

## SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item<u># 8.1i</u>

## Meeting Date: March 20, 2025

# <u>Subject</u>: Approve Minutes for the February 20, 2025 Regular Board of Education Meeting

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

**Division:** Superintendent's Office

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Approve Minutes for the February 20, 2025, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Background/Rationale: None

Financial Considerations: None

LCAP Goal(s): Family and Community Empowerment

## **Documents Attached:**

1. Minutes of the February 20, 2025, Regular Board of Education Meeting

**Estimated Time of Presentation**: N/A **Submitted by:** Lisa Allen, Superintendent **Approved by**: Lisa Allen, Superintendent



## **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AND WORKSHOP**

#### **Board of Education Members**

Jasjit Singh, President (Trustee Area 2) Tara Jeane, Vice President (Trustee Area 1) Chinua Rhodes, Second Vice President (Trustee Area 5) Jose Navarro (Trustee Area 3) April Ybarra (Trustee Area 4) Taylor Kayatta (Trustee Area 6) Michael Benjamin (Trustee Area 7) Justine Chueh-Griffith, Student Member Thursday, February 20, 2025

5:00 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** 

## 2024/25-12

Allotted Time

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:08 p.m.

Members Present: Member Kayatta Member Rhodes Member Benjamin Member Jeane Member Ybarra Member Singh Member Navarro

Member Absent: Student Board Member Chueh-Griffith

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

No public comment

## 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)
- 3.2 Government Code 54957.6 (a) and (b) Negotiations/Collective Bargaining SCTA SEIU, TCS, Teamsters, UPE, Non-Represented/Confidential Management (Cancy McArn)
- 3.3 Government Code 54957 Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Complaint

## 4.0 CALL BACK TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called back to order at 6:16 p.m.

- 4.1 The Pledge of Allegiance
- 4.2 Broadcast Statement
- 4.3 Stellar Student introduced by Board Member April Ybarra

## 5.0 ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

There were 3 announcements that came out of closed session.

-The Board approved a settlement agreement related to special education services by a vote of 7-0. -The Board adopted resolution 2024/2025-A2 pursuant to Education Code section 44951 to release specified certificated administrators and authorized the District's Superintendent or her designee to notify those employees of their release by a vote of 7-0.

-The Board adopted resolutions 2024/2025-A4-A7 pursuant to Education Code sections 44951 and 44929.21 to release and non-reelect three certificated administrators and one certificated employee and authorized the District's Superintendent or her designee to notify those employees of their release by a vote of 7-0 for resolutions A4, A6, and A7, and by a vote of 6-1 with Member Kayatta voting against the action for resolution A5.

## 6.0 AGENDA ADOPTION

The Board adopted the agenda unanimously.

## 7.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public may address the Board on non-agenda items that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Public comment may be (1) emailed to publiccomment@scusd.edu; (2) submitted in writing through the district's website at https://www.scusd.edu/submit-public-comment; or (3) provided in-person at the meeting. The submission deadline for written public comments shall be no later than noon on the day of the meeting. If you intend to address the Board in-person, please fill out a yellow card available at the entrance. Speakers may be called in the order that requests are received, or grouped by subject area. We ask that comments are limited to two (2) minutes with no more than 15 minutes per single topic so that as many people as possible may be heard. 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.

Jacki Rose Ms. Ahisha Anglin Baker Cathleen Williams Adriana Nunez Victoria Cacciatore Beth Smoker Mallory Ullman Erinn Leone Teresa Hanneman Victor Ward Jessi B. Gray Taylor Saddler Kayla Yang Aydrien Tacuri Dahlia Green

## 8.0 CONSENT AGENDA

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.

