

**TULARE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES**

The Tulare County Board of Education met on Wednesday, February 8, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. for a regular board meeting in the Redwood CDEF meeting room at the Jim Vidak Education Center, 6200 S. Mooney Boulevard, Visalia, California.

PRESENT Tom Link, President
Board Members Joe Enea, Vice President
Debby Holguin
Celia Maldonado-Arroyo
Chris Reed
Tony Rodriguez
Dr. Fernie Marroquin, Ex-Officio Secretary

ABSENT Judy Coble
Board Member

PRESENT Julie Berk, Assistant Superintendent, Student Support Services
Staff Members Jennifer Fisher, Administrative Secretary
Rob Herman, Communications Director
Jeff Ramsay, Director, General Services
Freddy Reyes, Helpdesk Support Specialist, Information Systems
Jose Bedolla, Principal, La Sierra Military Academy
John Davis, Administrator, Leadership Support Services
Dedi Somavia, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Paula Terrill, Student Events Coordinator
Sara Marvin, Credentials/Retirement Analyst
Dr. Jennifer Newell, Director, Behavioral Health Services
Ron Pekarek, Program Manager, Bright Future/Bright Start Programs
Jennifer Reimer, Administrator, Mild to Moderate Programs
Tammy Bradford, Assistant Superintendent, Special Services
Eric Thiessen, Principal, University Preparatory High School
Sarah Hamilton, Administrator II, AcCEL Programs
Kelley Petty, CHARACTER COUNTS! Coordinator
Andrea Perez, Assistant Superintendent, District Support Services

GUESTS Guests as listed in the register including Laura A. Gonzalez and Joshua Whiteside.

CALL TO ORDER Board President Tom Link welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
Pledge of Allegiance/ Tony Rodriguez led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Welcome

ADA
ACCOMMODATIONS

Mr. Link announced that ADA accommodations had been met.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public did not address any matter of jurisdiction.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Enea, seconded by Maldonado-Arroyo to approve the consent calendar to include minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of January 11, 2023, Countywide Registration of Credentials, Temporary County Certificates, Emergency Permits and listed donations. Motion unanimously carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez. Board member Coble was absent.

Tom Link thanked Rick’s Vending and Distributing for their donation of \$1,000, Tulare Community Church for their donation of \$2,000 and TCOE staff, district staff and community partners for their donations totaling \$3,030.

PRESENTATION OF
WOODLAKE UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Tom Link called on Laura Gonzalez for the presentation about Woodlake Unified School District. Ms. Gonzalez introduced their schools and highlighted their Aviation Pathway. The program started in August 2021 and is supported by a \$100,000 grant. She shared a video about the pathway program.

Additionally, Ms. Gonzalez highlighted the Dog School Program, which trains service dogs, the McCracken District Farm, and the Robotics team. Their Robotics team, which started this year, is the only school from California to compete nationally. Woodlake Unified has strong partnerships with the Woodlake Family Resource Center, City of Woodlake and the Woodlake Rodeo.

Ms. Gonzalez’s first year as Superintendent at Woodlake was during the pandemic. Many of their middle and high school students fell behind at this time because they were babysitting younger siblings at home rather than studying. The district is working to make up for the learning loss that occurred. In order to keep parents informed, she started monthly parent video messages. Ms. Gonzalez invited the board to visit Woodlake.

The Board thanked Ms. Gonzalez for her presentation.

PRESENTATION OF
WILLIAMS/
VALENZUELA
UNIFORM
COMPLAINT REPORT
FOURTH QUARTER
2022

Dedi Somavia presented the Williams/Valenzuela Uniform Complaint Report for the Fourth Quarter of 2022. There were no complaints received during this period in any areas. This was an informational item only.

PRESENTATION OF
STUDENT FUTURE
READY EVENTS
BUTTON AND
LANYARD PROJECT

Paula Terrill presented the Student Future Ready Events Button and Lanyard Project to the Board. Ms. Terrill explained the project will help track and promote the events that students participate in with TCOE. Students will receive a blue lanyard when they participate in their first event. Additionally, students will receive a button for every event they participate in. Event staff and volunteers will receive a red lanyard and buttons for each event that they participate in. Ms. Terrill noted that each board member had been given a schedule of events, a red lanyard and a button for each event. This item was an informational item only.

Mr. Link thanked Ms. Terrill for her presentation.

REPORT OF
ESTIMATED COSTS
OF PERS
RETIREMENT
INCENTIVE WINDOW
PERIOD 04/01/2023-
06/30/2023

Sara Marvin reported to the Board that the retirement incentive window of April 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023, for Earlimart shows a cost savings. This item was an informational item only.

RED RIBBON
DONATION TO CASA
OF TULARE COUNTY

Jennifer Fisher requested the Board's approval to give the Red Ribbon donation of \$3,030 to CASA of Tulare County. It was moved by Reed, seconded by Holguin to approve the Red Ribbon Donation to CASA of Tulare County. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez. Board member Coble was absent.

MENTAL HEALTH
AVERAGE DAILY
ATTENDANCE GRANT
2022-2023

Dr. Jennifer Newell asked the Board's approval on the Mental Health Average Daily Attendance Grant 2022-2023 for \$1,214,680. This grant provides federal funds for mental health services. Mr. Rodriguez requested more information about the services provided by Behavioral Health Services. Dr. Newell said that she would be happy to provide the information to him. It was moved by Enea, seconded by Rodriguez to approve the Mental Health Average Daily Attendance Grant 2022-2023. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez. Board member Coble was absent.

