Jefferson School District

Official Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Of the Board of Trustees
January 12, 2021

(Due to COVID-19, this meeting was held virtually through a Zoom webinar)

Present virtually: Dan Wells, President; Phil Raya, Vice President; Brian Jackman, Clerk; Pete Carlson, Member; Debbie Wingo, Member; Jim Bridges, Superintendent

In attendance virtually: Dena Whittington, Chief Business Officer; Nancie Castro, Director of Human Resources and Curriculum; Angelica Thomas, Director of Special Education; Sarah Steen, Curriculum Coordinator; Christina Orsi, Ken Silman, Emily Stroup, Alyssa Wooten, Principals; Celli Coeville, Administrative Assistant

I. OPEN SESSION

a. Call to Order at 5:32 PM
b. Roll Call to Establish Quorum – Mr. Carlson was absent for Closed Session
c. Approval of Agenda-
d. Public Comment on Closed Session Items

MSA (Jackman/Wingo) – Approve the agenda as presented-

Ayes – 4	Nays – 0	Absent – 1	Abstain – 0
Jackman, Raya		Carlson	
Wingo, Wells			

e. Closed Session Adjourn to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing matters expressly authorized by Government Codes 3549.1, 54956.7, 54956.8, 54956.9, 54956.95,54957, 54957.8, Education Codes 49079(c), 48912, 48918

f. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

II. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION – 6:30 PM

Welcome from Board President Mr. Wells
Pledge of Allegiance

In Closed Session-

MSA (Wingo/Jackman) - Approved personnel action for certificated employee 12097 and 12098; The Board also approved the personnel action for classified employee #'s 12099, 12100, 12101, and 12103.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes – 4	Nays – 0	Absent – 1	Abstain – 0
Jackman, Raya		Carlson	
Wingo, Wells			

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Bridges reached out to the public asking parents to join the Parent Advisory Council for the Local Control Accountability Plan. The District is also looking for parents to join the Citizens Oversight Committee. Additional information will be available on the District website for each of the committees.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – Google Forms were used for public comment for this virtual meeting. There were no public comments for items not on the agenda.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

DRAFT

4.1 Minutes – Special Board Meeting December 1, 2020 & Regular Board Meeting December 15, 2020
4.2 Warrants – December 2020
4.3 Financials – December 2020
4.4 Donation

Roll call vote was as follows:
MSA (Jackman/Wingo) approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Wells expressed his thanks to the anonymous donor for their generous $10,000 donation made to the District prior to the Winter Break.
Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes – 5	Nays – 0	Absent – 0	Abstain – 0
Carlson, Jackman, Raya, Wells, Wingo			

V. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

5.1 JSD Opening to In-Person Instruction Update

Dr. Bridges read the following Public Comments which were received via Google Forms prior to the meeting:

Frank Austin/Parent:

There has been no improvement, and in fact the public health emergency has only worsened since the board met in December. Until vaccines roll out to school staff and regular testing is available and in place, the current status of distance learning should remain in place. And please keep in mind that families still have health concerns, so even when teachers are vaccinated, until there is wide availability of the vaccine in the community, distance options will need to be maintained. Thank you.

Concerned Parent of a Kindergartener/Concerned Teacher:

The CDC has come out and said schools should be open because transmission of COVID-19 has not been found in schools. This adds to the mounting evidence that our children are in far greater mental, emotional, and physical danger by not being in school. Pediatricians across the country have been pleading for months that the negative consequences of keeping kids out of school are far worse than any danger children will face in a safe classroom with safety precautions in place. And furthermore as a teacher myself, the risks teachers face in the classroom does not increase significantly with children being in the classroom. There is significant evidence that COVID-19 transmission in schools only happens from teacher to teacher and not from student to teacher. Staff have been safely working together in our schools for months and know how to continue those safe practices.

I have watched my previously happy, motivated kindergartener deteriorate into an often sad, depressed, frustrated child. It is breaking my heart knowing what these continued unnecessary shutdowns are doing to our most precious population, our children.

Please do the right thing, and allow families who want to send their children to school to do so and those who do not want to can remain in distance learning. The health experts, our state officials, pediatricians across the world all agree children need to be in school! Please make the right decision!

Father of Student & Husband of Teacher:

We have waited long enough, we cannot wait until everything is perfect to move forward with in person school. We are at risk of our students falling behind all of the students across the country who are learning from in person instruction. The 5 board members are not in their positions to

make health decisions for our students, they should be focused on education only. None of you are health professionals so please leave the health decisions to parents and our county and state leaders. If the county and state are saying we can open for in person instruction then it should not be your right to take that decision away from us.

