I am proud to be an essential worker making a difference in peoples' lives. Since the pandemic, many of our members have been called back to work at our sites. Even with distance learning. We understand that as public school employees, our work is essential and that families, our kids, parents and teachers are counting on us. But those of us who do not have the option to work from home are risking exposure to COVID-19 every time they come to work. The District can follow all the health guidelines - install the plexiglass and give us face coverings but we are still potentially putting ourselves and our families at risk. We also know that it can take a long time to recover if you do get sick and we can quickly run out of sick days even with the Cares Act. I don't want anyone to go to work if they are sick and spread the virus. But if we don't have enough sick days, what choice will people have? That is why we are asking you today to approve the additional 80 hours of leave we are asking for. To make sure classified employees can afford to stay home if they need to and keep our loved ones and community safe. Respectfully, Erika Marton PUSD Senior School Office Assistant CSEA Chapter 447 member

**Darlene Ortega** - Good Evening, Dr. Ruth Perez, Superintendent, Board Members, Public and Parents listening to us online. As parents of children with special needs we know our children are always the last to be considered and segregated in every way possible. The support offered to them in the Departments of Special Education, are minimal. They are not given the opportunity to develop their skills to grow much more independent academically allowing them to reach their highest potential resulting in a more prepared individual for the work and social sphere. Parents with children with special needs are highly aware of the tremendous academic impact all these changes have had on our children. As you must understand, having to take classes virtually because of the Pandemic has generated in our children a tremendous change that causes anguish and uncertainty in our children and has all parents extremely concerned about the obvious academic setback that Special Education children will suffer. Special Education students find virtual learning difficult, the space their parents have may be small, if there are more children in the home who take classes at the same time, and noise does not allow them to concentrate. To date, we have not received any kind of counseling about how parents can assist our children. We hear that there is tutoring for general class students, but again the needs and right of our children to a comprehensive education, is ignored. Enough of this segregation, our children count, our children must be included in the support programs that the District offers to other students. How is the District preparing for our children's return to school? What is the District doing to ensure the students achieve the IEP goals? We want to know how they will help our children overcome the tremendous impact virtual learning is having on their education. We need to be included! Thank you very much, more than words, we expect prompt action and attention to our concerns.

**Anonymous** - Good evening, I have been listening to the board meeting lately, and I have noticed that a lot of individuals are not including their name. Have you asked yourselves why that is? I know of a lot of teachers who are afraid of being retaliated against for speaking up. It is not fair to tell individuals they are safe to share their concerns and then be harassed by their principals for speaking out. Our leadership should behave better and allow their staff to participate in the community and the union without fear of backlash. Thank you for your time.

**Anonymous Afraid of Retaliation** - Good evening esteemed Board members, District administrators, teachers and parents. We are living in difficult pandemic times now. It is more important now than ever before that everyone works together as a team or even better, as a family, if that is even possible. I would like to see the District sincerely allow the community the respect they deserve to be a voice in meetings, on committees and upon decisions that affect the Paramount parents and their children. Parents should not be allowed in and swept out as tokens for just one meeting. Parents should not just be part of the process just so the District administrators can check off parent participation because that is what it is feeling like. I'd like to see the District really believe parent input is valuable, not just in words but with reaching out to parents for their involvement consistently over time. We are in the health and safety of this pandemic together. We should be an integral part of the decision making of this reopening. My questions to you are 1) Do you agree parents should participate in this process? 2) If so, How will you assure parent participation in Reopening meetings, on District committees and to be part of the decision making process that directly affects their children? Thank you for your time.

**Special Education Teacher** - I am concerned that special ed teachers have not been informed that Dr. Elida Garcia has left PUSD, leaving us without a director of special education. We have heard things through the grapevine but there has been no communication from the district or the department. This is an extremely stressful time for us as educators and case carriers and we need to feel supported. Is there a plan in place to replace her? How can the district ensure that we retain an effective director in this position? I have worked in PUSD for 5 years

and have had 4 different directors of special education. We may need more than one person to share the position to guarantee some continuity. Thank you for your time.

There was an attempt to re-connect with a public speaker by the name of Guillermo Aznar whose call was dropped while on hold. After several attempts staff was not able to re-connect.

