



MINUTES OF BUDGET/LCAP PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A. CALL PUBLIC SESSION TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Mrs. Chrissy Falk, Board President.

- B. ROLL CALL: Board Members: Chrissy Falk, President; Tom Mendenhall, Vice President; Ron Eldridge, Clerk; Jason Schroer (A); Wes Qualls; Connie Schlaefer; Don Fowler.
- C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Motion to adopt agenda with the following revisions: (Agenda Item XI.D-Approval for Out of State Travel changed from four to five staff members; and in the May 13 minutes, Agenda Item VI.D-Marketing Proposal, the "No" vote was from Schlaefer): Qualls: Second: Mendenhall: 6/0

D. IDENTIFY CLOSED SESSION TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

- 1. Personnel
- 2. Student Appeal-Grade Acceleration
- 3. Individual Student Disciplinary Matters
- E. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Chrissy Falk led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence was held in remembrance of Stacy Hamilton.

II. RECOGNITIONS

A. Jim Harris

Melissa Ireland shared the following in honor of Jim: Jim Harris started with Sierra Unified in 1991 as a bus driver, and became a bus driver mechanic in 2002. In 2012 he became the supervisor for facilities and maintenance, where he will continue serving until his retirement at the end of this month. I first came to know Jim when I was a Sierra High Principal and he was the CSEA Union President. I became a fan because he approached employee concerns fairly, with a level head. I noticed then that he was a good problem solver and he had the respect of the classified staff - and he earned mine very quickly as well. When the Facilities Supervisor position became open, Jim put his name in for the job and I was very glad that he did. I have remained very happy with his work and his attitude. Working with Jim Harris has been very easy. He never says not to a request. When he is asked to do something, he always finds a way to get it done. Jim also has set Facilities and Maintenance on a course of improvement since the day he got the job. He always looks and plans ahead making the most of his budget and the very qualified maintenance staff that he has. He has been a pleasure to work with. He still has the respect of his colleagues and the people he supervises and I think I know why. He is honest, caring, hardworking and knowledgeable. The people, all of us, who work with Jim trust him and appreciate his genuine and kind nature. He has done such good work for this District and though he will be missed, we all wish him the very best in retirement.

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B. Melissa Ireland

In recognition of Dr. Melissa Ireland and her retirement as Superintendent, each Board member took a moment to express their appreciation.

Don Fowler: "All of us are sad to see Melissa go. I have never doubted once where your heart was. It's with the schools and the district and the kids. I hope that we can emulate your example and the dedication to the kids in all that we do as Board Members and that the staff follows your lead. It's going to be hard to follow, but we're going to try."

Connie Schlaefer: "You encouraged me to run for the Board, which I'm sure you may have regretted on occasion, but that actually meant a lot to me, and it still does. I feel like you have personified the hard work that this district has gone through to overcome a lot of turmoil and tough decisions. You have always kept the focus on getting better for kids, and I think that you have left this district in a better place. You have certainly earned our respect, and I'm very grateful for having the opportunity to have served with you."

Wes Qualls speaking of four things that stand out as a testimony to Dr. Ireland's excellence, noted how huge it was when she stepped up and assumed both the positions of Principal and Superintendent. She really saved us and did a fine job occupying both. Next would be her response to the LCFF and the LCAP, where she met all the requirements of the State in a climate that was constantly changing. It was exemplary and was sort of a model at the state level. 3rd is her excellence in our Native American programs. It has moved to a new level. Then her work in regards to Sandy Bluffs, with Ara, shows a huge difference today than when she first took over. There is a different climate, a different attitude. He thanked her for all of that and more.