- 8.1 Items Subject or Not Subject to Closed Session:
  - 8.1a 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 (Janea Marking)
  - 8.1b Approve Contracts Report >\$15,000 (Janea Marking)
  - 8.1c Approval of Unauthorized Vendor Payments (Janea Marking)
  - 8.1d Approve Purchase Order Board Report for the Period of December 15, 2024, through January 14, 2025 (Janea Marking)
  - 8.1e Approve Business and Financial Report: Warrants, Checks and Electronic Transfers Issued for the period of December 1-31, 2024 (Janea Marking)
  - 8.1f Approve Personnel Transactions (Cancy McArn)
  - 8.1g Approve Notice of Intent to Award for Professional Auditing Services ending June 30, 2025, to Crowe, LLP (Janea Marking)
  - 8.1h Approve Mandatory Reporting to the Sacramento County Office of Education Uniform Complaints Regarding the Williams Settlement Processed for the Period of October 2024 through December 2024 (Cancy McArn)
  - 8.1*i* Approve Resolution No. 3478 Resolution of Intention to Convey Utilities Easement to Sacramento County for Nicholas Elementary (Ben Wangberg)
  - 8.1j Approve Memorandum of Understanding Between SCUSD and USDA Forest Service to Evaluate District Urban Forestry Needs and Efforts (Nathaniel Browning)

- 8.1k Approve C.K.McClatchy New York City Field Trip April 13-18, 2025 (Mary Hardin Young and Jerad Hyden)
- 8.11 Approve Appointment of Board Member Chinua Rhodes to the California School Board Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly (Board President Jasjit Singh)
- 8.1m Approve Election of Delegates to the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly, Subregion 6-B (Sacramento County) (Superintendent Lisa Allen)
- 8.1n Approve 2024-25 Comprehensive Safe School Plans (Raymond Lozada)
- 8.10 Approval for four high school students to attend SXSW conference in Austin, Texas on March 3 through March 7 (Manpreet Kaur)

This is an action item.

Public Comment: No public comment

Board comment: Member Kayatta requested to pull agenda item 8.1g.

Member Kayatta made a motion with a second from President Singh to approve all items on the consent agenda excluding 8.1g. The Board voted 7-0 with a student preferential yes vote.

Member Kayatta shared that two years ago the Board was asked to award an audit services contract to Crowe, just like it is being asked to do so tonight. At the time proceeding that vote, Member Kayatta objected to continuing with Crowe, because he thought we should rotate audit firms. At the time, it was too late to seek out proposals for other firms, so we approved that with the contingency that they would rotate firms for the next audit. Member Kayatta remains uncomfortable continuing with Crowe, because the district has used the same audit firm for many years. Member Kayatta's request is not based on any concern with Crowe's performance or to seek out a better bid, but soley on best practices to rotate audit firms. Member Kayatta shared that in the staff report there were three firms that were selected as finalists, which included Crowe, Christy White, or CWDL. Member Kayatta is requesting to choose Christy White or CWDL.

Member Navarro trusts Member Kayatta's judgement, and as a public entity, he believes that we are best served by rotating audit firms every so often. Member Navarro wanted to know how many years Crowe has been used for auditing.

Member Jeane asked staff to share the process for selecting the finalists, the firm, and any cost implications.

President Singh shared that his understanding of RFPs in his line of work is that folks have to get a fair opportunity to apply, so if our staff have done the process for our organization that is best fitted, he trusts that outcome. President Singh does implore the Board to think about other options in the future, and seeing what it looks like to give an organization a break. President Singh doesn't want to create a process where we leave out the best organizations.

Member Kayatta made a motion to award the contract to Christy White LLP or CWDL with a second from Member Navarro. The Board voted 2-5 with Members Jeane, Benjamin, Singh, Rhodes and Ybarra voting no, and the student member abstaining.

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President Singh made a motion to approve the contract with Crowe with a second from Member Jeane. The Board voted 5-2 with Members Kayatta and Navarro voting no, and a student preferential yes vote.

