

Oath of Office – Dr. Bridges administered the oath of office to Peter Carlson and Debbie Wingo, each of whom will serve another four-year term. Dr. Bridges thanks both Mr. Carlson and Mrs. Wingo for entering into another term of service as board members. Dr. Bridges and the Board recognized Mrs. Wingo for her support, expertise and leadership over the past year during this difficult time.

Reorganization of the Board

MSA(Jackman/Raya) nominate Dan Wells as Board President. Phil Raya was selected as Vice President and Brian Jackman was selected as Clerk. 2021 Committee Representatives were confirmed as presented:

Roll call vote was as follows:

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

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – Google Forms were used for public comment for this virtual meeting. There were no general public comments.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Minutes – Regular Board Meeting November 10, 2020

4.2 Warrants – November 2020

4.3 Financials – November 2020

4.4 Precision Civil Engineering, Inc., Proposal for Land Surveying Services

Roll call vote was as follows:

MSA (Wingo/Raya) approve the consent agenda as presented

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

Mr. Wells advised that we will adhere to Board Bylaws regarding public comment, the total time allotted for discussion for one item shall not to exceed 20 minutes. Dr. Bridges read the following Public Comments which were received via Google Forms prior to the meeting:

Name: Frank Austin, parent

Do not reopen school on Jan. 4th. I am calling on the board to delay in person opening, and reassess AFTER we understand where the county is post-holiday. Across our community, too many people are not following health orders - as of Saturday our ICU capacity in the county was 0%, there is still no organized testing and tracing plan in place for the community or school. It does not make any sense to have come this far, only to open school in the middle of the worst and most dangerous period of this virus we have experienced, putting staff and families at great risk. I absolutely want my children back at school - distance learning, despite the best effort of teachers, is a daily struggle and my children are not doing well with it - BUT I want school to open when it is relatively safe to do so, and when we have minimal likelihood of closing back down because of cases in the classroom and school, which will only serve to be more disruptive and make children more anxious. I am not rejoicing over a closure, but it's the best among a bunch of terrible options.

At the last meeting, Dr. Bridges stated he was observing stay at home orders - going out just two times a month for groceries. Good for him, and we should all be taking this so seriously, but that same ability will be taken away from teachers if they are forced to return to the classroom in the height of the pandemic. And people saying teachers should not go to the grocery store to purchase goods if they are unwilling to return to the classroom - classrooms in which they would be in

concentrated contact for hours per day, is a ludicrous comparison that I would hope the board would not take seriously. Please, wait. Do not move forward with a January 4th reopening.

Name: Anonymous

I'm in third grade. I do not like school online. But I don't want to go to school until I won't get sick or get my mom or grandma or teacher sick

Name: Concerned 6th grade student

Hello, I'm a sixth grader at a school in the Jefferson School District. I am very concerned about the schools opening so kids can be on campus. The covid cases are very high right now and I don't think opening schools is the best option. Teachers and students would be risking their lives just to be on the school campus's when we are doing the same learning we would be doing at school, at home. Opening schools could be very dangerous. It would put more stress on the teachers and even students. Even going back to school on January 4th isn't the best idea either. Students and teachers would have just been hanging out with family and friends from the holidays and covid cases could rise as a result.

Name: Concerned Parent

Good evening members of the Board,

Tonight, I have one simple question and it's not when are schools going to reopen, but rather, why are schools even open at all right now? Children should not be on campus, even in small groups. In these unprecedented times when we are back under a stay-at-home order, cases are rising rapidly, there are zero ICU beds available in our county, and a recent study led by Princeton University which consisted of half a million people, stated that children are super spreaders of the disease, why are students, teachers, and staff still on campus at all? The teachers have been doing a phenomenal job teaching students virtually. My child is thriving doing distance learning. Why put lives at risk and why disrupt the consistent, SAFE learning the children have been receiving thus far?