Ron Eldridge: "When I think back about the impact you've had on this Board during your tenure, there seems to be one constant theme, and you just heard it echoed three times, that's leadership. How do you define leadership? Leaders better their environment. Leaders do not exist just to order workers around. They know their team and themselves well, they surround themselves with good people, they maintain a positive attitude through ups and downs, and they build the next generation of leaders. Leaders can't and shouldn't stand alone. Those points exemplify exactly what Dr. Ireland has given to this district. While I was not on the Board during the great recession, I know based on conversations I've had with others, it was the leadership of Dr. Ireland that got this district through those times. This was no easy feat. Her negotiations with her employee groups proved to be the key to our survival, literally. We came out on the other side, stronger, more focused and efficient and her leadership helped the district to recover most of the things that we lost during that time. Since then our district has thrived. We've accomplished many things that have put our students first, and I know it's the leadership of Dr. Ireland that has put us in a really great place. In true leadership style, she's leaving the district in a better place than when she took the reins, and as a Board, that is our best hope with our one and only employee. As a past Board President, I'm also appreciative of the guidance and spirited debates, keeping us on track with making educated decisions based on information provided. All points of view and ideas were always welcomed even if we disagreed. This is how a representative school board should operate. I will miss our non-school related political discussions. Thank you for you exemplary operation of the district and I pray for the shoes that Dr. Harris is about to fill. I look forward to the future with continues success, and I know you'll be watching to see the continued building of the foundation you've built. Enjoy your retirement. It's well deserved. Congratulations."

Tom Mendenhall: "It's been a privilege and an honor. I have learned a considerable amount of stuff I never thought I'd need to know. But I've learned it because as a good leader you were willing to teach, and willing to educate. You told me a couple of different times, 'One of the best things you can do when somebody comes in upset, is stop and let them talk. Don't interrupt. Let them say everything they have to say, and care. Then they know someone has listened to them. They can leaving feeling I've got my word out.' That means a lot for a lot of different people, good side and bad side. Also 'Think about what they've said and take that to the next step using that in your decisions.' Two of the most important things you've done, is Sandy Bluffs and the Native Americans. They've been raised up ten-fold which is fantastic. I know when we found out that Sandy Bluffs was not an educational school with a diploma, you got very upset and changed things. You got the right person in the place which shows a great leader, getting the right people in the right place. Thank you again. I appreciate everything you've done for us."

Chrissy Falk speaking of Melissa's passion for always doing what is best for the students: "I want to tell you that I admire and appreciate your leadership and your passion for always doing the best for children. I have seen this firsthand as you and I have discussed and even shed tears over students, always working to determine how we can do an even better job serving them. We have shared smiles and encouraging words over their successes, and cried together over losses of staff, students and community. I have always admired how you stand up for staff, esteeming them, all of them, regardless of their role in the district. You value that every single employee at Sierra Unified is necessary for the district to be successful. You led them and the entire district through one of the most challenging times Sierra Unified ever faced. Due to your leadership, we came out on the other side stronger and more resilient than ever. You should be very proud of that. Since that time, you have raised the bar and set high goals for Sierra Unified. I promise that we will continue to work to achieve those goals. The work you have done, the work that our team has all done together, speaks even more to all you should be proud of. The position of Superintendent is not for the weak or weary. During our time on the board we have walked side by side through some pretty rough times. Yet through it all you have led with integrity, always doing what is right, even if not popular, which is yet another sign of excellent leadership. We've logged many hours discussing ideas, challenging one another, sometimes disagreeing but always walking away from the conversation united as a team. Through our relationship here we have become friends. I am and will forever be grateful for that friendship and look forward to it continuing over walks, yoga, or coffee. Again thank you for being such a wonderful leader for Sierra Unified. I appreciate all you've done and wish you a retirement filled with love and joy, especially the love and joy of your 'new management team'.

Superintendent Ireland spoke a few words in response: I have felt very fortunate to work with the Board and the staff that I've had. And I feel like I've always been challenged and supported at the same time. That's all any Superintendent could ever ask for. I feel blessed by having such a good Leadership team. It gets better every year and I'm thankful for that. In the time that I've been at Sierra Unified, first as a High School Principal, and then later as Superintendent, I feel like I've always gotten more than I've given, and probably learned more than I've taught. I feel really blessed and enriched for having been here. And I'm grateful. I'm also ready to go, but I'm grateful for the things that I've had the opportunity to do here.

