



# SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 11.1j

**Meeting Date:** January 14, 2021

**Subject:** Approve Minutes of the December 17, 2020, Board of Education Meeting

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

**Division:** Superintendent's Office

**Recommendation:** Approve Minutes of the December 17, 2020, Board of Education Meeting.

**Background/Rationale:** None

**Financial Considerations:** None

**LCAP Goal(s):** Family and Community Empowerment

**Documents Attached:**

1. Minutes of the December 17, 2020, Board of Education Regular Meeting

<p><b>Estimated Time of Presentation:</b> N/A <b>Submitted by:</b> Jorge A. Aguilar, Superintendent <b>Approved by:</b> N/A</p>
---



Putting  
Children  
First

# Sacramento City Unified School District BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AND WORKSHOP

## Board of Education Members

Christina Pritchett, President (Trustee Area 3)  
Lisa Murawski, Vice President (Trustee Area 1)  
Darrel Woo, Second Vice President (Trustee Area 6)  
Leticia Garcia (Trustee Area 2)  
Jamee Villa (Trustee Area 4)  
Chinua Rhodes (Trustee Area 5)  
Lavinia Grace Phillips (Trustee Area 7)  
Isa Sheikh, Student Member

Thursday, December 17, 2020

4:30 p.m. Closed Session

6:00 p.m. Open Session

Serna Center

Community Conference Rooms

5735 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Sacramento, CA 95824

## MINUTES

2020/21-15

### 1.0 OPEN SESSION / CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC ATTENDANCE BY LIVESTREAM

Members of the public who wish to attend the meeting may do so by livestream at: <https://www.scusd.edu/post/watch-meeting-live>. No physical location of the meeting will be provided to the public.

*The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Vice President Pritchett, and roll was taken.*

#### *Members Present:*

*Vice President Christina Pritchett  
Leticia Garcia  
Lisa Murawski  
Lavinia Grace Phillips  
Chinua Rhodes  
Jamee Villa  
Darrel Woo*

#### *Members Absent:*

*Student Member Isa Sheikh (arrived at 6:00 p.m.)*

### 2.0 ANNOUNCEMENT AND PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:

Public comment may be (1) emailed to [publiccomment@scusd.edu](mailto:publiccomment@scusd.edu); (2) submitted in writing, identifying the matter number and the name of the public member at the

URL <https://tinyurl.com/SCUSDcommentDecember17> or (3) using the same URL, submitting a request for oral comment only when the matter is called, instead of written comment. Regardless of the method by which public comment is submitted, the submission deadline for closed and open session items shall be no later than noon, December 17. Individual written public comment shall be no more than two minutes in length on each agenda or nonagenda item. The Board shall limit the total time for public comment on each agenda or nonagenda item, including communications and organizational reports, to 15 minutes in length. With Board consent, the President may increase or decrease the length of time allowed for public comment, depending on the topic and the number of written public comments.

*There was no public comment on Closed Session.*

### **3.0 CLOSED SESSION**

*While the Brown Act creates broad public access rights to the meetings of the Board of Education, it also recognizes the legitimate need to conduct some of its meetings outside of the public eye. Closed session meetings are specifically defined and limited in scope. They primarily involve personnel issues, pending litigation, labor negotiations, and real property matters.*

- 3.1 Government Code 54956.9 - Conference with Legal Counsel:
  - a) Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(2) of Government Code section 54956.9 (One Potential Case)
  - b) Initiation of litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(4) of Government Code section 54956.9 (One Potential Case)
  
- 3.2 Government Code 54957.6 (a) and (b) Negotiations/Collective Bargaining SCTA, SEIU, TCS, Teamsters, UPE, Non-Represented/Confidential Management (District Representative Pam Manwiller)
  
- 3.3 Government Code 54957 – Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Reassignment

### **4.0 CALL BACK TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

- 4.1 *The Pledge of Allegiance*
  
- 4.2 *Broadcast Statement*
  
- 4.3 *Stellar Students – Juan and Roberto Alvarado, two brothers in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade from John Cabrillo Elementary School. Member Murawski presented.*

### **5.0 ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

*There were no announcements of action taken in Closed Session.*

### **6.0 AGENDA ADOPTION**

Vice President Pritchett asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. A motion was made to approve by Member Woo and seconded by Member Murawski. The Board voted unanimously to adopt the agenda.