#### **4. Board Member Reports**

Board Member Gomez shared that she visited Alondra Middle School with principal Dr. Viola Scott. She visited a classroom where the teacher was teaching online from the classroom and she also visited a couple of classes via zoom where teachers were teaching from home. She had a conversation with Dr. Scott about distance learning. She shared that the one area in which we can help parents is in technology. Parents need hands on training. She added that we need to look into how we can offer a in person training. She watched the video that Dr. Perez congratulates the teacher of the year 2021. Brittany Esnayra RSP Language Arts teacher at PHS Senior Campus, District wide employee of the year Student Nutrition Services, Maria Lopez from Alondra Middle School, Site Administrator, Dr. Jones, Principal of Lincoln Elementary school and Certified Support Provider Sheryl Ramirez, Counselor from Zamboni Middle School. She wished to thank once again the front line workers who are the Nutrition Services employees and all teachers.

Board Member De Leon shared that she went to back to school night as a teacher and she could see that the teachers are overwhelmed and as a teacher and as a Board member, she would hate to go into viewing because now more than ever, it's easier to view more classes because all you have to do is log in, but she would hate to put teachers in even more stress. So she wants to find this as a time of giving grace to those teachers and if she had the power, she wouldn't evaluate the teachers because it isn't fair. She made a public information request under the California public records act, which is the right of all parents as well, and to this day, she has yet to receive a formal response. In talking and meeting with parents, they have expressed to her their frustration and anger at the difficulty of participating in public commentary. She met with teachers and employees through Google meet and has to say that they're very upset and they see that there's a lot of favoritism, nepotism, lack of inconsistency of information from leadership. They're tired of the status quo. She is here to represent those voices that are and continue to be marginalized. She is here as a fighting voice for parents, teachers, and staff. She is on this Board seat to fight for the right to be heard, to be part of the table where people eat and not just sit, she is their voice and will not stop and will continue this fight and continue her organization to continue to reach to the point where teachers are being heard. This is a time where we have a pandemic and yet our employees are with out any benefits. How can we call this a family? A family is here to take care of each other and within families. This is a fight for our students with special needs to finally be heard to be in a Board meeting and receiving a certificate for a parent, for a teacher, for an assistant, it's a huge thing.

Board Member Garcia shared that she hopes everyone is staying well. She looked at the teacher of the year celebration and congratulated Brittany and Mrs. Topeka Jones and Maria and all the others that were awarded teacher and Counselor of the year, principal of the year. She attended the LACSTA meeting and they did have voting that night and doesn't know if Carmen logged on to vote or not. She is happy that the resolution for the Hispanic heritage month made it onto the agenda. She believes recognizing the contributions of Hispanic Latinos is important to our community in Paramount and we want our students to feel proud of their heritage. She was also able to attend a virtual education conference with the PTA Executive Council President Ms. Roxana Resendiz. The conference was by the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents also called ALAS and thanked Dr. Ruth, for the opportunity. She learned about how the districts around the States are handling the COVID-19 pandemic and providing for their students, especially the English Language learners and how they're providing the social economical support to. Mrs. Resendiz and her also got to hear Dr. Perez present on equity leadership for Latino students. She is proud that we were providing Chromebooks to all of our students in our entire district. She also participated in the teleconferences with the department of public health, and is saddened that the Los Angeles County is still in the same purple tier for COVID cases. More cases of COVID continue to affect and to impact us on opening our schools. She wished to thank Technology for their Tech Tuesdays. She has been learning so much about the technology. She is happy that hundreds of parents are receiving the training and taking advantage of it on Tuesday nights. She wished to say to everyone to keep up the good work and thank you.

Vice President Cuarenta thanked those tuned into listen to the school Board meeting. She also thanked everyone, all of staff members for keeping the district moving forward. She referenced Ms. April O'Conner's statement, about



school sites purchasing headphones and that she insinuated that the school district isn't doing enough. She referenced an email she sent Wednesday requesting the contract Paramount USD has with Atkinson Adelson, Loya Ruud Romo and a response received- On 10/8 she requested the contract, written description and their cancellation fees by Monday. She was provided with the legal services agreement along with the agenda item renewing their services. While she appreciates our leader's ability to bring great leaders to our school district, she is highly concerned in the leader's ability to treat a well-respected community college leader and his staff. She requested the bills that Atkinson, Adelson, Loya Ruud and Romo and how they bill our district.