BREAK

III. ADJOURN TO PUBLIC HEARINGS - 6:13 pm

- A. Convene Public Hearing on the Matter of the Proposed Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)
 - PowerPoint Presentation
 - LCAP Review with Advisory Ranking
 - 1. Public Hearing Opened for Input. James Weirick asked a question about the graduation rate percentage. How does it work with the cohort starting out with 138 students and the graduation rate is at 93%, when we had only 120 seniors? It is a 4 year cohort and if a student is with us at any time during that year, we are responsible for them graduating somewhere. We can't lose track of them. Each student has a unique ID number and it has to be tracked to ensure that the student is enrolled in another school. If we lose track of that student it counts against us as a drop out.
 - 2. Public Hearing Adjourned on matter of the LCAP
- B. Convene Public Hearing on the Matter the 2019-2020 Budget PowerPoint Presentation
 - 1. Public Hearing Opened for Input.
 - Balances in Excess of Minimum Reserve Requirements as required by Ed. Code 42127(a)(2)(B)
 School districts must discuss and review at the public budget hearing annually the reasons for ending reserve balances in excess of the minimum required reserve.
 - 3. Adjourn Public Hearing on matter of the 2018-2019 Budget

IV. RECONVENE SIERRA UNIFIED REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES – 7:12 pm

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

James Weirick spoke about advertisement of the District. After driving past Sierra Elementary, he feels we should not have the words Sierra, District, or Union on a facility that is in such disrepair. We're trying to induce people to come to our district and if they see a facility like that, they'll just want the real estate agent to drive in another direction. He suggested we take all signage off of any of the facilities that aren't actively being maintained.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Reports

- ASB President Brooke Kuball / Sarah Page Miss Kuball spoke about Sierra activities including: The Senior Farewell Assembly which went really well; appreciation of the Senior Breakfast; and the new ASB officers with Sarah Page being elected President.
- 2. Site Reports
 - a. Sierra Junior/Senior High Schools, Sean Osterberg Principal Mr. Osterberg spoke of last week, a great way to end the year, with graduation, promotions, scholarship night, senior farewell assembly, it's the pinnacle of the year and is so exciting. High school graduation is one of those milestones in your life. Before last week a survey was done with grades 7-11, on CTE, Co-Curricular involvement, and after school office hours. Top 6 in CTE in order of interest: Business, Engineering, Auto Mechanic, Natural Resources, Computer Science, and Construction. Current cocurricular involvement: 7th grade – 80%; 8th grade – 83%; 9th grade – 92%; 10th grade –

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95%; 11th grade – 88%. The goal was 80%. The lowest scores in Junior High School might be from less offered. A goal, led by Andrea Marjala, is to make clubs and activities more meaningful cultivating a richer program. Office hours (how many students using): 20% of our students average at least one office hour each week. Jon Hendrix also sent out a survey on athletics as a whole. There were lots of good responses and will prove very useful. With Google you send out surveys in a heartbeat. The platform has been excellent. Our students do such a great job of navigating through Google Classroom now. You can send a survey out and have it back by the end of the week. ASB elections were done with a survey including videos of the candidate's speeches. It didn't disrupt their schedule, and was done in their Social Studies class.