At the last Board meeting when the Superintendent, Mr. Bridges, presented the results of the survey that had been sent to families in November, it was not only unfair, but completely wrong for him to skew the results by combining the families that want their children back on campus full time and those that wish to have their children come back in a hybrid model. Those are two very different choices and scenarios. Easing back into things with smaller class sizes, under a hybrid model, is NOT the same thing as coming back 100% full time. Please respect the families' decisions. The results and graphics shared that evening, clearly showed that a majority of the families chose to remain on distance learning. Parents deserve choices for their children. Tracy Unified School District heard the outcries of parents and responded by offering several choices for the families. We can't make a one size fits all decision. Please give parents and families choices and allow the families who wish to continue with distance learning for the remainder of the school year, to do so. Thank you!!!

Name: Lea Austin, Hawkins Parent

Although I desperately want my children in school, one in particular is not doing well at home, it's just not the prudent thing to do at the height of this pandemic.

As both a parent and a researcher by profession, I take issue with how some data were presented last meeting and used to move reopening. The parent data was misrepresented. Staying in distance learning was the highest single option parents selected @ 43%, but Dr. Bridges conflated any form of in-person learning by turning in-person and hybrid into 1 category - stating most people chose in-person learning and using this to support full reopening - only 24% said all in-person; 31% hybrid. The data do not tell us whether parents who said hybrid would opt for full-time in person or distance if hybrid is removed. It's likely this group wouldn't just move into one or the other category, but between the two. And Mr. Jackman stated the facts are indisputable -

it's fine to open. This is easily disputable. Studies show that while children up to age 8 are less likely than adults to transmit the virus, adults can transmit it to kids and each other, perpetuating the chain of transmission, and data show that rates of community spread matters to cases in schools. I'm not sure why adult transmission or well-being is assumed to not matter for reopening; schools only function because of the adults.

Experts, even Dr. Fauci, agree it's best for children to be in school, BUT with mitigation strategies that include: low community rates, ensuring teachers with health risks are provided options for remote work or paid leave, routine required testing for staff, and options for children and families with health risks. As a community, we have to make choices - we can't on the one hand demand that the city defy public health orders (which is happening), continue social gatherings, then expect schools to be wide open. It's devastating, but this virus just doesn't allow us to have it all. School should not open on the 4th.

Name: Amber Foster, Parent

As a parent of 4 children ages ranging from 2nd-7th grade this distant learning has taken a toll on my children's education as well as their happiness. It's hard to watch your children who once loved going to school to now watching them struggle to open the Chromebooks. I know everyone is trying their best but at the end of the day these kids HAVE to go back to school not only for their education but for their mental state. We as parents should be able to make the choice to send our children back if we are comfortable in doing so!

Name: Jill Finton, Parent & Teacher

I have 3 children, 2nd grade, 7th grade, and 9th grade. Distance learning is going ok for my older 2 children. They are doing fine with it. My 2nd grader on the other hand it is not. It is a constant struggle to get him to do his work. He loved school and now he hates it. I understand both sides of this but if anything I think parents/students should be given the choice to send their students back to school full time if they are comfortable doing so.

Name: Concerned Staff Member

I am compelled to express my concern over the upcoming decision to open up school to all students in January. With the medical experts saying that we are about to see very tough times in the next 6-8 weeks, I find it unsafe to bring the students back to school on January 4th. Having heard the term practicable used for our future classroom setting is so disappointing. Practicable has no limit or standards, you can make any scenario practicable but it would not mean it is safe. With cases exploding in the Central Valley and California, and our own local Sutter Gould Hospital as of last night having zero ICU beds available, it makes no sense to open in 3 weeks. We should be trying to curb the virus, not adding fuel to the fire. Perhaps children have higher rates of survival, but many of our staff will not. What about the people we may spread it to like our families and loved ones? Jefferson District has always prided itself to be like a family. Changes over the years have eroded that a bit, but let's not be the district that doesn't put safety first for students, staff and families.