Hansen shared that she has been doing most of the same things that the other Board members have been doing. She attended the monthly Ad Hoc meeting with two city council members and staff for an update on many different items including the Unity and the Community forum that was held on October 3rd and also an update on the services being providing during the day for working parents and, and having staff there to work with our students. She also participated in two different sessions that were presented by the LA County Office of Education on Equity and Racism. One of the events was held by Dr. Victor Rios who is a professor at Cal State Santa Barbara, and the other presenter was Dr. Terrence Roberts, who was one of the Little Rock Arkansas nine in 1957 at Central High School when they integrated the school and his story was absolutely fascinating. She has been joining in many of the zoom meetings as other Board members have been doing. She referenced the comment that was made by Board member Carmen and thinks it is something the district could maybe look at of bringing in some hands on training because she knows many people are doing the Tech Tuesday, but there may be parents who need something else.

## **5. Superintendent's Report**

### **5.1 Communities In Schools**

Christiana Kraus, Principal-PHS Senior, Vanessa Guerra, Social Worker, Denise Trejo, Social Worker and Lizette Canales, LACOE Community Schools Specialist provided the Board with an update on Communities in Schools. Just over a year ago because of the vision of ensuring, we tend to the whole child and our Paramount Unified community, the Board of Education, and the district allowed us to bring on a team of social workers, as well as the opportunity to partner with Los Angeles County of Education, to continue to amplify the community outreach and support, not only Paramount High School, the support and the outreach for the entire Paramount Unified School District. Information was provided on the importance of mental health and social emotional will be on a student's academic success and how both of those go hand in hand.

The numbers for August, 2019 to March, 2020 - The referrals during school when we were still having face to face overall received 244 referrals. 64 of those referrals came from Deans, 96 came from our school counselors and 81 were from our principal assistant principal or guidance technician. Out of those 244 referrals, 98 of those were successfully linked to mental health services. So these mental services are with our partnering agencies which is the department of mental health. From August, 2019 to March, 2020, we had 840 individual sessions with the students. There were also 500 parent legal guardian or caregiver contact. There were a total of 281 collaboration meetings and because of these collaboration meetings there's actually ties really wide to our school social worker highlights. During the last year, we were able to collaborate really well with student services and bringing a program through the Stanford university, which is an evidence-based toolkit which is called the alternative to suspension. It was used on Saturdays in order as a method to use as an option for students to take and families, instead of being suspended, they would do a Saturday school and participate in the program. Workshops were provided during the Young Women Empowerment conference and also the parent development day and had a total of 294 contacts with students. So that means that the contact was either made via Schoology, or it was via phone call. And with parents, we had a total of 189 contacts and those contacts were via phone only during the school closure, Denise and I supported 170 students during the pandemic out of those 170 referrals, we received six new referrals. And three of them were actually linked to our partnering agencies that worked with the department of mental health. Collaboration with LACOE continued and began having weekly meetings beginning in April and collaborated with them in creating a Google referral form. It is created to link families to basic needs services. The school social workers submitted during a school closures, 29 referrals to legal. There is a school social worker website, and through this website you can access from our PHS website and it was created for resources, not only for our students, our parents and teachers and it is a bilingual portal.

They continue with their positive school climate and resources are all vetted and or evidence-based. So for teachers, we have social emotional based intervention and they can click on that and gather resources for their

classrooms. In addition to collaborating with the school she'll social workers. There is also bedded self care tips for teachers. One of the big things that they have going on is biweekly department meetings with student support services, SHAC, academic coaches, and our administration. This has been vital to the school success because they are able to come together as a team and think of ideas to streamline processes, to outreach, to the majority of students and families.

A lot of their focus is about cultivating a positive school environment for students. And the ways that we are doing that is that we are providing mental health in class presentations and collaboration. They had their first collaboration meeting with our partnering agencies that are through the Department of Mental Health, and they are the Guidance Center, Shields for Families, Bayfront Youth and Family Services and LA CADA. The purpose of Community Schools initiative is to build equity for students by highlighting areas of need and leveraging community resources to increase access, because we know ultimately students are going to succeed. So in order to support these efforts, the community school is guided by a framework that's grounded in the four pillars.

