Jefferson School District

Official Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Of the Board of Trustees
August 16, 2022

Present: Brian Jackman, Vice President; Debbie Wingo, Member; Todd Wetherell, Member; Jim Bridges, Superintendent
In attendance: Emily Stroup, Director of Human Resources; Celli Coeville, Chief Business Officer; Fiona Bessette, Tessa Bunch, Grace Strickland, Jason Strickland, Principals; Bertha Ramon, Administrative Assistant

I OPEN SESSION –5:30 PM

a. Call to Order at 5:39 PM
b. Roll Call to Establish Quorum- Mr. Carlson and Mr. Raya were absent
c. Approval of Agenda-

MSA (Jackman, Wetherell) – Approve the agenda as presented

Ayes – 3	Nays – 0	Absent –2	Abstain –
Jackman,		Carlson, Raya	
Wetherell, Wingo			

d. Public Comment for Closed Session Items
e. **Closed Session**- Adjourn to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing matters expressly authorized by government codes 3549.1, 54956.7, 54956.8, 54956.95, 54957.8, Education Codes 49079 (c), 48912, 48918 (c)

f. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

II. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION – 6:30 PM

Welcome from Board Presenter Brian Jackman
Pledge of Allegiance

Superintendent's Report

Human Resources

Dr. Bridges indicated several topics to present tonight, beginning with human resources. Mrs. Stroup worked to get all teaching positions filled before the school year. For the first time in JESD history, we started the year with substitute teachers in classrooms. We currently have 11 substitutes (many of them retired JESD teachers) teaching classes. Most of these are science, special education, and TK. Mrs. Stroup is working with a few of them to enter teaching programs and take the jobs full-time as interns.

Enrollment

As you can guess, enrollment continues to rise. For the first time in JESD history, our enrollment is over 2,561 students. Most grade levels are starting the year at capacity, and the teacher shortage will continue to grow over the year. Ms. Coeville, Mrs. Wittington, and I continue to monitor class size reduction in TK-3.

Construction

We successfully completed the Fourth Amendment to the Tracy Hills Mitigation Agreement, which will be presented tonight for approval. We also met with Surland about the Ellis site remediation, and there is a plan to get the site cleaned up no later than next summer. Also, we are meeting with Surland next week to discuss school construction costs and what they plan to do to cover the gap in what they are collecting from the resident builders and the current cost.

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It took quite a team effort, but we have over 420 students riding just two school buses. We have had several challenges in the first week, but things continue to improve, and the drop-off and pick-up times are getting closer and closer to the schedule. Our most significant issues have been getting the younger children on and off the buses at Monticello. We are currently busing 150 students to and from Monticello daily. We have a third bus that we plan to add in early September when our third bus driver is licensed and ready to go.
I would like to take a moment to introduce our amazing new administrative team:
Jason Strickland, Principal, Jefferson School
Fiona Bessette, Principal, Tom Hawkins School
Charles Spikes, VP, Tom Hawkins School
Grace Strickland, Principal, Anthony Traina School
Kathryn Armstrong, VP, Anthony Traina School
Chief Business Officer, Celli Coeville
Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, Bertha Ramon
On a personal note, my kindergartener Liam had a great first week in the District! He was excited Friday afternoon when I picked him up as his class earned a disco party. It is fun balancing being the leader of the district and a parent. In the long run, I feel that it will make us better as we get both sides of a perspective as a parent and as an educator within the district. So I just thank the amazing teachers and administrators in our district for all their daily work and the great place they make for our children. So thank you all.

In Closed Session-
For certificated employees, the Board approved employee #'s 12398, 12399, and 12400, and the Board approved classified employee #'s 12401,12402, 12403, 12404, 1240, and 12406.
MSA (Jackman, Wetherell)
Ayes – 3 Nays – 0 Absent –2 Abstain –
Jackman, Carlson, Raya
Wetherell, Wingo

Additionally, we approve the action for OAH case number 202-206-0002. Conference with legal counsel-EXISTING LITIGATION (Paragraph (1) of Subdivisions (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9)
MSA (Wingo, Wetherell)
Ayes – 3 Nays – 0 Absent – 2 Abstain – 0
Jackman Carlson, Raya
Wetherell, Wingo

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – We had several public comments, including twelve Tracy Hills residents regarding Corral Hollow Elementary, Diane Silva (teacher at Traina) regarding TK aide, and Kelly Shook/Kelsey Chatard inquiring about after-school programs.