## **7.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

### **7.1 Ceremonial Oath of Office Given to Newly Elected**

**Information**

*Board Members:*

*Lavinia Grace Phillips was ceremonially sworn in by her uncle, Joe Lynch*

*Christina Pritchett was ceremonially sworn in by her husband, Michael Pritchett*

*Chinua Rhodes was ceremonially sworn in by his father, Dennis Rhodes*

*Jamee Villa was ceremonially sworn in by her husband, Cam Villa*

*Public Comment:*

*Cydney Jaghory*

*Brett Barley*

*Jim Peterson*

*Vocheri Thomas*

*Eduardo de Leon*

*Board Comments:*

*None*

### **7.2 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board of Education**

**Action  
(Roll Call Vote)**

*Election of Officers:*

*The Board Shall Elect a President, Vice President and Second Vice President*

*Vice President Pritchett made a nomination of herself as President, Member Murawski as Vice President, and Member Woo as Second Vice President. The nomination passed six to one with Member Murawski voting no.*

*Public Comment:*

*None*

*Board Comments:*

*None*

7.3 “Seeing the System” – First Quarter Performance Metrics (Vincent Harris)

*The presentation team: Chief Academic Officer Christine Baeta, Principal Erin Hanson of Caleb Greenwood Elementary School, Chief Continuous Improvement and Accountability Officer Vincent Harris, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Matt Turkie, Director of Multi-Tiered System of Support Jennifer Kretschman, Director of Guidance and Counseling Christina Espinosa, Director of Student Support and Health Services Victoria Flores, Director of Youth Development Manpreet Kaur, Director of Social Emotional Learning Mai Xi Lee, and Director of Human Resources Christina Villegas. Superintendent Aguilar made some comments regarding data, and then the team presented on academic outcomes, student engagement, and human capital.*

*Public Comment:*

*Rich Vasquez  
Sarah Williams Kingsley  
Alison French-Tubo  
Renee Webster-Hawkins*

*Board Comments:*

*Member Rhodes asked if the number of D and F grades given could be attributed to COVID-19 and the workload. He asked if these grades are part of the 50 percent floor. Mr. Harris responded that these grades are under the revised grading scale and that they will need to dig a little deeper to determine the root cause. Member Rhodes said that the work being done with English language learners is to be applauded, and he asked Ms. Kretschman to speak on how we plan to connect with Black, Native American, and homeless students. Ms. Kretschman said that a lot of the work being done is to work with and support school sites. She explained that support and also explained variations by site. She then spoke specifically to what work is being done for homeless students. She spoke of consistency, and Member Rhodes agreed that consistency is key. He asked to hear more about Native American students, and Ms. Kaur spoke to that. Member Rhodes asked to have more detailed Native American data, and Ms. Kaur said she will provide that.*

*Vice President Murawski thanked the team for an informative presentation; she recognized Victoria Flores and her health team. She also recognized Ashley Clark for her work in the community. She thanked Principal Hanson for her improvement work across the board and asked her about*

*assessment data. Principal Hanson gave examples of how this is used in the classroom to improve skills. Vice President Murawski asked about the troubling information on phonics. Superintendent Aguilar and Ms. Baeta addressed this concern and spoke about participation rates. Ms. Baeta also spoke about the struggle of mandated training/professional learning for all. Vice President Murawski closed by commenting on the importance of providing a good foundation for those in grades K-3.*

*Member Garcia thanked the team for the presentation and acknowledged the hard work of all. She feels it is very important for parents and students to know where students are in terms of academics and testing. She thanked Principal Hanson for her classroom examples and for speaking on the difference between a common assessment and a teacher assessment, and she stated that both are important and necessary. She looks forward to seeing data from the second round of assessments. She is troubled by low participation rates at the high school level and asked what strategies are in place so that students accelerate their learning when we do not have information. Mr. Turkie said that without the information it is very difficult to target instruction. Member Garcia asked about tier three efforts that relate to home visitations for not engaged students. She asked why students were not engaging. Ms. Kretschman replied that there are many reasons, of which she went over. Member Garcia asked about leaves of absences for employees and how that relates to hiring substitutes. Chief Human Resources Officer Cancy McArn addressed the question and said that there are various reasons for the leaves and an increase due to the two types of COVID-19 leaves. Member Garcia asked about substitutes in a distance learning environment and what the transition is like. Ms. McArn said that credentialed teachers can teach beyond the more usual 20 day limit for substitutes. She said the department can sometimes provide some credential support for more restrictive credentials. The department is trying to be as flexible as possible. She shared that the Curriculum and Instruction department has also begun providing additional training for substitutes, which has been helpful.*