There were questions/discussion on the following: on the second to the last page, it was mentioned that there is a Paramount request for family support services. I believe those are two different referrals, correct (Gomez) and if so, who receives the Paramount one (Gomez)

## **5.2 Social Emotional Learning Support Plan**

Dr. Greg Francois, Director-Secondary Education with the assistance of Wendy Crockett, Counselor-PHS-West, Lucy Duran, Social Worker-PHS-West and Sheryl Ramirez, Counselor-Zamboni Middle School provided the Board with an update on the Social Emotional Learning Support Plan. Information included:

- how PUSD's Strategic Plan addresses social-emotional learning as a district priority.
- Learn how the resources within the Social-Emotional Learning Support Plan will be used to support the delivery of social-emotional support services to students, staff and families.
- Share innovative ways that technology is being used to support our stakeholders.

Current Reality with COVID-19

- Essential need to have a comprehensive plan to provide support and community resources to students, staff and families.
- Major need for having a systematic approach to address the isolation, anxiety, grief, loss and decline in socialization that has affected our school community.
- Critical need to teach stakeholders how to recognize, manage and balance their emotional upheaval with the safety and guidance through our collaboration and compassionate lens as educators.
- SEL is a process to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships and make responsible decisions.

Five Guidelines for the Delivery of Social-Emotional Support Services to Students, Teachers and Families in 2020-21

- Provide multi-level supports in the fall for the impact of physical distance measures and distance learning for all stakeholders. Provide support for students, teachers and parents.
- Systematically identify students in need of additional support with the incorporation of needs assessment surveys, involve teachers and parents and deliver services accordingly.
- Offer individual and group counseling to stakeholder groups to overcome stress and anxiety.
- Support staff on each campus to facilitate ongoing teacher professional development on such topics as trauma informed practices, grief/delayed grief, privilege, bias, racism, empathy and the importance of self-care and wellness.
- Support staff members to advertise and provide school and community resources for all stakeholders.

A review was also provided on the delivery of Social Emotional Supports to staff, students, families and the use of technology to support SEL delivery.

What is next?

- Follow-up during monthly school counselor/social worker meetings on SEL Plan implementation
- Feature SEL Plan on the PUSD Website
- Curriculum specialists to continue to work with teachers to embed SEL into the curriculum
- School social workers and school counselors to utilize plan to create and deliver ongoing workshops for parents

There were questions/discussion on the following: Are the professional development required for staff to participate (Gomez), if they participate, is it just resources as one of the teachers has said in the speaker, in the public comments or is it classes or what type of professional developments are corporate staff (Gomez)

### **5.3 Department of Public Health Update on Re-Opening of Schools**

Dr. Perez shared with the Board that the COVID-19 cases continue to rise in LA County, impacting the District's ability to return to school for in person instruction. LA County continues to remain in the purple tier, which is the first tier of four levels. Dr. Perez shared that she has received many email inquiries asking her when are we going to return to in-person instruction, parents and families. Obviously they need to plan and teachers and employees want to have an idea of when we will return as a result. There are two action items on the agenda this evening related to the reopening of schools. One action item is that we announced that we will continue with distance learning until the end of this semester, which is January 22nd in order to provide continuity of instruction. We have one we have a total of four weeks ahead when distance learning will not take place due to the Thanksgiving and winter breaks.

A few weeks left to this semester would receive that continuity of instruction. If indeed the Board chooses to announce that we would continue with this through the end of the semester. The second action item is to reconvene the Back To School Task Force in order to begin planning a return to in-person instruction for small groups of students. Second semester the Department of Public Health is allowing 10% of each school to bring back students most impacted by distance learning for in person instruction. She believes that we would greatly benefit from the representation of the Task Force of teachers, administrators, and parents, as we did before to cautiously develop a plan to serve these specific groups of students. She would bring back to the board of education this plan for Board approval in December, and hopefully we can move forward to provide these services for our most impacted students. Dr. Perez added that the Department of Public Health is also granting K-2 waivers for elementary schools, K-2 students. In order to receive a waiver, the majority of more than 50% of teachers out of school must agree to it and we would also need the support of parent groups. The District will be conferring with our teacher's association in the next few weeks, and Dr. Perez will follow up with the Board on how we may move forward with the possibility of applying for a K-2 waiver.

## **6. Board Meeting Calendar**

### **6.1 Board Meeting Calendar**

There were no changes to the Board meeting calendar.

## **7. Consent Items**

### **7.1 Approval Consent Items 7.2 - 7.6**

Recommend of approval of Consent items as presented.