## 9.0 COMMUNICATIONS

- 9.1 Employee Organization Reports:
  - SCTA Nikki Milevsky shared that with layoff notices on the agenda, that tonight is an unpleasant evening all around. Ms. Milevsky shared that all 7 board members were elected with a commitment that resources would be prioritized for the classroom and not the Serna Center. Since the 2019-2020 school year, the number of administrators in the district has increased from 265 to 385. At the same time, the district's enrollment has declined by over 4,000 students. It's important to point out that on tonight's agenda is the preliminary layoff notices, and not the final ones. Contrary to the Board's commitment to put the priority in the classroom, the brunt of the proposed cuts will be certificated and classified staff, rather than by administrators. Ms. Milevsky shared that there is still time to correct this situation. There is a Board meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup>, which is 9 days before the March 15<sup>th</sup> deadline established by Ed. Code, that requires a preliminary notice. SCTA and the district have the opportunity to negotiate alternatives to cuts among certificated staff. Earlier this afternoon, SCTA emailed the district of the demand to bargain over both the decision and the impact of potential reduction in force. They are hopeful that there will be constructive discussions to put in place priorities that are clearly set forth by the school board, and that every effort should be made to avoid cuts to those who provide direct services for our students.
  - SEIU- Karla Faucett shared that she is deeply concerned over 232 layoffs and reductions in hours affecting our classified staff. At the same time, we have over 500 vacancies across the district. This contradiction simply does not add up. Ms. Faucett fully expects that all impacted aids regardless of their classifications, will have the opportunity to transition into other available positions through impact bargaining. Ms. Faucett is deeply alarmed by what she was previously told were critical positions in Nutrition Services for Central Kitchen. In recent years, we fought to create these roles, and were insured of their critical importance to the department. We were forced to put long overdue reclassifications on hold to prioritize these positions through Human Resource Services. Now the very positions that we were told were essential, are not now on the chopping block. *Ms.* Faucett is also concerned by the devastating reduction of clerical staff. At the same time, there is a massive storage of instructional aids for Special Ed. This is forcing them to sign costly MOUs to pay approximately \$75 an hour to contract out hundreds of instructional aids. Meanwhile, our SEIU members who are dedicated and want to stay are being left behind. The district fails to provide ongoing and proper training to these workers despite their essential role in supporting students with complex needs. SEIU members have continued to ask for help, but they continue to be hit, kicked, beaten, spit on, and have furniture thrown at them. This is all while receiving little to no training, and this is unacceptable. Instead, money is poured into outside contracted aids with many of

them on their phones, walking around the hallways, and leaving students unattended. At some sites, those aids are running between crisis situations with no support, no structure, and no solutions. Our dedicated SEIU members are grossly underpaid, yet they show up every day, because they care about the students. When will the district start supporting them, provide them with proper training, and a wage that actually attracts, recruits, and retains skilled professionals? SEIU has submitted a formal request for information, and they expect a clear explanation of how this district plans to operate without proper staffing. Also, they want to know who will be absorbing the work of our classified employees. They demand accountability, transparency, and real solutions that put students and staff first.

