



# SIERRA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## BUDGET / LCAP PUBLIC HEARING and REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

Monday, June 14, 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 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/84364706680?pwd=ZktidDQvaE5VejlIT1JTWkJaTnJuQT09> Passcode: 259280

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 [aharris@sierrausd.org](mailto:aharris@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, Tom Mendenhall, Lauri King, Jeremiah Gilbert, James Hoak, Ben Kimbler
- C. Adopt Agenda
- D. Pledge of Allegiance

II. RECOGNITIONS

- A. Warren Maruko
- B. Tom Mendenhall

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

This section of each regular session is set aside for members of the public to comment on any item within the jurisdiction of the Board. Items presented under public comment may not be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. For items appearing on the agenda, the public is invited to comment at this time or when the item is called for consideration by the Board. Any person addressing the Board under public comment will be limited to a 3 minute presentation to ensure that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak. Speakers may not pass their time to another person. Also, all persons addressing the Board must state their name for the record.

*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.*

IV. ADJOURN TO PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Convene Public Hearing on the Matter of the Proposed Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) (Tammy Montgomery)

The Annual Update for LCAP 2019-2020, LCP 2020-2021, and LCAP 2021-2024 are presented in draft form for public comment. These goals and actions have been reviewed with stakeholders throughout the community to the best of our abilities. The documents have been reviewed by the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools' office with suggestions for minor changes that will be addressed prior to final submission in June. Public comment will be received in writing between June 14-June 23, 2021, to Dr. Alan Harris regarding the goals, actions, and expenditures reported in these documents. Dr. Harris will respond to each comment.

- 1. PowerPoint Presentation
- 2. LCAP Review
  - a. Annual Update 2019-2020
  - b. LCAP 2021-2024

- B. Open Public Hearing for Input.
- C. Adjourn Public Hearing on matter of the LCAP

- D. Convene Public Hearing on the Matter the 2021-2022 Budget - PowerPoint Presentation (Janelle Bryson)
  - 1. Open Public Hearing for Input.
  - 2. 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.
- E. Adjourn Public Hearing on matter of the 2021-2022 Budget

V. RECONVENE SIERRA UNIFIED REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Reports
  - 1. Site Reports
    - a. Foothill Elementary School, Danielle Amundsen – Principal
    - b. Sierra Junior/Senior High Schools, Sean Osterberg – Principal
    - c. Alternative Education, Heather Wheeler, Ed.D. – Director
  - 2. Superintendent Report – Alan Harris, Ph.D.
  - 3. Department Reports
    - a. Facilities, Maintenance and Transportation – Craig Barnes, Supervisor
    - b. Business Services - Janelle Bryson, Chief Business Officer
      - 1. Monthly Budget Report
  - 4. Program Reports
    - a. Resiliency & Recovery (R & R) (Bryson & Silva)
    - b. Athletics (Hendrix)
  - 5. Sub-Committee Reports – NONE
- B. Board Reflections

VII. 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. May 10, 2021 – Regular
  - b. May 24, 2021 – Special
  - c. Prior Minutes reflecting Public Comment names
3. Approval of Donations
4. Approval of Contracts
5. Affirmation of the Title VIII-Public Law 103-382 Impact Aid Program – Indian Policies and Procedures (IPP’s)
6. Approval of the proposed 2021-2022 Ag Incentive Grant in the amount of \$17,308.00
7. Approval of Sierra Unified School District Safe School Plan

B. Certificated Personnel Items

1. Resignations/Retirements

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

- a) Resignation; Teacher; Desiree Kearns; effective 6/8/2021.
- b) Retirement; Teacher; Jana Larman; effective 6/8/2021.

2. Terminations:
3. Employments:

C. Classified Personnel Items

1. Resignations/Retirements

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

- a) Resignation; Noon Time Assistant; Sidney Norman Bishop; effective 6/5/2021.
- b) Resignation; Noon Time Assistant; Monika Williamson; effective 6/5/2021.
- c) Resignation; Utility; Jonathan Weckwerth; effective 6/5/2021.
- d) Resignation; Bus Driver/Custodian; Daniel Vargas; effective 6/12/2021.

2. Terminations
3. Employments:

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

- a) Modification; Clerk Typist; Heather Wade; effective 5/11/2021.
- b) Replacement; Bus Driver/Custodian; Charles Ferguson; effective 5/19/2021.
- c) Replacement; Custodian; Sandra Dunn; effective 6/1/2021.