Motion by Vivian Hansen, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

**7.2 Accept Personnel Report 20-04 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 2020-21 State Budget Act and related legislation.

There were questions/discussion on the following: there's two names Danny and Robert, and then says JROTC, NTE 231 hours. Total. Is that per person? Is that in combination of both people? (Gomez) what would be the total then (Gomez), I'm just trying to figure out, how many hours in three weeks did they make, how many hours did they work (Gomez), Just wanted to make sure if it's per person they got 231 hours or is it combined (Gomez)

Motion by Vivian Hansen, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **7.3 Purchase Order Report, 20-04**

Resolution: Approve Purchase Order Report 20-04 authorizing the purchase of supplies, equipment, and services for the District.

There were questions/discussion on the following: 130 cafeteria food item, 21-00665, I see that the Gold Star Foods where they have a contract for \$10,000. Is that correct (De Leon), I'm making a formerly a public records request for all purchases made to Gold Star Foods in the last five years and all donations received by Gold Star Foods (De Leon), Purchase order 21-00611; It's the webcams. I didn't know what these were, so I asked. So just for transparent reasons, would you please explain to our community (Hansen), On 21-00648, for 40 teachers testing desk panels. Please explain what that is (Hansen)

Motion by Vivian Hansen, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

#### **7.4 Consultant and Contract Services Report, 20-04**

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

There were questions/discussion on the following: item number 21-00716. Can someone just please explain what it's meant by to provide services to justify school facilities (Gomez), so they do they do this before building any building or housing, or is that my understanding (Gomez)

Motion by Vivian Hansen, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

#### **7.5 Warrants for the Month of September 2020**

Resolution: Approve warrants for all funds through September with a total of \$15,887,382.88

Motion by Vivian Hansen, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

#### **7.6 Acceptance of Donations**

Resolution: Accept the donations as presented on behalf of the District with any bequests or gifts of money or property for a purpose deemed to be suitable by the District.

There were questions/discussion on the following: I am concerned, especially with Gold Star Foods. They've donated \$24,393.60; so how is that ethical or how is that possible (De Leon), Is it that a company can donate and then we give them contracts (De Leon) what's in it for us (De Leon) What's in it for them (De Leon) all of this food was given to our community members free of charge at four of our schools. Isn't that correct (Hansen)

Motion by Vivian Hansen, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8. Action Items**

#### **8.1 Distance Learning for the Remainder of First Semester**

Approve Paramount Unified School District to continue with 100% Distance Learning through the end of the First semester January 22, 2021.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

#### **8.2 Reopening Protocols for K-12 Schools**

Approve the Back to School Taskforce to reconvene to develop a plan identifying eligible students to receive in-person instruction in the second semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.3 Resolution 20-15, National Hispanic Heritage Month**

Adopt Resolution 20-15, National Hispanic Heritage Month September 15 - October 15, 2020.

There were questions/discussion on the following: I know that nationally African-Americans month is February 1st through March 1st that's celebrated., so do we have a resolution for that (De Leon), I know that there's a National Special Education Day for December 2nd., so do we celebrate that (De Leon)

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.4 2020-21 Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators**

Approve the 2020-21 Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators in Paramount Unified School District for submission to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

There were questions/discussion on the following: if we're seeing that we need five people for a single subject credential and then five special education teachers, why aren't we putting that on Ed Join (De Leon), Ms. Morales in one of the Board meetings, you had said that temporary, according to the law was 12 months, is that correct (De Leon)

Motion by Vivian Hansen, second by Carmen Gomez.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.5 Public Hearing – Negotiated Tentative Agreement between Paramount Unified School District and the California School Employees Association - Chapter 447, Regarding Salary Increase and Health & Welfare Benefits for 2019-20**

Hold a public hearing regarding the Tentative Agreement, dated September 16, 2020, between the District and the California School Employees Association – Chapter 447, regarding a salary increase and health and welfare benefits for 2019-20.

Motion by Vivian Hansen, second by Linda Garcia.

There were no speakers during the public hearing.

Close the Hearing regarding the Tentative Agreement, dated September 16, 2020, between the District and the California School Employees Association – Chapter 447, regarding a salary increase and health and welfare benefits for 2019-20.