PART C, EARLY
EDUCATION
PROGRAM GRANT
2022-2023

Ron Pekarek asked for the Board to approve the Part C, Early Education Program Grant 2022-2023 for \$140,675. This annual grant from the state supplements the Bright Start Program. It was moved by Maldonado-Arroyo, seconded by Enea to approve Part C, Early Education Program Grant 2022-2023. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez. Board member Coble was absent.

WORKABILITY I
PROGRAM GRANT
2022-2023

Jennifer Reimer requested approval from the Board for the Workability I Program Grant 2022-2023 for \$81,540. The grant supports the vocational education training programs for Special Services' students. It was moved by Reed, seconded by Rodriguez to approve the Workability I Program Grant 2022-2023. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez. Board member Coble was absent.

FIRST READING OF
BOARD POLICY
6146.4 DIFFERENTIAL
GRADUATION AND
COMPETENCY
STANDARDS FOR
STUDENTS WITH
DISABILITIES

Tammy Bradford shared that Special Services' Behavioral Health Services was asked to present to the Governor's Advisory Council on Special Education next week.

She advised the Board this was the first reading of Board Policy 6146.4, Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities. Students on a certificate of diploma track are can graduate with a certificate of completion based on their IEP, progress, and goals. Action will be taken on this agenda item at the March board meeting.

Dr. Marroquin announced that Tammy Bradford has been named Administrator of the Year for Special Education by both ACSA of Tulare County and Region XI. Her nomination will be forwarded on to the state level. The Board congratulated Ms. Bradford.

FIRST READING
BOARD POLICY AND
ADMINISTRATIVE
REGULATION 6161.1
SELECTION AND
EVALUATION OF
INSTRUCTIONAL
MATERIALS

Julie Berk advised the Board this was the first reading of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6161.1, Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials. The updates and revisions are based on recommendation from CSBA to include new laws and legislation. This board policy now includes an administrative regulation. Action will be taken on this agenda item at the March board meeting.

FIRST READING OF
BOARD POLICY
6146.1 HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATION
REQUIREMENTS

Julie Berk advised the Board this was the first reading of Board Policy 6146.1, High School Graduation Requirements. The updates and revisions from CSBA are for dependent charters. Action will be taken on this agenda item at the March board meeting.

FIRST READING
BOARD POLICY AND
ADMINISTRATIVE
REGULATION 6143
COURSES OF STUDY

Julie Berk advised the Board this was the first reading of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6161.1, Courses of Study. The language changed very little on this policy. Action will be taken on this agenda item at the March board meeting.

COMPREHENSIVE
SCHOOL SITE
SAFETY PLAN 2023-
2024 UNIVERSITY
PREPARATORY HIGH
SCHOOL

John Davis reported that the Comprehensive School Safety Plans are required to be updated and submitted for board approval annually by March 1. Schools work with educational partners, first responders and their school site councils to update the plans.

Eric Thiessen requested approval from the Board for the Comprehensive School Safety Plan 2023-2024 for University Preparatory High School. UPHS works with their school site council, school site advisory board and COS Police Department. Their plan incorporates COS safety procedures and UPHS works closely with COS during an incident. It was moved by Enea, seconded by Holguin to approve the Comprehensive School Safety Plan 2023-2024 for University Preparatory High School. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez. Board member Coble was absent.

COMPREHENSIVE
SCHOOL SITE
SAFETY PLAN 2023-
2024 COMMUNITY
AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION
SCHOOLS

Sarah Hamilton asked for the Board's approval on the Comprehensive School Safety Plan 2023-2024 for Community and Special Education Schools. The plan addresses the needs of community school students and AcCEL students, many of whom are on district sites. It was moved by Reed, seconded by Rodriguez to approve the Comprehensive School Safety Plan 2023-2024 for Community and Special Education Schools. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez. Board member Coble was absent.

COMPREHENSIVE
SCHOOL SITE
SAFETY PLAN 2023-
2024 LA SIERRA
MILITARY ACADEMY

Jose Bedolla requested the Board's approval for the Comprehensive School Safety Plan 2023-2024 for La Sierra Military Academy. The plan has been updated and approved by their school site council. It was moved by Maldonado-Arroyo, seconded by Enea to approve the Comprehensive School Safety Plan 2023-2024 for La Sierra Military Academy. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez. Board member Coble was absent.

TITLE I PARENT
INVOLVEMENT
POLICY AND PARENT
COMPACT 2022-2023
LA SIERRA MILITARY
ACADEMY

Jose Bedolla asked the Board to approve the Title I Parent Involvement Policy and Parent Compact 2022-2023 for La Sierra Military Academy. The Parent Involvement Policy details the steps that La Sierra is committed to implementing in order to build parent capacity, collaboration, and involvement. The parent compact describes the shared responsibilities that families, students, and staff have to ensure students receive a top quality education. It was moved by Enea, seconded by Maldonado-Arroyo to Title I Parent Involvement Policy and Parent Compact 2022-2023 for La Sierra Military Academy. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Enea, Holguin, Link, Maldonado-Arroyo, Reed, and Rodriguez. Board member Coble was absent.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Dr. Fernie Marroquin presented on behalf of Superintendent Hire. He noted the information for the CSBA district assembly ballot in their packets. This item will be on the agenda to for action to be taken at next month's meeting. Dr. Marroquin invited the Board to the upcoming student events that Ms. Terrill shared in her presentation.

Dr. Marroquin shared exciting news that TCOE is in the final phases of purchasing the 30 acres surrounding the Planetarium and Liberty Center. This property will provide TCOE ample space to grow. Mr. Hire will share more of his vision in the future.

Mr. Link reported that the Tulare County Trustee dinner, hosted by Uniserv, will be at the Visalia Marriott tomorrow night. He also announced Green Acres will present *Oklahoma!* this weekend.

NEXT SCHEDULED
MEETING

March 8, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. Redwood Rooms CDEF

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.