Name: Christina Gomes, Parent

Dear Dr. Bridges and Members of the Board,

First of all, I want to say, I realize this isn't an easy decision for you and I appreciate all the information and statistics you cover during these meetings before making a decision. As we watch the news, our State and our region are currently in the midst of a tragic second wave of the pandemic with ICUs reaching their capacities. I am not sure what exactly you plan to decide tonight but it is hard to imagine our children coming back on campus when our covid cases are at times nearly triple the amount of our worst numbers we had last Summer. I understand that everyone has different opinions on this and I realize some teachers as well as students may feel they have a better handle on distance learning than others. I believe distance learning should be an option for students until the end of this school year. There is light at the end of the tunnel as a

vaccine will gradually be released to the public but for the average person we will not have access to those vaccines until late Spring. I truly think that is when life will become normal again and we all hope our kids have a normal school experience sooner than later. I have 3 children in this school district and one a high school student at Kimball and TUSD will be offering distance learning throughout the rest of the school year as an option for those not ready to return and when we return to a safer tier, children that are ready will go back to campus. Distance learning doesn't offer the same benefits and socialization as in class instruction but it offers regular support and interaction with their teacher. Please keep distance learning an option for the remainder of the year for those that don't feel ready to return if or when our county reaches the red tier or better as it is the safest option for our families. Again thank you for listening to our concerns.

Name: JSD Teacher

Dear board members,

The message I heard from the last few board meetings was, "Let us open schools in a safe manner while promoting learning." You did not want to mix teaching in-person with Zoom teaching, but wanted some solution for "at-risk" students and "at-risk" teachers. I heard how impressed you were with the teaching staff for mastering the new medium of Zoom and that students were learning well.

In middle school the "at-risk" students roam each class period with different teachers where other students have just been in. Since opening to "at-risk" students in October, the district has had many COVID quarantines. We have asked families within our communities to not mix households for the holidays. Schools are a part of this community, why are we mixing so many households daily?

We are educators who should know our history. The 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic started also in March. 195,000 Americans died in October 1918. In the Fall of 1918 there were civilian groups fighting to not wear masks, businesses and churches asked not to be put on restriction, parents begged officials to open schools. By Thanksgiving the officials relaxed restrictions of masks, opened businesses, churches and schools. The cases skyrocketed right at Thanksgiving and by December hospitals overflowed, schools and businesses closed again. There were several more spikes that winter. By summer 1919 675,000 Americans died from the pandemic.

Let's learn from history and care for our students and teachers without exposing them to too many households. 83% of your teaching staff want to teach virtually if we are in the purple tier in January. Allow us to teach virtually as you have expressed we do such a good job of. Thank you for your continued concern for Jefferson students and staff.

Name: A very concerned parent

As much as I miss my students on campus and my own children miss going to school I must say we are very scared to return to in person instruction. There are no protocols in place to warn or inform an employee if another employee has contracted COVID outside of the place of employment. There have been a few cases where this has happened. This potentially exposes many employees and students on campus. We are at 0% capacity in our hospitals in San Joaquin County. With January and February being the two months that we usually see many cases of the common flu can we imagine what it would look like for COVID? The safest place to be during these winter months is at home, not only for our students but our teachers and staff as well. Please consider the well-being and safety of everyone around us these coming weeks and we hope the correct choice that will benefit our community is made today.

Name: Anonymous

I am back here for the third time to express how essential our children's education is. I cannot believe that we are still at home, forcing our children to learn via Zoom and on google docs. I don't want to hear numbers and cases and ICU percentages. I want to hear that you feel that our

children's education is as essential as us parents feel it is. Those of us who want to be back need to be given the chance, those who do not feel comfortable should now just agree and sign off to finish the year distance learning. Only one side is being given what they want hear and it's more than time that the rest of us are able to give our children the education they so much deserve. No one seemed to care last year when a teacher sent their sick child to school which then took out almost half of the TK class with the stomach flu. We have a virus that will probably be here forever that has a 99% survival rate that, as shown in the last meeting, has a rate of spreading in schools of only 1%. Oh and now a rushed vaccine that isn't approved for anyone under the age of 16. Delaying a start date only feels like it will go on forever...we will have holiday weekends, super bowl and then spring break. You cannot keep delaying a start date and denying our children a quality education. Hybrid is not the answer, full time in person is what we need, please.