Schools are open, and have been open, all over our country and the world for months, and all evidence and studies point to the same thing. Transmission of the virus does not happen from student to student or from student to teacher. The only transmission that is found at schools is from adult to others. If teachers are already at school adding approx 50% of students back should have little to no impact.

It is easy to continue to find reasons to wait to open, but sometimes the easy option isn't always the right option. Please be a true leaders and make the hard and right decision to open schools for in person instruction as soon as possible.

Lea Austin/Hawkins Parent:

Research from across the country and globe indicate that when community spread is wide, cases connected to schools also spread. As I have commented in previous meetings, I absolutely want my children back at school - distance learning remains a daily struggle - BUT I want school to open when it is relatively safe to do so. Given the conditions in our community and ICU capacity, now is not that time. Please continue to keep the current distance learning plan in place for the time being.

Simultaneously, I hope that the board and superintendent are retooling reopening plans so that they reflect various stages of access to vaccines - which by all accounts will be slow and not community wide for sometime, as well as potentially a longer school year which the Governor has signaled may be possible with additional funding to districts. And that these plans are developed with input from school staff and families.

Thank you.

Theresa English/Parent:

I see now why you don't read all the letters boards meeting because after watching the meetings in 2020, it is abundantly clear that this board is set on returning students to campus regardless of what the data shows or what parents & staff have to say. But that isn't wasn't a board intended for. An elected board is to represent the will of the people and represent our voices. Like any elected position, you're here to represent those who elected you. Not make decisions in a silo and based on your own personal beliefs, which has been done meeting after meeting. The voices of parents & staff are being ignored.

The state is in crisis, 43% of parents have stated they want their students to remain in distance learning if SJ County is in RED tier. We haven't been asked about purple tier. 83% of teachers have stated they want to remain in Distance Learning. Not 1 board member mentioned or acknowledged the teachers' perspective, yet teachers are the ones who are being put at risk. If 43% of parents want to remain in distance learning while in the RED tier & 83% of teachers do too, why is this up for debate again? This speaks volumes to the fact that distance learning is working for the majority of our district. we should be listening to those who are doing the work. I trust teachers to know what is best for themselves &their students.

Also, only 24% of parents stated they will do the Hybrid model if the state is back in RED tier. Yet, at the last board meeting, the hybrid model was being proposed as our opening option in purple. Why oh why are we considering offering the LEAST popular model to parents? If quality of education is what is being strived for, why are you offering a model that less than a quarter of

families want? Families need to be asked what their preferences are in PURPLE (not red) because we have yet to be asked about PURPLE. Please stop torturing the Jefferson community & please vote TODAY to not revisit this topic again until SJC is back in RED tier.

Anonymous Parent:

Hello again and thank you for listening, again. I honestly feel defeated at this point and feel like we will not even be returning to school this year at all, and i almost would rather hear that that board member carry on about numbers and cases. Our children NEED to be in school as it's an essentials part of their live. Distance learning is working for what it is but it's not the best that can be done. I feel as though no one is fighting for our children. During the last meeting two of the board member didn't even know what the te-opening plan even remotely looked like even though it had been discussed in the prior two meetings. I want to know that these members all take out children's education seriously and will fight to get them back to class. We have a plan, and a good one for when we can go back so let's oush back and make it happen! I feel like every meeting I tune and and just listen to the same thing over and over as if we are circling the drain and just waiting for the year to be over and say "sorry we never got to go back". It's unacceptable.

My next part is more general but it cannot go I said. Me. wells, last time you were sworn in as the board president..and yet you didn't even know when the last day before winter break was. Do you see the problem with that? How can we respect and take you seriously if you don't even know something as simple as that? It's as easy as having a printer school calendar with you durning meetings. I want to know my children's education is being taken seriously by the adults representing them.

Please fight for our kids and make education as essential to you as it is to parents. A major Midwest public school system has now forced their teachers to go back, because that's their job! Our teachers need to go do their job, in the classroom. "Teaching" five year olds on zoom does not work and will not ever work...

Stephanie Huiras:

Although distance learning is not ideal, we are making the best of the situation and we have gotten a good grasp on it at this point. Let's not forget the importance of this stability. The world is chaotic enough, and bringing our students back now means disrupting current routines and procedures to introduce new and adjusted ones. It also means pausing again as students work through learning them. And what happens when someone is experiencing covid-like symptoms or we come into contact with a positive covid case? Does it mean disrupting things again to return to distance learning while we quarantine? We all want our students back, and I want my students back when the risk of coming into contact with Covid isn't nearly as high as it is now. I want my students back when our ICU availability isn't 0.0%. A school is only as safe as the community, and right now our community isn't doing great.