- TCS- No update
- Teamsters- No update
- UPE- No update
- 9.2 Student Member Report (Justine Chueh-Griffith)- Member Justine Chueh-Griffith recognized the student walkout that took place on Tuesday at Hiram Johnson. There were 250ish students that walked out to protest the Trump administration. Member Chueh-Griffith feels hopeful and lucky to be consistently see peers showing up and advocating for themselves and each other. Member Chueh-Griffith highlighted the debate program, which she thinks is one of the most overlooked programs in the entire district. On Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, Member Chueh-Griffith invited the public to the C.K. McClatchy theater for a debate event. The event features Darrell Steinberg, Flojaune Cofer, Member Ybarra, and Member Jeane.
- 9.3 President's Report (Jasjit Singh)- President Singh highlighted Superintendent Allen for being awarded the Women of Influence Award at the City Year Sacramento's Women Empowering Women event. President Singh shared that he couldn't imagine a better person to help us and lead us through these tough discussions and conversations. President Singh shared that the Board will be starting Know Your Rights presentations for 7 weeks straight, which will start this Tuesday night. It will be from 5:30-7pm at Miwok Middle School, and President Singh will be speaking on behalf of the district about our plans and how we plan to implement our safe haven district policies, and how it actually work. President Singh recognized Ray Lozada for making sure the student walkouts are safe, peaceful, and meaningful. President Singh addressed students, and shared that while he understands the importance of walking out, he thinks there's value in educating themselves, getting good grades, and becoming the leaders of tomorrow. President Singh acknowledged the difficulty around discussions around layoffs. President Singh shared that they are committed to making sure that they have as minimal disruption to students as possible.
- 9.4 Information Sharing by Board Members- Member Jeane shared that she reached out to CSBA to see if they can partner with them regarding our policy overhaul. Member Jeane is really excited to participate in the debate again. Member Navarro echoed President Singh's sentiment around layoffs. Member Navarro congratulated, Edward Eldridge, who is a teacher at Rosemont High School for being recognized as one of Sacramento Bee's 2025 Black Changemakers.

#### 10.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATION

10.1 National Eating Disorder Awareness Week Resolution (Noel Estacio)

Noel presented the National Eating Disorder Awareness Week resolution and read aloud articles from the resolution. This is an action item.

Public Comment: No public comment

Board comment: No Board comment

President Singh thanked staff for presenting the resolution. Member Singh made a motion with a second from Member Jeane. The Board voted 7-0 with a student preferential yes vote.

10.2 Approve Updated English Learner Master Plan 2025-26 (Dr. Olga Simms)

Dr. Olga Simms shared laws and regulations, Multilingual Literacy Department goals, English Learner Master Plan guidance documents, EL Master Plan revisions and updates, and the EL Master Plan implementation journey. This is an action item.

Public Comment: No public comment

## Board comment:

When talking about the Multilingual Literacy Department goals, Member Ybarra shared that she didn't see anything referenced around the LCAP. Member Ybarra believes this is an important piece for them to understand how these guiding principles and department goals are influencing that. When speaking about the assessment process, Member Ybarra thinks it's important to explain the importance behind that, because she thinks that there is a lack of awareness on how this can impact a student is meeting the A-G requirements when they're at the high school level, and they're not able to reclassify, because of not having that assessment.

Member Rhodes made a motion with a second from MemberYbarra. The Board voted 7-0 with a student preferential yes vote.

10.3 Parent Participation Preschool Program Recommendation and Fee Based School Age Programs (Yvonne Wright)

Yvonne Wright provided information around the Parent Participation Preschool Program

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and Fee Based School Age Before/After-school Programs, so the Board can provide recommendations. This is an information item.

Public Comment: Ashley Curry Terrence Gladney Rebecca Hawkins Cassandra Tillman Chris Perez Nikki Milevsky Christina Paulsen Annika Paulsen Jillian Jackson Tamara Toby Melissa Pennel Stacev Caldwell Ella Shanahan Christina Poindexter Ana Greene Amanda Hague Melissa Miller Rebecca Gross Tigh Rickman

#### Board comment:

President Singh thinks it would be good to get information by the next board meeting around some of the questions, like current efforts to solicit enrollment and what that effort looks like to see what we have been doing. Also, it's important to look at and address if parents if actually been turned away. President Singh understands the fingerprinting process, but is there a way to mitigate that and figure out what situations where parents have been turned away to see if there's truth to that comment. President Singh would like data around what the Parent Participation Preschool Program age gaps it covers outside of TK? When looking at the current enrollment status, President Singh wants to know which school programs are competing with TK? President Singh reiterated his questions on what are our efforts with soliciting enrollment, seeing if there is some reality to the fingerprinting issue, and breaking down the current enrollment status and showing us the 3 vear olds enrolled? President Singh also wants to know the importance of what the program offers separate from what TK programs offers, because he is aware this is for parents to come in and provide support. For the paid programs, when we are looking at enrollment, the numbers are actually high. When looking at the budget, President Singh wants to know if staff are looking at the budget shortfall? Member Jeane is thinking about how often Sac City breaks ground and how amazing that