b. Foothill Elementary School, Alan Harris, Ph.D. – Principal

Dr. Harris shared that last week we were able to finalize our teacher hires. We were very fortunate to have an applicant apply who had close to a decade of experience at the Kindergarten level. She's done a lot of good work, came very highly recommended, and was highly rated by the interview panel. Katie Yates comes to us from Temperance Kutner in Clovis. She'll be placed in the Kindergarten spot creating a very strong team. Shaylynn Eldridge will move into the 2nd grade spot. That team is very excited because it will pair Shaylynn with Dannielle Beckmann who is in her 2nd year. This will create a very young, strong 2nd grade team with Desiree Kearns. Of the seven hires we ended up with, two of them have between 10 and 12 years of experience. Two are top notch 1st year teachers and former Sierra students. We've done some planning with Tammy and look to have a 2-day new teacher orientation before the teachers report. We're very excited about that. We are finalizing the hire for the Principal at Foothill Elementary. The Foothill teachers are to be commended for working very hard to make a standards based report card viable at our school for the last 5 or 6 years. Each year they would try and they were getting feedback from our parents that it was not a really effective tool. It's important to know how the student is doing on the work, not just that they have a grade. So, in January we sat down and make an honor roll and merit list with it, which proved nearly impossible because of the way the report card was arranged. That led us in to a conversation, opened up to parents, talking about what's working and not working with the report card. We brought our teachers together in May with that information and concluded that it really was not working. Now Foothill will be shifting to a traditional report card for next year with the traditional letter grades that will have more definition to them. A meeting was held with all of the grade level leads deciding what that report card will look like. It will show the student's attributes are, how their behavior is in specific areas, and their effort. It will allow us to give grades for our "specials" as well. The piece that allows us to do this is the work that's been done in the last 3 years around the District Learning Assessments and creating those benchmarks. What we hope will happen at the trimester, we'll give them a report that will have a grade A,B,C, etc. That will be followed a week or two later with a DLA and the report that comes home tells them by standard how they're doing. We hope it's an improvement for our parents and teachers.

c. Sandy Bluffs Alternative Education, Ara Keledjian – Director

Mr. Keledjian spoke of summer school starting today in independent study. Last looked, there were 50 students recommended to take summer school, it two parts, credit recovery and need a non-college prep graduation requirement elective. It will be interesting to see how many show up and we'll be following up with the families of those who don't. He thanked the Board for coming to the Sandy Bluffs graduation ceremony noting that their presence there elevates it and makes it a very nice ceremony for all of the students. We graduated 44 students, a little bit more than half of what graduated from Sierra High School. 14 of those were older adults returning, 2 were expectant mothers, 1 was a young couple with their baby in the crowd, one 61 year old finishing her high school diploma, an award winning artist, and a published author. There are a couple of things being looked at for next year. One is multi-agency meetings. At times students will have a probation office, a social worker, a counselor, and a guardian. These people typically come to the school unexpected. We'd like to see if we can bring them to the table at one time. Having those conversations as a group is important. Now, as they're coming and visiting with the students, each agency doesn't know what the other is doing.

Another goal is to increase parent involvement in each of the programs. We've become very concerned about the issue of vaping in adolescents, specifically the availability and the direct marketing to teenagers. Adults are not marketed to so we're not looking at what the teenagers are looking at. Calls have been made to the state legislature, with a call back from Senator Borgess's office. They said there is currently a bill in committee, AB-131. It is to eliminate the direct marketing/advertising towards adolescents. Because it's in the committee process, as much noise we can make in support of this bill will help get this through. He'd like the bill to be amended because the way it's written, it's a \$1,000 fine for the 1st offense, \$2,500 fine for the 2nd, and \$10,000 fine for the 3rd or 4th. If they're making millions with the marketing campaign, they're not going to care about a \$1,000 fine. There is no mention of this in CSBA.

- 4. Superintendent Report Melissa Ireland, Ed.D. NO REPORT
- 5. Department Reports
 - a. Facilities and Maintenance Jim Harris, Supervisor Jim thanked the Board and Dr. Ireland for all of the support and opportunities in the career he's had at Sierra Unified.
 - b. Transportation Craig Barnes, Supervisor NO REPORT
 - c. Business Services Janelle LaBerge, Assistant Superintendent
 - 1. <u>Budget Report</u>
 - d. Education Services Tammy Montgomery, Director NO REPORT
- 6. Program Reports NONE
- 7. Sub-Committee Reports NONE

B. Board Reflections

Don Fowler spoke of how much fun, and how happy he is to be a part of this amazing year end experience for all of us. So many activities, and every one of them, one on top of the other, over the top. He was privileged to be part of Ara's graduation ceremony, and totally impressed with the work that's being done there. As was indicated earlier, having three Native American valedictorians is quite a credit to the success this district and the program in particular. It's overwhelming and an exciting time for all.

Wes Qualls spoke of Beth Linder Carr's final production. It was an outstanding production. It was so good, but such a bad situation in the story. Bruce Weinberger's last Spring performance was so good, doing, as always, something thought provoking. Tony Sharp's last Fine Arts Night was great. Bruce has also done a really good job of bring Carly into the scene.