## VIII. OLD BUSINESS

### A. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM: Sierra Elementary and District School Attendance Footprint

Tabled from May 10, 2021 Board meeting, Sierra Elementary and District school attendance footprint follow up on questions will be considered, as well as timelines, and consult from board guidance related to Sierra Elementary, and the consideration of different district attendance footprints discussed in the February 22, 2021 Board Workshop.

The Board is requested to confirm direction on desired attendance footprint options.

### B. ACTION ITEM: Long Range Master Facility Plan – Final Draft (LRMFP)

In February 2020, Sierra Unified School District (SUSD) Board of Trustees contracted with SIM-PBK Architects, Inc. (SIM-PBK) to develop a Districtwide Long Range Facility Master Plan (LRFMP) in order to evaluate and document the general conditions of existing District-owned facility assets and to provide planning recommendations. In November 2020, the Board of Trustees approved the completion of Steps 1-4 of the 6 step process: Step 1: Research and Discovery; Step 2: Facility Condition and Needs Assessment; Step 3: District/Community Outreach; and Step 4: Master Planning.

SIM-PBK has now completed Step 5: Developing a comprehensive planning document; and Step 6: Developing detailed cost estimates. Upon final receipt of Steps 5 and 6, the Board takes action to accept the completed project, with the recognition that it is a living document providing valuable information to this board, future boards, and the district as a whole.

The board is requested to accept the completion of the Long Range Facility Master Plan.

### C. ACTION ITEM: Curriculum Adoption Request for Sierra @ Home – Grades 7-12)

The Board is asked to review the request to adopt the online Apex Curriculum Program. The program will be used primarily at Sierra @ Home, but is available to students at Sierra Alternative High School and Sierra High School for credit recovery. Students, teachers and parents have reviewed the components of this curriculum and speak to its ease of access, usability and flexibility by all students. Review links can be provided upon request.

The Board is asked to approve the adoption request of APEX Learning, an online core curriculum platform, for use with students in grades 7-12 in Sierra Unified.

### D. ACTION ITEM: Resolution #17-20/21 Letter of Delegation

This item clarifies the authority the Board delegates to the Administration to conduct the District's business between regular meetings. The letter was brought as an information item at the Feb 21 regular meeting. Updates regarding contract dollar limits have been incorporated.

The Board is requested to approve Resolution #17-20/21 Letter of Delegation.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. DISCUSSION ITEM: Education Protection Account (EPA) Entitlement Spending Plan 2020-2021 Resolution No. 18-20/21 (Janelle Bryson)

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 2020-2021 is \$235,040 which will be spent on teachers' salaries.

- B. DISCUSSION ITEM: The Board is asked to consider the approval of 2 additions to the Sierra High School Foundational Literature list. *The Absolutely True Story of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie is requested for use in Grade 9 and *There There* by Tommy Orange is requested for Grade 11.

The public is welcome to make requests to review the novels between June 14 and July 12, 2021 by contacting the District Office.

- C. ACTION ITEM: Acceptance of Letter of Resignation

Trustee, Tom Mendenhall, will be leaving the state, and has submitted his letter of resignation.

The Board is requested to accept the letter of resignation.

X. ADVANCED PLANNING

- A. Governance Calendar
- B. Next Regular meeting date: July 12, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m.
- C. Next Special meeting date(s):
1. Budget/LCAP Adoption – 6/28/21 @ 5:00 p.m.
- D. Requested Future Agenda Items:
- E. Closed Session Items
- F. Adjourn to Closed Session

XI. CLOSED SESSION

- A. ACTION ITEM: Public Employee Evaluation – Superintendent
- B. ACTION ITEM: Individual Student Disciplinary Matters (Government Code § 48918)
  - 1. #01-2021
  - 2. #02-2021
- C. DISCUSSION ITEM: Personnel - Public Employee Discipline / Dismissal / Release / Complaint / Appointment / Employment (Government Code § 54957)
- D. DISCUSSION ITEM: Potential Litigation (Government Code § 54956.9)
- E. DISCUSSION ITEM: Employee Bargaining Group Negotiations (Gov. Code § 54957.6)

XII. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

- A. Report Action Taken in Closed Session

XIII. ADJOURNMENT