Mr. Shoeb Palya, speaker for Tracy Hills residence, Good evening, everyone. Thank you for having me. My comment is regarding the Corral Hollow Elementary School located in Tracy Hill. The comments are regarding the documents which were supposed to be returned from the attorney's office regarding the construction phase of the school. I have heard that they have not been turned in yet as of this morning. So my comments are based on that. And I would like to know if the district attempted to follow up with the attorney's office well ahead of time and showed them the urgency regarding this project because it is crucial. The approval of this document is crucial because we cannot let this go until the following September 13 board meeting for it to be approved. That will delay the process even more, as it is already being delayed. It was stated that the construction was supposed to begin on August 1, which has not happened yet. And if these delays continue to occur,

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we will not meet the August 2024 deadline. So, for this reason, I like the board to see items 7.4 and 7.3 on the agenda. So I will wait until the comment is made regarding that. But I would like you to know that on behalf of all the Tracy Hill residents here today, you take this comment seriously and do your best to get those documents back at your earliest convenience. I like to thank all the educators back here; you guys are doing a wonderful job on a personal note. My daughter had a great time in the first week of school; it was our first time; in Tracy. Thank you very much.

Hello, first, board members. Good evening. My name is Diane Silver, and I am the TK teacher at Traina school. And I've been with the district for 17 years. I'm here tonight to express my concerns and appreciation for our district staff member, Nancy George. You may or may not know her, but I feel you need to hear how amazing she is. This past week she left the district frustrated, betrayed, and upset. She has been a TK aide for four years and has worked with resource students for longer. Last week she was pulled from my class without notice as to why the district's poor communication about her job left her confused, and she ultimately decided to go. While this was her choice. I was saddened that our district did not help convince her by trying to keep her. She was exceptional at her job and did everything for everyone. She gave up her lunch hour for a whole year to tutor resource students and opened her home so we could make 24 memory books. She helped bring my visions of a pumpkin patch to life on the Traina campus because we couldn't go anywhere. She was my comfort when I was out for chemo treatments. I've never had to worry about how things were going in my class because I knew she was there for me. That was a huge stress reliever. It is hard to believe that our Employee of the Year is not in our district for something so simple as a communication mishap. And now, without any contact with me, I am left with unknown substitute aides who may or may not meet the qualifications. I'm on my second aide in a matter of four days. It seems like they're putting another person in my room just so that we comply with the 12 to one ratio.

The other teacher at my site is left with no aid. I hope the district can find someone consistent to help us so that we can start to build a more stable routine that's not an easy task with four-year-olds. I completely understand that the rules are changing in TPA. So finding someone to work with in my class is not easy. But here we are short-handed everywhere, and we had a person who wanted to work, and we let her go. Our district may be unable to convince her to come back, but I wish it were handled better. My Classes truly missed the opportunity to learn from Nancy George. And that breaks my heart. Thank you for making the meeting and listening to my concerns. This is my daughter Isabella, and she would like to speak to you. I like Mrs. George. She helped me with my work and was nice. And I miss her not in my classroom. And I wish she still worked at my school.

We represent Cub Scout Pack 525; my name is Kelly Shook, and I'm Kelsey Chatard HPFC at Hawkins school. We sent out a survey to all of our parents. And the one main thing that came up was that they would like several Outdoor School Programs after COVID everybody was stuck inside the house and lacked social skills. As teachers, we reached out to the Boys and Girls Club, and they said we had to bring it to our district before we could have it. They have a lot of different activities, art, and physical education. I know that at most of our sites, pre-COVID or before COVID, we had sports and recreational sports for the upper grades, but we want to have a wide range for K available to our students. We have looked at possibilities of creating programs specifically for the Boys and Girls Club or having parents and other educators run programs that don't require payment to the school but potentially provide time. I was curious when you were looking at possibly allowing different groups to rent out the facility.
Jim Bridges- I will answer that on October 1st when we look at searching.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA-

4.1 Minutes – Regular Board Meetings June 9 & 14, 2022 & July 28, 2022
4.2 Warrants – June & July 2022
4.3 Financials – June & July 2022

MSA (Wetherell/Wingo) approved the consent agenda as presented

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Ayes – 3 Nays – 0 Absent – 2 Abstain – 0
Jackman Carlson, Raya
Wetherell, Wingo

V. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES –

5.1 Student Enrollment, the 33 students in advancement math show up in enrollment twice due to being enrolled at multiple sites.

