



# SIERRA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

Monday, November 8, 2021

5:00 p.m. Public Session

Closed Session Immediately Following

Reconvene in Public Session following Closed Session

Virginia B. Causey Educational Center – Zoom

29143 Auberry Road, Prather, CA 93651

*ALL TIMES NOTED THROUGHOUT THE AGENDA ARE APPROXIMATE*

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME AT ALL OF OUR MEETINGS.  
YOUR PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED AND APPRECIATED.**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, for those requiring special assistance to access the Board meeting room, to access written documents being discussed at the Board meeting, or to otherwise participate at Board meetings, please contact the Board Secretary, Jeanette Blunt at (559) 855-3662 ext. 107 for assistance. Notification at least 48 hours (two working days) before the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the Board meeting and to provide any required accommodations, auxiliary aids or services.

Documents provided to a majority of the Governing Board regarding an open session item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the Superintendent's Office located at 29143 Auberry Road, Prather, CA 93651 during normal business hours. In addition, such writings and documents will be posted on the District's website, [www.sierrausd.org](http://www.sierrausd.org). These proceedings are recorded on podcast and are available for review on the District website.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85083318064?pwd=dU15VlpYcVd1Mm9LRjNUM0JnbmhnQT09> Passcode: 843079

PLEASE NOTE: Starting with our regular meeting in April, in-person attendance will be open to the public, with limited capacity. The meetings will continue to be broadcast on Zoom. Public comment may be made in person or by Zoom during the Public Comment period. Comment on agenda items may also be made in person prior to the board's discussion of that item. Questions or comments arising during the meeting may always be shared with the Superintendent at [rhudson@sierrausd.org](mailto:rhudson@sierrausd.org) or the Board President [cschlaefer@sierrausd.org](mailto:cschlaefer@sierrausd.org)

### Vision Statement

Our vision is to be an exemplary student-focused school district that is highly regarded for the competence and character of our students, the rich connection to our mountain community, and the excellence of our people, programs, and learning environment.

### Mission Statement

Our mission is to inspire, engage, challenge, and support all students to reach their highest level of learning and personal development.

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- A. Call Public Session to Order
- B. Roll Call – Connie Schlaefer, Cortney Burke, Lauri King, Janet Bill, Jeremiah Gilbert, James Hoak, Ben Kimbler
- C. Adopt Agenda
- D. Pledge of Allegiance

II. RECOGNITIONS

- A. FFA Students – Big Fresno Fair (Osterberg, Vandenack)
- B. Land Acknowledgement  
In recognition of National Native American Heritage Month, an acknowledgement of the history of the land that Sierra Unified serves will be presented.

III. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Choral Company Performance

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

This section of each special session is set aside for members of the public to comment on any item on the agenda. Items presented under public comment may not be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. The public is invited to comment now or at the time the item is called for consideration by the Board. All persons addressing the Board must state their name for the record. In general, individual speakers will be allowed three minutes to address the Board on each agenda item, and the Board will limit the total time for public input on each item to 20 minutes.

*NOTE: Background information on Agenda Items is available at the Superintendent's Office and on the district website [www.sierrausd.org](http://www.sierrausd.org) for public review.*

V. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Reports
  - 1. ASB President – Emma Jensen
  - 2. Superintendent Report – Ron Hudson
  - 3. Site Reports
    - a. Sierra Junior/Senior High Schools, Sean Osterberg – Principal
    - b. Foothill Elementary School, Danielle Amundsen – Principal
    - c. Alternative and Extended Education, Heather Wheeler, Ed.D. – Director

4. Department Reports
    - a. Facilities, Maintenance and Transportation – Craig Barnes, Supervisor
    - b. Business Services - Janelle Bryson, Chief Business Officer
      1. Monthly Budget Report
      2. Annual Disclosure of Developer Fees
      3. Enrollment Numbers (Breakdown)
      4. Bonds – Timelines / Potential bonds
    - c. Education Services – Teresa Page, Director
    - d. Curriculum and Instruction – Tammy Montgomery, Director  
 State & Local Measures – Presented are the visual representations of state and local assessment data from Illuminate and Multiple Measures Reporting Systems. District LCAP and demographic data along with the on-going development of the CCI measures and reporting of local data.
  5. Program Reports
    - a. Facilities Inspection Report (FIT) – Craig Barnes
    - b. Athletics (Hendrix)
  6. Committee Reports
    - a. Native American Education Committee (NAEC)
    - b. Health & Safety Committee
- B. Board Reflections

## VI. CONSENT CALENDAR AGENDA

- A. Routine Business transactions, annual renewal of programs, bids, agreements, notices of public hearings, and proclamations:
  1. Approval of Warrants
  2. Approval of Minutes
    - a. September 27, 2021 – Special
    - b. October 11, 2021 – Regular
  3. Approval of Donations
  4. Approval of Contracts