*President Pritchett thanked staff for their work during this difficult time. She also acknowledged that there is room for improvement, and she asked for the state average in terms of graduation rates, and how the District compares. Ms. Espinosa said she will need to get that information. President Pritchett said it appears that students are being marked absent when they have their camera off, and she asked if that is being addressed. Ms. Kretschman said that they should not be marked absent if the camera is off, and if that happens they*

*should contact their site and speak to the attendance staff. She noted that there are three ways a student is marked present: attending via Zoom with the camera on or off, submitting an assignment for that day, or communicating with school site staff. President Pritchett asked if home visits are being done through the Parent Teacher Home Visits. Ms. Kretschman said they are different; it is her understanding that the Parent Teacher Home Visits are being done virtually. President Pritchett asked if we are targeting families that we know do not have parents at home during distance learning. Ms. Flores spoke about home check-ins that her staff and other staff are doing.*

*Second Vice President Woo asked how the absence numbers reflect in LCAP numbers and if those visiting homes are bringing the forms to be filled out. Ms. Kretschman explained all of the efforts being done to make sure that everyone has those applications.*

*Member Villa thanked staff for putting this report and presentation together. She said that providing assessments for the entire District is crucial. She would like to see more information on what can be done, why those assessments are not being done, and what we can do with that data.*

*Member Phillips asked if the District has programs that are specifically for African Americans and Latinx students. Ms. Kaur said that we serve American Indian students under Title XI, and she is not aware of any other specific programs, but some targeted programming is done in the Youth Development department for men and women of color. She noted the Men's and Women's Leadership Academies that are specifically targeted for African American students. Ms. Phillips said she would like to find out more about this.*

*Superintendent Aguilar shared some additional information on graduation requirements A-G. He tied this to assessments and spoke on the importance of avoiding a plateau.*

*Student Member Sheikh concurred with the Superintendent, and said that there is so much that is unacceptable about the data seen. He noted the increase in D and F grades, chronic absence, the low percentage of those being tested, and extremely low percentage scores of second graders in phonics. He also noted the positive areas of increase in attendance through the learning hubs, in English language learning, and home visits. He pointed out that most of what is beneficial is happening in person and not over Zoom, and therefore feels we should emphasize an option for in-person learning for those in grades K-3.*

7.4 Resolution No. 3178: Prioritization of Teachers and School Staff for COVID-19 Vaccine Access (Lisa Murawski and Victoria Flores)

**Action  
Roll Call Vote**

Vice President Murawski introduced the item and said she is hopeful to obtain the Board's support in prioritizing District teachers and school staff for the next phase of vaccine prioritization. She spoke about the resolution, and Ms. Flores gave the District perspective on it.

*Public Comment:*  
Row Gray  
D. McCallin

*Board Comments:*

Second Vice President Woo moved to approve the item, and Member Phillips seconded.

Student Member Sheikh thanked Vice President Murawski and Ms. Flores for bringing this resolution forward. He said that he feels the light in the tunnel is here with this vaccine. He noted studies that show the low transmission rates in children.

The motion to approve passed unanimously.

## 8.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment may be (1) emailed to [publiccomment@scusd.edu](mailto:publiccomment@scusd.edu); (2) submitted in writing, identifying the matter number and the name of the public member at the URL <https://tinyurl.com/SCUSDcommentDecember17> or (3) using the same URL, submitting a request for oral comment only when the matter is called, instead of written comment. Regardless of the method by which public comment is submitted, the submission deadline shall be no later than noon, December 17 for any agenda item. Individual written public comment shall be no more than two minutes in length on each agenda or nonagenda item. The Board shall limit the total time for public comment on each agenda or nonagenda item to 15 minutes in length. With Board consent, the President may increase or decrease the length of time allowed for public comment. By law, the Board is allowed to take action only on items on the agenda. The Board may, at its discretion, refer a matter to district staff or calendar the issue for future discussion.