Jim Bridges- I have stated the student enrollment baseline to clarify for anyone looking at it. A question was asked about the 32 advanced math students that have been backed out of the total. And I just want to clarify that those students are dually enrolled at their home school, which may be Traina or Hawkins in the role and for one period at Jefferson. So they show up in our numbers twice. And so that's the reason we back those students out so that they don't show we don't collect ADA twice for them. So we're at 2561

VI. PERSONNEL SERVICES

VII. BUSINESS AND FACILITIES

7.1 June 2022 FY 21-22 and July 2022 FY 22-23 Budget Adjustments • Action

MSA (Wingo/Wetherell) approved the June 2022, Fiscal Year 21-22, and July 2022 FY 22-23 Budget Adjustments as presented

Ayes – 3 Nays – 0 Absent – 2 Abstain – 0
Jackman Carlson, Raya
Wetherell, Wingo

7.2 Fourth Amendment to Tracy Hills Project School Impact Mitigation Agreement

MSA (Wetherell/Wingo) approved the Fourth Amendment to Tracy Hills Project School Impact Mitigation Agreement as presented

Ayes – 3 Nays – 0 Absent – 2 Abstain – 0
Jackman Carlson, Raya
Wetherell, Wingo

Jim Bridges- To mitigate the $31 million for Corral Hollow Elementary, we are now looking at $50 million for building; the additional funds will be added and provided in 3 payments. The money will stay but may never come to us; as this is a fixed bid, this is the cost. It’s already been put out there, so in light of that, I will quickly walk you through what this document is. So as we've talked about before, we are in mitigation agreement with interval communities and a few other property owners of Tracy Hills property to mitigate the impacts on schools. And that has a current value of about $31 million, roughly what's in the mitigation or for school site number one, Corral Hollow Elementary School. With the rapid increase in construction costs. Schools cannot be built for what they were projected to be able to do before. And now we're at 50 plus million to build a K-eight school in the valley. And so we went back to rural communities and worked with them. They've agreed to contribute the additional funds to bring us up to the needed amount. And so basically, this agreement is for 20 million extra dollars for school site number one, and it just spells out how they will provide it. It will be provided in three payments, the first two of 7 million each and the final payment of 6 million. And the contingency for the project is built into that final payment of 6 million. So we don't have to spend a whole contingency of $2.5 million. That money will stay within the ripple and not ever come to us because we try to spend as little as the amount on both parties to work with the construction company to ensure they stay on budget. I just want to clarify that this is a fixed bid. So the price is the price unless we do a change order.

Wingo- will the money go back to the developer if the state of California decides to kick down more money?

Jim-Yeah, that's built into the real mitigation. It has been agreed that any state dollars that come back from the construction school site would go to Tracy because they're basically fronting us the state's half in advance and the state will never pay us back.

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7.3 Award of Corral Hollow Elementary School Contract • Action
Approved the Award of the Corral Hollow Elementary School Contract to BHM Construction.
MSA (Wingo/Wetherell)

Ayes – 3	Nays – 0	Absent – 2	Abstain – 0
Jackman		Carlson, Raya	
Wetherell, Wingo			

Jim Bridges- As we discussed on July 28, I believe it was a board meeting. We had four responsible bidders for Corral Hollow Elementary school, and BH M construction was the lowest responsible bidder. And so we are moving forward with the BHM. We're not taking any of the alternates. So we're not removing any of the buildings we did intentionally just as a failsafe method to put in there, but we're taking all the alternates and building the entire school. Nothing's being left out. And so that is $50,950,000 is the amount of the bid tonight. If you authorize me tomorrow, they will be given a notice of award that's already drafted, and they will be sent that tomorrow morning. We have, and they have five days to return all of the legal documents they have to provide to us, notarized, and then we offer them the news to proceed, so they should receive the notice next week. And we actually have our first construction meeting for the project on August 30th.

7.4 Quarterly Williams Act Reporting- No Reports
MSA (Wetherell/Wingo)

Ayes – 3	Nays – 0	Absent – 2	Abstain – 0
Jackman		Carlson, Raya	
Wetherell, Wingo			

VIII. BOARD DISCUSSION AND REPORTS (Board may or may not take action on any items listed below)

8.1 Items for Next Board Meeting
Jim Bridges-We are trying to work with the builder on a ground-breaking ceremony, hopefully before the next meeting.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

September 5, 2022	No School – Labor Day Holiday
September 13, 2022	Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting
September 26, 2022	No School – Parent/Teacher Conferences
September 27 – 30, 2022	Minimum Days (2 p.m. release) – Parent/Teacher Conference

ADJOURNMENT – MSA (Wingo/Wetherell) 6: 53 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James W. Bridges
Secretary to the Board

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