Tom Mendenhall said he just loves the graduations. Everyone's happy; such great events.

Chrissy Falk agreed. She told Sean that she thought the implementation of the grad walk. Teachers from the elementary school were telling her that it brought them to tears watching these children. One of them talked about connecting with a particular child, and how much those elementary students got in to it. Those decorated graduation caps were works of art. What's being done is so amazing.

VII. CONSENT CALENDAR AGENDA

Motion to approve Consent Calendar Agenda: Fowler: Second: Qualls: 6/0

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. ACTION ITEM: <u>Memorandum of Understanding</u> between Sierra Unified School District SUSD and State Center Community College District (SCCCD)

The updated agreement clarifies roles and responsibilities of Sierra Unified and State Center for the purposes of a partnership for dual enrollment. In accordance with the agreement, wherein students will be able to earn college credit and credit toward high school graduation for college courses successfully completed by the students. Such courses include those offered either on the community college campus, online, or at Sierra High School.

Motion to approve Memorandum of Understanding between SUSD and SCCCD: Fowler: Second: Mendenhall: 6/0

B. ACTION ITEM: Course Approval of Computer Coding and Careers 7

Computer Coding: This course will introduce basic principles of computer science, (the study of computer and algorithmic processes) and computer coding applications that have long been used to develop apps, websites and software.

Career Cruising: Students will explore and research careers based on self-interest. Research will be compiled using common comparison points (availability of work, salary, industry sector...) and presented to the class using Google Slides and oral presentation.

Motion to approve Computer Coding and Careers 7 Courses: Mendenhall: Second: Qualls: 6/0

C. ACTION ITEM: K-12 Science Textbook Adoption May 2019

The science adoption selection process for grades K-12 has resulted in the following proposal. Materials are available for review in the Board Room of the District Office.

Grades TK-5:	Publisher: Pearson	Title: Elevate Science			
	Publisher: Twig Science, Inc.	Title: Twig Science			
Grades 6-8:	Publisher: Teacher's Curriculum Institute (TCI)	Title: TCI			
	Publisher: Regents of University of CA	Title: Amplify Science			
Grades 9-12:	Will not be adopting this year due to a lack of complete programs for review, and have				
	chosen to pilot Chemistry with Houghton-Mifflin-Harcourt (HMH) and Pearson.				
Course:	Advanced Placement Biology; Publisher: McGraw-Hill; Title: Mader, Biology				
Grades 9-12:	Publisher: Teacher's Curriculum Institute (TCI) Publisher: Regents of University of CA Will not be adopting this year due to a lack of complet chosen to pilot Chemistry with Houghton-Mifflin-Harcour	Title: TCI Title: Amplify Science te programs for review, and have rt (HMH) and Pearson.			

Motion to approve Science Adoption selections: Fowler: Second: Qualls: 6/0

D. ACTION ITEM: Safety Status of the Stadium

At the Regular April Board Meeting, the Facility Renovation Committee report recommended the following as a means of monitoring the safety status of the stadium. The Board will determine price for and take action on:

- 1. Monitoring of stadium structure
- 2. CAD drawing of stadium facilities

Motion to approve the means of monitoring the safety status of the stadium every year for an initial period of time and CAD drawing of stadium facilities: Qualls: Second: Eldridge: 6/0

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM: Education Protection Account (EPA) Entitlement Spending Plan 2018-2019 Resolution No. 16-18/19

Added to the California State Budget in 2012-13 was a requirement that each LEA create an EPA set aside account. A total of 20% of the apportionment is to be maintained in the account. Pursuant to Article XIII, Section 36 of the California Constitution, LEA's are required to determine how the moneys received from the EPA are spent, in an open session of a public meeting. The language requires that funds shall not be used for the salaries and benefits of administrators or any other administrative costs. The total for 2018-2019 is \$241,504 which will be spent on teachers' salaries.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 16-18/19: Mendenhall: Second: Eldridge: 6/0

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Board Member	In Favor	Opposed	Absent
Chrissy Falk	V		
Tom Mendenhall	V		
Ron Eldridge	V		
Jason Schroer			V
Wes Qualls	V		
Connie Schlaefer	V		
Don Fowler	\mathbf{N}		

B. DISCUSSION/ACTION: Regular July Board Meeting

The Board determine the format of the scheduled July 8, 2019 Board Meeting to be changed to a workshop beginning at 4:30 pm..