Motion by Vivian Hansen, second by Carmen Gomez.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.6 Approval of the Negotiated Tentative Agreement between Paramount Unified School District and the California School Employees Association - Chapter 447, Regarding Salary Increase and Health & Welfare Benefits for 2019-20**

Approve the Tentative Agreement, dated September 16, 2020, between the District and the California School Employees Association – Chapter 447, regarding a salary increase and health and welfare benefits for 2019-20.

Motion by Linda Garcia, second by Carmen Gomez.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.7 Public Hearing – Salary Increase and Health & Welfare Benefits for 2019-20 for Certificated & Classified Management and Confidential Employees**

Hold a public hearing regarding the salary increase and health and welfare benefits for 2019-20 for certificated and classified management and confidential employees.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Vivian Hansen.

There were no speakers during the hearing section.

Close the public hearing regarding the salary increase and health and welfare benefits for 2019-20 for certificated and classified management and confidential employees.

Motion by Vivian Hansen, second by Carmen Gomez.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.8 Approval of the Salary Increase and Health & Welfare Benefits for 2019-20 for Certificated & Classified Management and Confidential Employees**

Approve the salary increase and health and welfare benefits for 2019-20 for certificated and classified management and confidential employees.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.9 Employment Authorization for One Additional Help Desk Technician 8 Hours/12 Months and One Technology Specialist 8 Hours/12 Months Assigned to the Technology Department**

Approve the employment authorization for one additional Help Desk Technician 8 hours/12 months and one Technology Specialist 8 hours/12 months to be assigned to the Technology Department.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Vivian Hansen.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.10 Arts Education Collective Advancement Grant Award**

Accept the Arts Education Collective Advancement Grant Award to provide K-5 students with Performing Arts instruction in 2020-21.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.11 Revised K-12 Grading Policy for Distance Learning**

Approve the Revised K-12 Grading Policy for Distance Learning

There were questions/discussion on the following: How will we grade those students that we know that teachers have called in (De Leon) There's more than 80 students that don't have hotspots don't have access to education and how will we grade them fairly (De Leon), can we get a report in our Wednesday report of how many students are having these issues(Hansen), Is there any possible way that each school that has a list can go and knock on the door and during the day, and let the parents know that we've been trying to call them and their hotspots are ready (Gomez), What if they have their phone disconnected (Gomez), I would also like to know as President Hansen said, how many of these families are not answering their phones (Gomez), What is going on at other schools sites (Cuarenta)

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Sonia De Leon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.12 Attorney Fees and Settlement Agreement for a Student with an Individualized Education Program (OAH Case No. 2020070092)**

Approve and authorize payment for attorney fees and settlement agreement for a student with an Individualized Education Program.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.13 Auditory Processing Center of Pasadena**

Approve Auditory Processing Center of Pasadena consultant to provide an Independent Educational Evaluation in the area of central auditory processing for a student.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.14 California State University, Long Beach - Ethnic Studies Courses Agreement**

Approve the agreement with Cal State University Long Beach to provide Ethnic Studies courses to Paramount Unified School District students.

There were questions/discussion on the following: it says that it'll cost 12,000 per course, to be paid by, PUSD, so is it per student or per, like what are we talking (De Leon), So when is PUSD going to move forward in offering (De Leon), I would also want for us the board members to have the number of students are enrolling in this program (De Leon), just to have transparency and the community know that I will be requesting this on the agenda item as an agenda item for the next board meeting (De Leon), Once we have enrollment for this, can you please provide that to the board of how many students are enrolled in this class; those courses rather (Gomez), this course starts second semester. Is that correct (Hansen) Would you just kind of give us a little more information about the three major topics that this course will cover(Hansen) I'm a fellow educator and if we brought it up two years ago, how is it taking us two years to come up with the plan (Cuarenta) why are we not aware of what's going on (Cuarenta) not to undermine the work you guys do, but why is it taking two years (Cuarenta) is it going to take another two to offer these courses in our in our own campus (Cuarenta)

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Sonia De Leon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.15 Purchase of Supplemental Textbooks for CTE Patient Care Pathway at Paramount High School**

Approve the purchase of supplemental texts for CTE Patient Care Pathway Health Career Academy Exploration Course at Paramount High School.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.16 Notice of Completion**

Accept as completed the Field Service Contracts and authorize the Superintendent of designee to file the Notices 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: Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta, Sonia De Leon, Linda Garcia, Carmen Gomez

### **8.17 2020-2021 Budget Adjustments as of September 30, 2020**

Approve the 2020-2021 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: Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta, Sonia De Leon, Linda Garcia, Carmen Gomez

### **8.18 No Kid Hungry Back to School Nutrition Grant**

Ratify the submission for the No Kid Hungry Back to School Nutrition Grant Opportunity for School Food Authorities (SFA's).