Juan Soto/Parent:

I have watched the last few board meetings in disbelief. Why is this board so set on having students back it the classroom while the region at 0% ICU availability, numbers are higher than ever before, 43% of parents want to remain in distance learning and 83% of teachers want to remain in Distance Learning? Does the district qualify to reopen given the Governor's plan? Yes. But no one has stopped to think if we should. Almost our entire staff wants to remain in distance learning & almost 1/2 the parents. Parents have NOT been asked if they would return in Purple tier. Only red. If the number of families is 43% in red, we can surmise the number is even higher while we are still in purple. And we are DEEP in purple.

A small handful of parents state their children need to see their friends and have social interaction. What is stopping them from doing that today and for the last 9 months? They can arrange play dates. Nothing is stopping them. Why do we want to force teachers in a room with 20-30 other bodies that could potentially expose them to COVID and, subsequently, their loved ones as well? We all know children are the least impacted, but they can be silent/asymptomatic carries. The very teachers we were praising & wanting to give them everything in the world for all they have done for our kids a few months ago, suddenly now we are willing to sacrifice them just to say we re-opened?

Has this board seen the numbers from other districts in CA that have had to shut down multiple times because of COVID? We are willing to disrupt the lives of parents/students/teachers over and over again so we can say we are open? Makes no sense.

Please re-survey the parents to see what they would do in Purple Tier before making any decisions. Also, please vote to not revisit this topic again until San Joaquin County is in red tier. It feels like a waste of your time and that of the concerned parents who's daily lives will be impacted by the decision you make.

Kristin Gama:

It was unclear during the last board meeting if any board members did any research on special education. Sending those students home was a tremendous error. These are students who thrive on routine, sending them home without warning was an incredible and harmful blow to the special needs students in the district. In the future please reach out to the special education department or families in the community to better understand how your decisions impact these already struggling students.

END OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Wells thanked the members of the public who sent comments. Dr. Bridges provided updated Covid-19 information regarding San Joaquin County. The case rate is now 72.7 with an adjusted case rate of 73.2 and testing positivity rate 18.6%. Dr. Bridges shared county data which compared the data from the December 10, 2020 board meeting to January 7, 2021. Case rates are averaging over 35% increase or more.

Dr. Bridges shared information from the Governor's proposed budget plan. For districts that qualify as open, the Governor is proposing $2B to support safe reopening. The funding is based on the entire student population and would be from $450 – $700 per pupil. Funds will be weighted for schools serving students from low-income families, English learners, foster youth and other disproportionately impacted students. The Jefferson School District is in the bottom 1/3 of these districts. According to the plan, students in grades TK-2 must return by February 16, and grades 3-6 by March 15 to receive the additional funding. The proposed State Covid-19 testing requirements and testing lab capacity were also discussed. Dr. Bridges has been working with Valencia Labs since December and is also working on a local testing facility as well.

PPE, contact tracing and vaccines were also mentioned in the Governor's plan. According to San Joaquin County Public Health Services, school staff in San Joaquin County can expect to be vaccinated starting in early February 2021 as part of Phase 1B. Likely the San Joaquin County Office of Education would work with nurses from Districts within the County. Everyone would go to the County Office of Education to receive their vaccine. The booster shot would be required 3-4 weeks after the initial vaccination. Transparency & Accountability requirements of the Governor's plan were also shared. The two things the District would need to do to be in compliance with the Governor's plan are to show our testing plan, and we would need to post a web-based hotline for school staff and parents to report Covid-19 safety concerns.

Dr. Bridges shared a suggested re-opening timeline which is slightly different from what is in the board portfolio. First, Dr. Bridges is suggesting that the District send information asking parents to commit either to distance learning or to return to school for the remainder of the school year. Second, Dr. Bridges proposes we bring small groups back as soon as possible.

Dr. Bridges mentioned that the recommended timeline of his presentation has a slight change from board packet. Due to the Governor's plan, the date is moved up to February 16 for the return of grades TK-3 and March 1 for 4-8th graders. March 1 is when the trimester changes, which is a natural transition time for us to bring students back.