C. INFORMATION: 5-Year Goals Update

The Superintendent will provided the Board with an update on progress toward the 5-Year Goals. Please see link above for details.

D. DISCUSSION/ACTION: <u>Superintendent's Contract</u>

The Board will reviewed and took action on the contract for incoming Superintendent Alan Harris.

Motion to approve Superintendent's Contract: Eldridge: Second: Qualls: 6/0

E. DISCUSSION/ACTION: Incoming Superintendent Coaching

Motion to approve Superintendent Coaching: Eldridge: Second: Mendenhall: 6/0

F. DISCUSSION ITEM: Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Federal Addendum

The LCAP Federal Addendum is meant to supplement the LCAP to ensure that eligible LEAs have the opportunity to meet the Local Educational Agency (LEA) Plan provisions of the ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act). This document replaces the LEA Plan formerly required under Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) commonly referred as No Child Left Behind (NCLB). This LCAP Federal Addendum provides LEAs with the opportunity to document their approach to maximizing the impact of federal investments in support of underserved students.

The LCAP Federal Addendum Template must be completed and submitted to the California Department of Education (CDE) by June 30, 2019 to apply for ESSA funding, in conjunction with the Consolidated Application for Funding, approved at the June 10, 2019 Board meeting.

G. DISCUSSION/ACTION: Approval of Out of State Travel for Professional Development

To authorize expenditures of school district funds for five staff members to travel out of state to University of Washington in Seattle to attend a Think Tank and Conference for Positive Discipline at an approximate cost of \$8,000.00.

Motion to approve out of state travel for professional development: Mendenhall: Second: Qualls: 6/0

H. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM: Recommendation of Superintendent Concerning the Elimination and Reduction of Particular Kinds of Services for the 2019/2020 School Year.

<u>Resolution No. 17-18/19</u> in the Matter of the Elimination and Reduction of Particular Kinds of Services for the 2019-2020 School Year.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 17-18/19: Fowler: Second: Mendenhall: 6/0

Board Member	In Favor	Opposed	Absent
Chrissy Falk	\mathbf{V}		
Tom Mendenhall	\mathbf{V}		
Ron Eldridge	\mathbf{V}		
Jason Schroer			\square
Wes Qualls	\square		
Connie Schlaefer	\square		
Don Fowler			

X. ADVANCED PLANNING

- A. <u>Governance Calendar</u>
- **B.** Next Regular meeting date: August 19, 2019
- **C.** Next Special meeting date(s): Board Workshop @ 4:30 p.m.
- **D.** Requested Future Agenda Items:
 - 1. Update on JHS Data / Eligibility for 8th grade promotion
- XI. CLOSED SESSION The Board of Trustees went into Closed Session at 8:37 p.m.
 - A. Personnel Public Employee Discipline / Dismissal / Release / Complaint / Appointment / Employment (Gov. Code § 54957)
 - B. Student Appeal Grade Acceleration (Government Code 48000)
 - C. Individual Student Disciplinary Matters (Government Code Section 48918)
 - 1. Student #2019-1

XII. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

- A. Adjourn Closed Session and Reconvene Open Session
- B. Report Action Taken in Closed Session
 In regards to Item XI.B Student Appeal Grade Acceleration (Government Code 48000), the Board voted to approve the grade acceleration with the initials JM, with a vote of 6/0

Item XII.C – Individual Student Disciplinary Matters (Government Code Section 48918), Student #2019-1, it is the decision of the Board to suspend the expulsion in the terms laid out in the documents provided to the Board with a vote of 6/0.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Chrissy Falk, President

Melissa Ireland, Ed.D, Superintendent

Ron Eldridge, Clerk