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.19 Construction Management Firm Bernards Building & Management Services**

Approve the agreement with Bernards Building & Management Services to perform Project Management services for the Zamboni project and authorize the Superintendent or designee to execute all necessary documents.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

### **8.20 Agreement Extension – Lynette Rock Consultant R.D., SNA**

Approve the extension agreement with Ms. Lynette Rock R.D., SNS and authorize the Superintendent or designee to execute all necessary documents.

There were questions/discussion on the following: What is the other person writing grants for (De Leon), I know that there was 80 iPads that were purchased, which is great and we can get refunded or the district could get refunded, but are we taking advantage of those grants (De Leon), do we have an additional grant writer or does that not exist (De Leon)

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Linda Garcia.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

## **9. Conference Items**

### **9.1 Proposed New Board Policy 0470 – COVID-19 Mitigation Plan**

The Board accepted for first read New Board Policy 0470 - COVID-19 Mitigation Plan.

There were questions/discussion on the following: Did we think about plexiglass on student's desk (Gomez), is there any specific policy for the moderate, severe students cause this policy looks like for just gen ed students (Gomez), think that cause this policy will come back to us at the next board meeting and this policy comes from CSBA, Is that correct (Hansen), If you think something needs to be added or deleted, that would be the time that you let the superintendent know.so it can be looked at the next board meeting, correct (Hansen)

**Information Items - The Board received as information the following:**

### **10.1 Student Nutrition Services Grants and Meal Provision**

### **10.2 Monthly Financial Statements, September 2020**

### **10.3 Monthly Financial Statements, September 2020 – Special Education**

### **10.4 Monthly Financial Statements, September 2020 – Self-Insurance Fund – Health and Welfare**

## **11. Announcements**

### **11.1 Next Regular Meeting Monday, November 9, 2020, 6:00 p.m.**

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

April O'Connor - I've been an educator in Paramount for 24 years. I am the current president of the Teachers Association of Paramount. I'd like to respond to Board member Cuarenta's statement, regards to what I said about a headphone. This is the LCAP committee for the parameters that stakeholders are involved. And part of the decision making, including educators and parents have not met this school year. The individual school site, council meeting that is governed by ed code that involves parents and educators have not met this school year. These are



the avenues that allow these conversations to happen for parents and educators along with administration can assess the needs of students. These meetings haven't happened. I think we are all adults and the accusatory nature of these statements is not appropriate. This not the first time this board member has called out employees. There's multiple employees that had false statements made against them via social media and racial connotations that have been made is unacceptable by everyone, especially a current seated member. It is my humble opinion, that we should expect better for our students of all ethnicities. And on a side note, we have educators coming back to campus to test and fill the needs of our most vulnerable students. We also have a board policy of teachers having your cameras on when educating. I would hope that our leaders of our district would lead by example in regards to this meeting.

## **12. Closed Session - The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 9:38 p.m.to discuss the following:**

Conference with Labor Negotiator per Govt. Code 54957.6

Public Employee Appointment per Govt. Code Section 54957

## **13. Open Session**

The Board reconvened to open session at 10:31 p.m. In Closed Session, the Board took action on the following:

There was a recommendation to appoint Renee Jeffrey as Assistant Superintendent-K-8 Educational Services.

Final Resolution: Motion Failed

Yea: Vivian Hansen, Linda Garcia

Nay: Yesenia Cuarenta, Sonia De Leon, Carmen Gomez

In closed Session the Board approved the appointment of Sue Saikaly as Interim Director-Special Education as soon as mutually agreeable.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Sonia Deleon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

In closed Session the Board approved the appointment of Kim Chavez as Interim Principal as soon as mutually agreeable.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Sonia Deleon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

## **14. Adjournment**

The Board adjourned the October 12, 2020 Regular meeting at 10:32 p.m. in memory of Doug Rozelle and Mr. Dobolski who were instrumental in guiding the education of students for many years at Paramount High School.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Vivian Hansen.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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