Member Jeane is thinking about how often Sac City breaks ground and how amazing that is. Member Jeane shared that it sounds like when this first started, there was grant money that was assigned to this and funding it, and at some point that money went away. Member Jeane shared that it's a challenge when grant money goes away, it goes to the general budget, and the general budget isn't big enough to cover what we have to do in addition to these additional programs. Member Jeane is not sure how to track this, but wants to know what are the outcomes of this program? Are there parents that move from this program, and that are participating in other schools? Are there students that move from this program and end up participating in other things?Member Jeane shared that we have to make sure that we are not cutting vital things that create more issues. Member Jeane wanted to know if the number of kids now need to transition elsewhere, do we have the capacity in all of our programs?What does that look like? Where does our staff end up going? What jobs are they going to end up having? What inadvertent problems are we going to create without thinking about this? Member Jeane thinks that there might need to be more voices in the room as we approach what our future steps are in this program.

Member Kayatta appreciates the passion of this program and thanked staff for bringing this to them. Member Kayatta thinks that it might not fully be clear to the community how challenging our budget is, and if we don't turn things around really quickly, the county office of education will be asking them to make more severe cuts. Member Kayatta shared that we can't keep supporting programs when we have always had them, and funding has gone away, and other sources come. With that said, Member Kayatta said that doesn't mean that we're going to cut everything. They need to look at each one and continue having these hard conversations. It will be critical to keep hearing from the community on this. Member Kayatta shared that we really are offering something unique, but we need to identify how affordable it is to do that, and when it is appropriate to direct people to other programs. Member Kayatta shared that the real benefit he sees with the Parent Participation Preschool Program is bringing kids into our educational system and stabilizing and growing Sac City. Member Kayatta wants to know if this is something that we just offer that we're using our education dollars to pay for kids who don't even go to our schools? Member Kavatta wants to know how many of the kids are actually matriculating through Sac City? With respect to the after school programs, Member Kayatta is a lot more interested in educating families on the confusion around what is offered. Member Kayatta just wants to make sure that before we talk about cutting the program, that the other afterschool program can handle it.

Member Ybarra wants to know if the Parent Participation Program is an open enrollment process, and if it is accessible to all students at SCUSD or is it only available to students the neighborhoods where the schools are located? Member Ybarra wants to know how families know that it is an open enrollment? Member Ybarra is interested in learning about the selection process.

Member Navarro asked to clarify the cost of the Parent Participation Preschool Program. Member Navarro wants to know how many students we have lost to TK, and if there is a way to keep track of that data? Member Navarro asked if there is a marketing plan in place for both programs.

President Singh asked if we can track if students coming from outside of the district, if we're able to keep those students in the district? One of the constant questions that come up is enrollment, and if there is a way to increase that enrollment in our district generally, that can be a positive light on this program.

## 11.0 PUBLIC HEARING

11.1 Ethel I. Baker Construction Prop 2 Public Hearing to Authorize Project (Chris Ralston) Chris Ralston is seeking permission to host a public hearing on the proposed Ethel I. Baker Measure H project. It is 1 of the 12 schools listed in the Facilities Master Plan vision projects, and this is their next in line to start. The project would start right away with construction starting in 2027, and would be open in fall of 2029. Interim housing would be at C.B. Wire. The estimated project budget for this is \$115 million dollars.

Public Comment: No public comment

Board comment: No Board comments

*Member Singh made a motion with a second from Member Kayatta. The Board voted 7-0 with the student member absent.* 

## 12.0 BOARD WORKSHOP/STRATEGIC INITATIVE

12.1 2025-26 Budget Development Update (Janea Marking)

Janea Marking shared a recap on implementation of the redesigned budget development process for 2025-26 and review progress on the Board approved right-sizing plan. This is an information item.