Name: Fed up Parent

I'm in disbelief that after 9 months, there is still no plan to get these kids back to school Safely. Teachers are in limbo not sure how to move forward. I find it appalling that Mrs. Wingo is so opposed to our school opening, even though her own school has been open and working great! She even said that the same method her school uses is what our district is trying to adapt. If it works so great, then why would she want to hold us back?! I agree teachers are working harder than ever, but so are parents at home with multiple children in the school system. When is enough enough?! I have read comments from parents and teachers, and one teacher left a comment on a post about kids going back to school and said "how sad of this person to tell us to get different jobs cuz we don't feel comfortable in the classroom" Well, how will that same teacher have a job if parents keep pulling their kids/students out of this school district to put them in a district that allows in person learning. I know many parents who have left, and many, many on the fence about leaving, myself included. It breaks my heart to even have to consider this option, but at the end of the day, it's my kid's mental health that is the most important. The numbers and data show that kids are less likely to get this sickness or spread it. Where is the options for these kids to go to school?! We have appeased the many of people who wanted to stay home and distant learn. When is it our turn to get to go to school. Yes, it will be different, I have prepared my kids for that, but they want that. They want to be in school learning in a classroom setting and learning with their classmates. And I found it so hypocritical of many of the staff to claim they want to continue distant learning, when they are out there living their best life, going to parties, out to dinner every weekend, it's all over their social media pages.

Name: Anonymous

First off, I would like to thank the board members for taking the time to read these comments during a time where communication is the utmost important. My primary concern is the health and safety of our staff members and students. Over the last month or so with students back we have had a glimpse of what it will be like if we open back up completely. I can say without a doubt I do not think we are at a place where we can or should open the school back up completely without putting our health at sever risk. Several kids have already been pulled out of class due to being "sick". There is little transparency into what is actually happening with sick children and staff. Parents want their children to come back to school, but do they fully understand what the risk to not only their children but also their teachers and staff is? The environment that the students will come back to is not what they remember, nor is it as safe as we would all like to think. Even with the tremendous amount of effort going into setting up safety protocols, it is still not adequate for the onslaught of students to return. I keep hearing that the transmission is the lowest in schools and children. Then I ask is it zero? Because any amount of unneeded risk is too much in my opinion. One person or student sick is too much if it could have been avoided. I also hear that those with high risk will be looked at and evaluated individually. What about those that are not high risk? Are we not to have the same options and rights as our counterparts? It is not just the individual that needs to be considered but it's our family members, wife, husbands, moms, and dads that may also be high risk and who's health would be in jeopardy if we were to increase our risk at school. Considering all this, I ask you to please reconsider opening the school

back up in January. We have made it this far, a few more months should not be too much to ask for. Thank you for your time and consideration.

END OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Wells thanked to the people who commented and apologized to those whose comments were not able to be read.

Dr. Bridges provided an update to the county's data that showed the dramatic changes that have occurred since the board meeting two weeks ago. On December 1st, the case rate was 13.2 per 100,000 residents in San Joaquin County and a testing positivity rate of 5.6%. As of last week, the case rate was 24.4% which almost doubled. Dr. Bridges was shocked to see that as of today the adjusted case rate almost doubled again to 55 per 100,000 residents. Testing positivity rate is now at 15.1%. Back in October, the adjusted case rate was 4.9% and testing positivity rate was at 3.3%.

As of last Friday, Dr. Bridges' recommendation at the time was that we return a hybrid model for grades TK-3 starting January 19th. The January 19th date would allow for a holiday surge to happen and for the District to watch that trend line. Students in grades 4-8 would return in a hybrid model on January 25th. He was also going to recommend if we reach the orange tier by March 1st, we could propose bringing all students back at that time while still providing distance learning to those who want it.