5. Approval of Agricultural CTE Incentive Grant

B. Certificated Personnel Items: NONE

C. Classified Personnel Items:

1. Employments:

The Governing Board is requested to ratify/approve the following:

a) Replacement; Behavior Aide; Andrea McCave; effective 11/2/2021.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM: Substitute Pay Comparison (Bryson)

Substitute Pay Increase: Sierra Unified last increased substitute teacher pay in July 2019 from \$102.00/day to \$130.00/day. The average substitute pay for a daily rate in Fresno County is approximately \$145.00, with the highest rate at \$208.04/day for teachers in Fresno Unified who do simultaneous teaching. All districts in the Central Valley are experiencing a shortage of qualified substitute teachers. We have increased difficulty over schools in the valley obtaining substitutes given our distance from the substitute pool in the valley.

It is recommended that the daily rate for substitute teachers be increased to \$175.00/day, and the long-term substitute rate be raised to \$185.00/day. In a normal year, this increase would add \$59,000 to the budget for substitute teaching.

B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM: COVID Money – Requests for Additional Supports (Bryson)

Enclosed in your packages is a job description for the COVID Assistant position. It is proposed that the position be 6 hours per day, 3 days per week for the remainder of the school year. The cost for the position will be \$28,323 for the 2021-22 school year. We have received a grant from the California Department of Public Health that will pay for this position.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM: J13 Waiver

The California Department of Education allows Districts to request an allowance for attendance due to emergency conditions which result in school closure. Our schools were closed on October 25, 2021 due to evacuation orders from Fresno County. The attached form is filed with the California Department of Education when applying for an allowance. The Board of Sierra Unified School District must approve the request in order for the allowance to be granted.

It is recommended that the Board approve the request to waive attendance for 1 day of instruction missed due to the evacuation orders.

- B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM: Resolution #08-21/22 - Annual Organizational Meeting / December 11, 2021

Section 35143 of the Education Code of the State of California, requires the Board to select and publish an annual organizational meeting. This meeting must occur within a 15-day period that commences with the date upon which a governing board member elected takes office. The 2021 Annual Organizational Meeting must be held on a day on or after December 10, 2021, and by no later than December 24, 2021.

The Board is requested to approve Resolution 08-21/22.

- C. DISCUSSION/ACTION: Superintendent's Contract

The Board will review and take action on the contract for incoming Superintendent Jordan Reeves.

- D. DISCUSSION ITEM: Johnson Controls Final PDA

At the September 13, 2021 meeting, the Board approved Phase 1 of the Project Development Agreement with Johnson Controls to develop a Turn-key Design-Build Energy Performance project with the District. The Phase 1 preliminary analysis has been completed and the attached amendment explains those findings and outlines the next steps in Phase 2 and Phase 3, should the District decide to continue with the Project Development Agreement.

- E. DISCUSSION ITEM: Request for Advanced Placement Math Curriculum Adoption

Due to the reformatting of the AP curriculum and assessments in AP Calculus and AP Statistics it is important that we update our textbook and instructional materials to match. It is requested that the Board review and consider the materials in this first read. Community input is being collected and will be available for the December meeting where approval will be requested.

- F. DISCUSSION ITEM: Educator Effectiveness Block Grant

One-time funding provided to county offices of education, school districts, charter schools, and state special schools to provide professional learning for teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, and classified staff in order to promote educator equity, quality, and effectiveness.

LEAs and State Special Schools that receive funding pursuant to California *Education Code (EC)* Section 41480(a) are required to develop and adopt a plan, by December 30, 2021, that delineates the expenditure of funds apportioned including the professional development of teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals and classified staff. The plan shall be presented in a public meeting of the governing board before its adoption in a subsequent meeting.

- G. DISCUSSION ITEM: Appraisal of Sierra Elementary

IX. ADVANCED PLANNING

- A. Governance Calendar
- B. Next Regular meeting date: Monday, December 13, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m.
- C. Next Special meeting date(s):
- D. Requested Future Agenda Items:

X. CLOSED SESSION

- A. Identify Closed Session Topics
  - 1. *Personnel*
  - 2. *Potential Litigation*
  - 3. *Negotiations*
- B. Adjourn to Closed Session
  - 1. DISCUSSION/ACTION: Personnel - Public Employee Discipline / Dismissal / Release / Complaint / Appointment / Employment (Government Code § 54957)
  - 2. DISCUSSION/ACTION: Potential Litigation (Government Code § 54956.9)
  - 3. DISCUSSION/ACTION: Employee Bargaining Group Negotiations (Gov. Code § 54957.6)
  - 4. DISCUSSION/ACTION: To Consider the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation of Performance, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Employee and to Hear Complaints against a Public Employee (Gov. Code 54956.0(h))

XI. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

- A. Report Action Taken in Closed Session

XII. ADJOURNMENT