Public Comment: No public comment

## Board comment:

Member Jeane wanted to clarify that Janea mentioned that there are no proposed cuts, and that we are looking at 2 items, which Member Jeane wanted to know what those two items were. The two items are adjustments due to declining enrollment and adjustments due to the loss or lack of one-time funding. Member Jeane appreciates the efforts to make sure that we're spending this year's dollars on this year's students where they deserve to have it spent. At the same time, making sure that we're being fiduciarily responsible and address the requests of those who are required to oversee us.

12.2 Resolution No. 3471: Resolution to Eliminate Certificated Positions Due to a Reduction of Particular Kinds of Service (Cancy McArn)

Cancy McArn shared the budget development process, programmatic updates, and recommendations and next steps. This is an action item.

Public Comment: Monica Castaneda Chavez

#### Board comment:

Member Kaytta shared that he is cognizant that SCOE is very much paying attention to what we are doing here and making sure that we're committed to having a budget that makes sense. To the extent that we will keep people at the district, Member Kayatta thinks that is the most important part. Member Kayatta shared that we need to identify based on our current student levels, where staff are needed. Member Kayatta does not want to see people leaving our district for another profession or going to another district. Member Kayatta mentioned that we have had incredible recruiting challenges over the years, and if we lay people off who we just spent years trying to hire, it just doesn't make sense to him. Earlier there were comments from SCTA and SEIU, talking about all seven of them up here committing to avoiding impacts at the site level. This is not something that they agree to as part of their campaigns, but it's the core of why they're here. Any sort of reduction in services, should be as isolated away from the students as possible. Member Kayatta understands that this is procedural, and will allow them to continue down that, so he will be supporting this tonight. Moving forward, Member Kayatta shared that if we are removing staff at school levels and hopefully keeping them in the district, because our enrollment is down, the level of staffing at Serna Center should also go down. Serna's population has continued to grow, and yet, we are asking our schools to suffer for that. Member Kayatta shared that this is not something that he can support. Member Kayatta shared that if we are asking for any impacts at our schools, we really need to be on our absolute A-game here in the district office. This is something that increasingly as we face these difficult conversations around the budget, it's becoming really clear to him that this is where he is going to draw the line.

Member Benjamin shared that he has been on both sides of the layoffs and it's tough. Member Benjamin and looking at some of these positions that are closing, and it is going to impact some of the most marginalized kids. Member Benjamin has community schools in his area, and these services directly affect these students. Member Benjamin is concerned about it. Member Benjamin understands that we need to remain fiscally sound, but it's hard for him to wrap his head around cutting direct services, so moving forward, we really have to take a look at what we cut.

President Singh agrees and think that the Board is being clear on the type of cuts and where they want to see them. At the same time, there is still time to make some changes and make some shifts.

Member Singh made a motion with an amendment to remove the 6.5 FTE positions attributed to the Parent Participation Preschool Program and individuals at LDV and Matsuyama with a second from Member Kayatta. The Board voted 7-0 with no student preferential vote.

12.3 Resolution No. 3472: Determination for Tie-Breaking Criteria (Cancy McArn)

*Cancy McArn shared the tie breaking criteria, proposed point system, recommendation, and next steps. This is an action item.* 

Public Comment: No public comment Board comment: No Board comment

Member Singh made a motion with a second from Member Navarro. The Board voted 7-0 with no student preferential vote.

12.4 Resolution No.3473: Resolution to Determine Criteria for Deviation from Terminating a Certificated Employee in Order of Seniority ("Skipping" Criteria) (Cancy McArn)

*Cancy McArn shared the areas of deviation from seniority, competency criteria, recommendations, and next steps. This is an action item.* 

Public Comment: No public comment

Board comment: No Board comment

Member Jeane made a motion with a second from Member Ybarra. The Board voted 7-0 with no student preferential vote.