Mrs. Wingo asked if Dr. Park from County Public Health has expressed an opinion as to when the holiday spike will end. Dr. Bridges noted that all of the modeling shows that the peak of the spike should be the week of January 25th. Two weeks after that the ICU will hit a peak, and after that a decline should start to happen. Mr. Jackman inquired if the District sent the survey this Thursday, how quickly can we get a response from families? Dr. Bridges indicated that we should know after roughly 4-5 days. Mr. Jackman also asked if there a percentage that the District has in mind of students to return? Dr. Bridges indicated that we would need to be close to 50/50 or greater to bring students back. Mr. Raya asked if both vaccines are required for full immunity? Dr. Bridges clarified that both vaccines would be required and even after vaccines, we still need masks, and social distancing until we reach herd immunity. Mr. Carlson clarified that the funding is strictly to mitigate the cost the District will have regarding Covid-19 safety and that this is not about the District making money for schools or teachers. Dr. Bridges confirmed that every dollar would be spent to meet the requirements of the Governor's plan. Mr. Carlson also stressed that he would like the staff to get both vaccines prior to opening. Dr. Bridges noted that the District would need to continue a distance learning plan as well as a reopening plan for students to return to campus. Mrs. Wingo noted that the Governor's plan hasn't gone through legislation yet. Mrs. Wingo stated that wants kids back but wants it done safely. Mrs. Wingo's personal preference is to push the date out until after the first vaccine has rolled out. Mr. Wells asked for clarification on the plans for students. Dr. Bridges clarified the plans for middle school students, as well as the primary grade students for both distance learning and in-person instruction. Mr. Wells remarked that regarding the vaccination path, he feels that if it is possible for us to push back grades TK-3 to starting on February 22, potentially bringing students in after the 2nd booster vaccine for staff, he would prefer to wait until staff has received both vaccines.

MSA (Wingo/Carlson) motion to begin to bring small groups back on February 1, 2021; grades TK-3 return on February 16, 2021 and grades 4-8 return on March 1, 2021
Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes – 4	Nays – 1	Absent – 0	Abstain – 0
Carlson, Jackman,	Wells		
Raya, Wingo			

5.2 San Joaquin County (SELPA) Local Plan- San Joaquin County SELPA Director, Brandie Brunni presented the SELPA Local Plan, also known as Section B, for the Board's review and approval. Every District SELPA is required to develop a local plan that conforms to the CDE template. As members of the SELPA, local Districts and their Board of Trustees must approve the plans. Dr. Bridges thanked Ms. Brunni for all of her support to our District and to San Joaquin County Districts.
MSA (Wingo/Raya) approve the San Joaquin County SELPA Local Plan as presented
Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes – 5	Nays – 0	Absent – 0	Abstain – 0
Carlson, Jackman,			
Raya, Wells, Wingo			

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5.3 2020-2021 English Learner Update- Curriculum Coordinator Sarah Steen provided an update to the English learner program in the Board portfolio. Ms. Steen indicated that there is a plan to better support the long term English learners.
5.4 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Timeline- Dr. Bridges likes to share the LCAP timeline with the Board and the public. This year the District will be developing a three-year LCAP, we are starting with what we have but will be able to enhance the LCAP plan.

5.5 Student Enrollment- The District is still down roughly 40 students

VI. PERSONNEL SERVICES

6.1 Provisional Internship Permit Request – J. Humeston
Roll call vote was as follows:
MSA (Jackman/Wingo) approve the Provisional Internship Permit Request – J. Humeston
Roll call was as follows:

Ayes – 5	Nays – 0	Absent – 0	Abstain – 0
Carlson, Jackman, Raya, Wells, Wingo			

VII. BUSINESS AND FACILTIES

7.1 December 2020 Budget Adjustments -
MSA (Wingo/Carlson) approve the December 2020 Budget Adjustments as presented
Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes – 5	Nays – 0	Absent – 0	Abstain – 0
Carlson, Jackman, Raya, Wells, Wingo			

7.2 Food Service Department Update- Food Services Director, Debbi Rogers provided an update for the Board and public. Dr. Bridges noted what an outstanding job Food Services Department is doing for students and how the department has gone about serving students has changed dramatically. Mrs. Rogers thanked her amazing staff for going above and beyond to serve our students. The Board and Dr. Bridges thanked Mrs. Rogers and her staff for their hard work and dedication.