Dr. Bridges noted the goals throughout the meetings from parents, staff and board. To provide in person instruction as much as we can while still having social distancing, the provide a five days per week distance learning option, and to continue to provide a completely virtual option for JVA families, providing equivalent instructional minutes in all program, to minimize unstructured time on campus.

Dr. Bridges presented an instructional model for an AM/PM hybrid model for grades TK-3. Families who want to come to school have the option to come to school in the mornings. In person students would have ELA and Math in the morning and would be dismissed before lunch. In the afternoon, these students would have independent practice. For students who select distance learning, their independent practice time would be in the morning. And after lunch they would have live instruction would be in the afternoon. Dr. Bridges described the possible core cohorts that could be used for grades 4-8th. Dr. Bridges suggested creating a distance learning core and on campus cores. In both of the models, the students would not be eating lunch on campus. The proposed hybrid model would be similar to what is happening now but would have more students. Dr. Bridges noted the difference is right now, teachers have students rooming and zooming and with these models, that won't happen going forward. Dr. Bridges noted that first and foremost, the lesson we are learning from other districts is that we are going to need to remain flexible and maintain a distance learning model throughout the school year. We are going to have to have a system in place in case there is the necessity to quarantine.

Dr. Bridges stressed that the biggest impact we are seeing now is around isolation and quarantine periods. Currently with staff and students both. If a staff or student has symptoms (for example, fever, worsening cough, muscle aches, vomiting, running nose, difficulty breathing, etc.) reported to us, we are directed by county health to isolate students or staff for a 10-day period. There is no process for returning those individuals to the classroom early. This impacts the district greatly when we have staff out for a 10-day period due to a reported Covid like symptom. The District could potentially have an issue January 4th if staff is unable to return to work and we are not able to find substitutes.

Mr. Wells asked if it would it be worthwhile to consider the possibility of considering holding off small cohorts coming back until we institute the hybrid programs the 19th & the 26th? This could alleviate the concern about the spread over the holidays.

Mrs. Wingo was in favor of waiting until the January board meeting. She was hoping for January 19th return but the numbers are frightening. Mrs. Wingo cannot see bringing back kids under these conditions. She recommends keeping these students at home and addressing this in January to bring them back. She proposes keeping the students in distance learning until after January 4th.

Mr. Raya indicated that he doesn't feel comfortable bringing kids back. He noted it would be seemingly irresponsible at this point, seeing where we are. Mr. Jackman just wants to see kids back in classrooms, but he noted that there is a spike we can't ignore.

Mr. Wells noted that we don't want to continue on campus small cohorts at this time until we can institute a safe hybrid plan for any and all students who want to return. We are aiming for timing of January 19th for the TK-3 grades.

Mr. Carlson indicated that he likes the hybrid plans, it is not best for the kids but it is best for this situation. He indicated that he is all for getting the kids back in school. Even one month ago, the numbers were dramatically less than they were. In good conscience Mr. Carlson stated he could not vote for students to return until the numbers have to dramatically drop. When we get to that point, the hybrid proposal is a workable solution. Mrs. Wingo and Mr. Jackman concur.

Mr. Well wanted to be sure the Board provides direction to discontinue existing small cohorts, on campus, confirming that students will not report to on campus school this week. Mr. Wells also addressed the hybrid model. The concern he has now is the start for TK-3 on January 19th with the next group starting on January 26th.

No action was taken as the Board determined to table this item until next month

5.2 Inter District Attendance Transfer & Enrollment Information- Dr. Bridges shared the changes in inter district transfers throughout the years for the Board and public. Enrollment throughout the years was also shared. Tom Hawkins and Anthony Traina Schools both have smaller numbers currently. The District will continue to monitor enrollment especially with the new developments in Tracy Hills and Ellis.