12.5 Resolution No. 3476: Notice of Layoff: Classified Employees – Reduction in Force Due to Lack of Funds and/or of Work (Cancy McArn)

*Cancy McArn shared the budget development process, programmatic updates, reductions, preliminary notices, recommendations, and next steps.* 

Public Comment: Mary Struhs Jamie Bateman Anna Tyulya Marisol Ruiz Elia Del Toro Vargas Courtney Poole Celia Vargas

## Board comment:

Member Ybarra appreciates all the comments. Member Ybarra shared that there are so many concerns that come around, specifically, when it comes to mental health services that we're offering our students during this current climate. Member Ybarra shared that the city recommends 250 to 250 students per social worker, and we are nowhere close to that. Member Ybarra shared that the City of Sacramento is also making budget cuts, and the

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city lacks a strong mental health triage for mental health services in general. If there is a student, child, or adult with mental health needs, you go to the emergency room and you sit there for days until a facility that opens up. For the services that we provide through the individuals that came and gave public comment, they help the likelihood of getting to that level significantly.

Member Kayatta shared that the Board received this packet at the same time as the public, so he has been flipping through it, but it has been jam-packed this evening. Member Kayatta understands that this is the first step, and it doesn't necessarily mean that these positions are gone. Member Kayatta wanted to clarify that this was just the authorization. Member Kayatta shared that it's really hard to capture the impacts of this without knowing what we're doing. Member Kayatta shared that this seems a lot more than matching declining enrollment. Member Kayatta shares Member Ybarra's concerns, and we need a lot more social workers in our schools. We have positions that we can't even fill, and we are going to be removing them. A lot of the positions that we are eliminating don't even have an asterisk. Member Kayatta shared that it is challenging for him with the positions that he knows we have had trouble recruiting for and we've struggled with, and now, they're gone. Member Kayatta shared that there are things that they would like to prioritize like, mental health and homeless services. Member Kayatta shared that there are no positions that are easy to lose, but there are some things that we really know that our students need. Member Kayatta is not seeing the Chief Counsel position on the list, which we funded at a really high level, and haven't been able to fill for about 2 years. Member Chueh-Griffith wanted to know how the layoffs and potential cuts to Special Ed. staff would change or augment our ability to fulfill 504 and IEP plans, and how would we still be able to provide those services with less staff.

Member Jeane shared that we knew the tough decisions were coming with ESSER funding. Member Jeane is thinking back to October when we got a health and human services presentation, and it mentioned that this was coming. At the time, Member Jeane asked what the plan was, and at the time there wasn't a plan. It sounds like there isn't a plan, because there is no money, and that's really hard. Member Jeane knows that the health and human services department is going through a lot of transitions, and there needs to be big programmatic conversations about a variety of things. Member Jeane looks forward to those conversations happening. Member Jeane knows all the work that has gone into this, and will have to vote yes on this, and knows that we are going to do everything we need to and can do to support the mental health of our students in our district.

Member Navarro shared that he noticed that we're only doing this with people that actually work in the schools, and the decision that we are making that is based on enrollment numbers. Member Navarro mentioned what Member Kayatta shared about making the commitment that we were going to keep as much as the personnel that we needed at the school sites or as close as possible to the classroom, so if we lose enrollment, how come we don't have any layoff notices for people that don't work in the school sites?

Member Ybarra shared that although for the most part as a Board we may align and are like-minded, but she respectively asks for her fellow board members to refrain from making comments that imply that they are in agreement with something, because that is not always the case, and that is okay, because sometimes we have to agree to disagree.

Member Benjamin shared that he worked for the District pre- and post-Covid. Member Benjamin wanted to know how the asterisks are determined, was there a rubric used, and who was surveyed to put together the priorities of the need?