*Public Comment:*  
David Fisher  
Julia Willsie  
Dan Goulart  
Jaime Avalos



## **9.0 BOARD WORKSHOP/STRATEGIC PLAN AND OTHER INITIATIVES**

- 9.1 *Suspension of Senior Project Graduation Requirement of Board Policy (BP) 6146.1 for 2020-2021 School Year (Christine Baeta and Matt Turkie)*

**Action  
(Roll Call Vote)**

*Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Matt Turkie presented. He went over high school graduation requirements, senior project requirements, conditions in the current pandemic, and next steps.*

*Public Comment:*

*None*

*Board Comments:*

*President Pritchett said she asked that this item be brought to the Board, and she made a motion to approve it. Member Garcia seconded and asked if there was an analysis of the other graduation requirements that students might not be able to complete due to the pandemic. Mr. Turkie explained that the credits in eight different areas are those that are taken by all students, and many are needed for A-G requirements. The other requirement out of the ten is a proficiency in Technology Literacy, which all students are showing due to the current circumstances through distance learning, and may be brought to the Board in the future as it is embedded in Common Core.*

*Vice President Murawski asked if there are students in a normal year that would graduate but for the senior project requirement. Mr. Turkie said he does not have numbers, but as a former principal of a high school, shared that they would go through iterations with students where there would be a certain level that students had to reach. If they did not reach that level, they would not be on for graduation, and generally students would then need to re-do their presentation and re-defend their senior project. So yes, the requirement could keep a student from graduating. She asked Student Member Sheikh for his thoughts.*

*Student Member Sheikh said he thinks it would be unreasonable to ask students to go out and do this level of community work at this time. Therefore, he supports the motion.*

*President Pritchett asked about students that have already begun working on their senior project, some since last year. She asked if those students could receive extra credit. Mr. Turkie said that he and two Instructional Assistant Superintendents met recently to discuss this, and principals were saying that they would like to*

*make this an assignment for credit for students that have already done the project, not holding other students responsible for it as an assignment however.*

*Member Villa thanked President Pritchett for bringing this up, as it came up with many students this week at a listening session.*

*Vice President Murawski said she would like the students that did complete the senior project to be recognized. President Pritchett said she feels this is a great recommendation. Superintendent Aguilar asked if we could come back after assessing with principals on how we can create a balanced approach to this. He noted that this was also an issue for students last Spring, and it came to the Board for the same reason.*

*The motion on the table for this item passed unanimously.*

## **10.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

**(Roll Call Vote)**

*Generally routine items are approved by one motion without discussion. The Superintendent or a Board member may request an item be pulled from the consent agenda and voted upon separately.*

### **10.1 Items Subject or Not Subject to Closed Session:**

*10.1a Approve Grants, Entitlements and Other Income Agreements, Ratification of Other Agreements, Approval of Bid Awards, Approval of Declared Surplus Materials and Equipment, Change Notices and Notices of Completion (Rose Ramos)*

*10.1b Approve Personnel Transactions (Cancy McArn)*

*10.1c Approve Minutes of the December 3, 2020, Special Board of Education Meeting (Jorge A. Aguilar)*

*10.1d Approve Donations to the District for the Period of November 1-30, 2020 (Rose Ramos)*

*10.1e Approve Business and Financial Report: Warrants, Checks, and Electronic Transfers Issued for the Period of November 2020 (Rose Ramos)*

*President Pritchett asked for a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. A motion was made to approve by Member Rhodes and seconded by Member Villa. The Board voted unanimously to adopt the Consent Agenda.*

## **11.0 FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES / LOCATIONS**

- ✓ *January 14, 2021 4:30 p.m. Closed Session, 6:00 p.m. Open Session, Serna Center, 5735 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Community Room, Regular Workshop Meeting*
- ✓ *February 4, 2021, 4:30 p.m. Closed Session, 6:00 p.m. Open Session, Serna Center, 5735 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Community Room, Regular Workshop Meeting*

## **12.0 ADJOURNMENT**

*President Pritchett asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting; a motion was made by Student Member Sheik and seconded by Second Vice President Woo. The motion was passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.*

---

*Jorge A. Aguilar, Superintendent and Board Secretary*

*NOTE: The Sacramento City Unified School District encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. If you need a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in the public meeting, please contact the Board of Education Office at (916) 643-9314 at least 48 hours before the scheduled Board of Education meeting so that we may make every reasonable effort to accommodate you. [Government Code § 54953.2; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, § 202 (42 U.S.C. §12132)] Any public records distributed to the Board of Education less than 72 hours in advance of the meeting and relating to an open session item will be available on the District's website at [www.scusd.edu](http://www.scusd.edu)*