5.3 Student Enrollment – Same enrollment, seeing stability

VI. PERSONNEL SERVICES

VII. BUSINESS AND FACILITIES

7.1 November 2020 Budget Adjustments -

MSA (Wingo/Carlson) approve the November 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 2020-2021 First Interim Report- CBO, Dena Whittington presented the 2020-21 First Interim report. Ms. Whittington indicated that every year this is the time that we do our First Interim Report. This is the first opportunity to update the Board and public since we updated our budget. The changes to the General Fund revenues were shown. Ms. Whittington shared that June 30th our budget was presented and a 45-day revision budget was updated. Again when the District closed the books, we updated current year revenues as there was new information. The projections have stabilized for the current year. The main source of revenue is LCFF funding which has also stabilized this year. The District received \$200K from state and over \$1M from federal governments.

District expenditures were shared, the majority of which are salary and benefits for staff. A comparison of the groupings of expenditures was also shared which showed the changes the District has seen in expenditures. The COVID funds came in multiple grants and were all earmarked with different goals or target uses. Using this funding the District was able to restore our librarian positions, fund the JVA stipends, and provide professional development for certificated staff at the beginning of the year. An additional custodian position was added, as well.

Ms. Whittington shared a breakdown of current expenditures. The District purchased online curriculum, Zoom, DocuSign, and stocked up on PPE's. Once the general population and students return the District can last one year with what we have on hand. The District has deployed OptiClean air scrubbers to sites, upgraded our phone system, and is outfitting K-5 classrooms with projectors and white boards. The District is offering mail in testing every eight weeks for staff, the cost of which will be paid for with these grants.

The District has one deadline coming up in the next couple of weeks where we need to expend the largest grant related to the COVID pandemic. The District is on track to have funds must be spent by December 30, 2020. The next report will be Second Interim.

MSA (Carlson/Jackman) approve the 2020-2021 First Interim Report as presented by CBO Dena
Roll call vote was as follows:

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

7.3 LCFF Budget Overview for Parents 2020-2021 –

MSA (Jackman/Wingo) approve the LCFF Budget Overview for Parents 2020-2021 - as presented
Roll call vote was as follows:

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

7.4 Annual and Five-Year Report on Developer Fees and Capital Facilities Fund

MSA (Wingo/Carlson) approve the Annual and Five-Year Report on Developer Fees and Capital Facilities Fund as presented

Roll call vote was as follows:

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

7.5 2019-2020 Bond Disclosure Annual Report

MSA (Wingo/Raya) approve the 2019-2020 Bond Disclosure Annual Report as presented

Roll call vote was as follows:

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

7.6 Resolution 2020-12-01, Approve RFP for Proposals for Pre-Construction and Lease-Leaseback Services- Dr. Bridges stated that the past two major construction projects have been lease leaseback projects. PJHM had advised looking into other methods. Ms. Whittington and Dr. Bridges have spent a lot of time researching other school districts and have had extensive meetings with our expert legal counsel. Based on all of the information presented, the recommendation is that we continue to use the lease leaseback methodology.

MSA (Carlson/Jackman) approve Resolution 2020-12-01, Approve RFP for Proposals for Pre-Construction and Lease-Leaseback Services as presented

Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes – 5
Carlson, Jackman,
Raya, Wells, Wingo

Nays – 0

Absent – 0

Abstain – 0

VIII. BOARD DISCUSSION AND REPORTS

8.1 Board Meeting Calendar of Regularly Scheduled Meetings, 2021-2022

MSA (Wingo/Carlson) approve Board Meeting Calendar of Regularly Scheduled Meetings, 2021-2022 as presented

Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes – 5
Carlson, Jackman,
Raya, Wingo, Wells

Nays – 0

Absent – 0

Abstain – 0

8.2 Items for Next Board Meeting – School reopening plan

ADJOURNMENT – MSA (Jackman/Raya) 8:26 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James W. Bridges
Secretary to the Board