Member Chueh-Griffith shared that something she finds herself thinking about is what would happen if we did lose this site mental health staff? Member Chueh-Griffith doesn't

have faith in the staff at Serna Center are going to be able to respond to student crisis's and mental health issues, and actually give students the support that they deserve and need right now. When the Student Mental Health Council came together, one of the first thing that they recognized was the lack of places that students could go to actually get mentally health support. Member Chueh-Griffith is really concerned that the number of mental health spaces are going to go from few to zero. Member Chueh-Griffith goes to school every day and can see the mental health toll, and the amount of people she knows and just at her school alone, and in this District who are in school and have attempted suicide, or are currently considering suicide is terrifying. Member Chueh-Griffith does not want students to have to look off of their sites to get support.

Member Kayatta wanted to clarify if we are including site-based mental health staff here or is this Serna level staff.

President Singh thinks that the issue that they are dealing with right now, is that the Board has a duty to offer direction to staff, and there seems to be a lot of missing alignment on decision making. President Singh shared that there are multiple positions and all positions are important, but as what was mentioned earlier, Special Ed. carries a little additional weight. Member Singh shared that what we are facing here is that there's a lot of things that have Special Ed. listed next to them, and they are on the list for layoffs. Member Singh highly encourages staff to figure out ways to have landing spots for Special Ed. positions, and build some sort of priority in the next couple of weeks to ensure that we find ways to get those landing spots done.

Member Navarro made a motion with a second from Member Navarro. The Board voted 7-0 with no student preferential vote.

12.6 2024-25 Local Control and Accountability Plan Mid-Year Review (Dr. Ed Eldridge)

Dr. Ed Eldridge shared the LCAP's "Big 3" district goals, metrics, expenditures and implementation, graduation outcomes, academic outcomes, sense of being welcome and safe, and strategies implemented to improve outcomes.

Public Comment: Terrence Gladney

## Board comment:

President Singh wanted staff to address some of the questions that Mr. Gladney brought forth. Is there financial information that they should be seeing?

12.7 2024-25 Local Control and Accountability Plan Mid-Year Review for Dependent Charter Schools (Amanda Goldman, Ed.D & Dr. Ed Eldridge)

Amanda Goldman shared understanding "locally-funded" dependent schools, all 5 dependent charters have completed their mid-year LCAP review and shared those updates with their local steering committees, and the summaries for high schools and middle schools. Public Comment: Terrence Gladney

Board comment:

Member Ybarra shared that seeing the chart that was presented shows the improvement of the work that Mrs. Goldman is doing and she wants to thank her for that work and congratulate her, because they are seeing positive outcomes.

12.8 2025-26 Governor's Budget Proposal Update (Janea Marking and Leilani Aguinaldo)

Cindy Tao introduced Leilani Aguinaldo, who is the Senior Director for Governmental Relations School Services of California Inc. Ms. Aguinaldo shared the state budget cycle, Prop 98 minimum guarantee, risks to Prop 98 and the education budget, SCC financial projection dartboard, LCFF equity multiplier, universal TK proposals, expanded learning opportunities program, student support and professional development discretionary block grant proposal, learning recovery emergency block grant proposal, and next steps for 2025-26 budget development.

Public Comment: No public comment

Board comment: No Board comment

## 13.0 BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION/REPORTS

13.1 Business and Financial Information: Enrollment and Attendance Report – Month 4, Ending Friday, December 6, 2024 (Janea Marking)

## 14.0 FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES / LOCATIONS

- ✓ March 6, 2025, 5:00 p.m. Closed Session, 6:00 p.m. Open Session, Serna Center, 5735 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Community Room, Regular Workshop Meeting
- ✓ March 20, 2025, 5:00 p.m. Closed Session, 6:00 p.m. Open Session, Serna Center, 5735 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Community Room, Regular Workshop Meeting

## 15.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 p.m.

*Lisa Allen, 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 relating to an open session item will be available for public inspection at the Serna Center, at 5735 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Sacramento, during normal business hours or on the District's website at <u>www.scusd.edu</u>.