7.3 Award of E-Rate Administered Internet Access Services Bid to San Joaquin County Schools Data Processing Center –
MSA (Wingo/Raya) approve the Award of E-Rate Administered Internet Access Services Bid to San Joaquin County Schools Data Processing Center - as presented
Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes – 5	Nays – 0	Absent – 0	Abstain – 0
Carlson, Jackman, Raya, Wells, Wingo			

7.4 Resolution 2021-01-01, Implementing Prequalification of Construction Contractors Under Public Contract Code Section 20111.6 Utilizing the Quality Bidders Questionnaire Service, Corral Hollow Elementary School – Dr. Bridges spoke to items 7.4 and 7.5 together. The District is getting ready to select a general contractor and sub-contractors for Corral Hollow Elementary School. There is a legal requirement is to prequalify construction contractors for the new school. Many districts are using a service that provides the service of seeking out general and sub-contractors to prequalify. The more contractors you have, the more competitive the bidding process is. We are proposing to have an external company to provide the service of seeking out general contractors and sub-contractors.
MSA (Wingo/Raya) approve Resolution 2021-01-01, Implementing Prequalification of Construction Contractors Under Public Contract Code Section 20111.6 Utilizing the Quality Bidders Questionnaire Service, Corral Hollow Elementary School as presented
Roll call vote was as follows:

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Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Absent – 0 Abstain – 0
Carlson, Jackman,
Raya, Wells, Wingo

7.5 Proposal for Pre-Qualification Services & Contract, Quality Bidders, Colbi Technologies, Inc.
MSA (Jackman/Carlson) approve the Proposal for Pre-Qualification Services & Contract, Quality Bidders, Colbi Technologies, Inc. as presented
Roll call vote was as follows:
Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Absent – 0 Abstain – 0
Carlson, Jackman,
Raya, Wells, Wingo

VIII. BOARD DISCUSSION AND REPORTS

8.1 Items for Next Board Meeting – Update on vaccines for staff and faculty, an update on parent survey before the next board meeting. Also if we are bringing students back to campuses we need to come back to an in-person board meeting as soon as we are legally allowed to do so.

ADJOURNMENT – MSA (Wingo/Jackman) 8:14 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James W. Bridges
Secretary to the Board

DRAFT

Jefferson School District

Official Minutes of the Special Meeting
Of the Board of Trustees
January 29, 2021

(Due to COVID-19, this meeting was held virtually through a Zoom webinar)

Present virtually: Debbie Wingo, President; Phil Raya, Vice President; Dan Wells, Clerk; Brian Jackman, Member; Pete Carlson, Member; Jim Bridges, Superintendent

In attendance virtually: Dena Whittington, Chief Business Officer; Nancie Castro, Director of Human Resources and Curriculum; Angelica Thomas, Director of Special Education; Sarah Steen, Curriculum Coordinator; Ken Silman, Emily Stroup, Principals; Celli Coeville, Administrative Assistant

I. OPEN SESSION

a. Call to Order at 3:17 PM
b. Roll Call to Establish Quorum – all board members were present
c. Approval of Agenda-
d. Public Comment for Closed Session Items

MSA (Jackman/Carlson) – Approve the agenda as presented-

Ayes – 5	Nays – 0	Absent – 0	Abstain – 0
Carlson, Jackman,			
Raya, Wingo, Wells			

e. Closed Session Adjourn to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing matters expressly authorized by Government Codes 3549.1, 54956.7, 54956.8, 54956.9, 54956.95,54957, 54957.8, Education Codes 49079(c), 48912, 48918

f. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

II. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - 3:32 PM

Welcome from Board President Mr. Wells

In Closed Session – The Board of Trustees discussed JTA negotiations particularly regarding the MOU. One case of potential litigation was also addressed.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT– There were no public comments received

IV. PERSONNEL SERVICES

4.1 MOU Between JSD & JTA Regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic, Amendment 2- Dr. Bridges thanked the JTA for their partnership and for working together with the District.

MSA (Wingo/ Raya) approve the MOU Between JSD & JTA Regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic, Amendment 2 as presented –

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes – 5	Nays – 0	Absent – 0	Abstain – 0
Carlson, Jackman,			
Raya, Wingo, Wells			

V. BUSINESS AND FACILITIES

5.1 JSD COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP) Approval- Dr. Bridges thanked Nancie Castro for taking the lead ensuring that the District is in compliance with the JSD COVID-19 Prevention Program.

MSA (Carlson/Jackman) approve the JSD COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP) as presented

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes – 5	Nays – 0	Absent – 0	Abstain – 0

Carlson, Jackman,
Raya, Wingo, Wells

5.2 Category 2 E-Rate, RFP NO. 2020-11-02- Dr. Bridges clarified that this E-Rate primarily covers equipment. The District and County Office of Education handle the installation. Dr. Bridges thanked Dena Whittington and Nick Watson for their hard work on the E-Rate RFP.
MSA (Wingo/Raya) approved the Category 2 E-Rate, RFP NO. 2020-11-02 as presented
Roll Call Vote:
Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Absent – 0 Abstain – 0
Carlson, Jackman,
Raya, Wingo, Wells

ADJOURNMENT – MSA (Jackman/Carlson) 3:39 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James W. Bridges
Secretary to the Board

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