



**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**I. OPENING BUSINESS**

**A. CALL PUBLIC SESSION TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Mr. Tom Mendenhall, Board Vice President.

**B. ROLL CALL:** Board Members: Chrissy Falk (A), President; Tom Mendenhall, Vice President; Ron Eldridge, Clerk; Jason Schroer; Wes Qualls; Connie Schlaefer; Don Fowler.

**C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** Motion to adopt agenda: Fowler: Second: Qualls: 6/0

**D. IDENTIFY CLOSED SESSION TOPICS OF DISCUSSION**

*1. Personnel 2. Potential Litigation*

**E. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Ron Eldridge led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. RECOGNITIONS** – Big Sandy Rancheria Tribal Council will be recognized at the November Board meeting.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT** – NONE

**IV. COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Reports**

1. ASB President – Sarah Page

Miss Page reported on ASB and other activities taking place at Sierra including: an awesome Homecoming with all attendees voting for the best float; prepping for Red Ribbon Week on Oct. 23-31; Mountain Bowl on November 1<sup>st</sup>; and the Sadies dance coming up on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

2. Site Reports

a. Foothill Elementary School, Heather Wheeler, Ed.D. – Principal

Dr. Wheeler spoke of how close we are to Halloween and the kids excited to participate in the Halloween parade on October 31<sup>st</sup> at approximately 8:40 am. The staff is also excited about the Professional Development day that took place on October 7<sup>th</sup>. The day started with “wellness,” choosing from one of 3 breakout sessions: yoga; mandala drawing; or gym activities. Wellness looks different for everyone. Feedback was tremendous, with a reminder to look out for themselves. Another part of the day was spent on Positive Discipline focusing on their mistaking goals chart. The right intervention depends on identifying why students do what they do. Positive Discipline brings forward some tools that help the adults identify what they are feeling as they respond to the child. What can we do to help, alleviating the mistaken goals? They spent a lot of time looking at a new book study. “Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain.” The focus is on brain development and how our culture, identity and background really shape how our brain learns, and how educators can leverage that. There was also team time, and diving in to Twig, the new adopted Science curriculum. It was a long, productive day. The 2<sup>nd</sup> round of REI (Responsive Extension and Intervention Program) has begun, which went well with the teachers being able to look at the data. DLA’s will also be looked at by all grade levels, examining how we respond to the data and making the scope and sequence for the next trimester. The Board was also invited to the Community Forum on Academics which will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October at 7:00 pm in the MPR.

- b. Sandy Bluffs Alternative & Extended Education, Ara Keledjian – Director  
Mr. Keledjian reported 18 students at Sandy Bluffs with 20 passing through, and Independent Study with 24 students and 30 passing through. They are preparing for their DLA's. On October 21<sup>st</sup> they will be having one of their emergency drills, Hold and Secure. The October 7<sup>th</sup> work day was focused on WASC preparation, watching training videos, and spoke to a coordinator (technical assistance) from WASC. The actual visit is on January 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. In preparation for that the focus is on 3 areas: Vision/Mission Statement; expected student learner results and outcomes; and the SIPSA. The plan is 2-fold: a stakeholder's luncheon meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup>, to look at the Vision/Mission Statement and turning the ESLR's (Expected Student Learner Results) into SLO's (Student Learner Outcomes); and Mark Stelling leading the actual WASC visit.
  - c. Sierra Junior/Senior High Schools, Sean Osterberg – Principal  
Mr. Osterberg shared that at the October 7<sup>th</sup> Professional Development Day was spent working through their own WASC visit coming up, updating and reviewing their plan from 3 years ago, and building teams. They also had a fantastic self-help hour, with yogalates, a corn-hole tournament, and a 3 point shooting competition. Parent/Teacher conferences are coming up. Junior High will be in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of doing student led conferences. To prepare for that, in their Advisories, students are starting to analyze how their grades are, and what they can do to improve. In the conferences the student does the talking. The parent and teacher sit next to each other and help guide the whole conversation around the student's learning. It was a great week last week, with the Fair. Sydney Wyman and her sheep won Reserve Supreme Champion. She also won Showmanship and the Round Robin. She did fantastic. We had a 4-H student, Logan King, who won Grand Champion for his steer. All of the students did really well. It's exciting to watch the kids, knowing how much time they've put into it, and to see the outcome that day. It's pretty special and awesome. On October 21<sup>st</sup> will be their Community Forum on Academics.
3. Superintendent Report – Alan Harris, Ph.D.  
Dr. Harris spoke of his mixed emotions in sharing his gratitude for a very important person. A letter of resignation was received a week ago from Gavin Begaye, who has accepted a position to be a recruiter for Native American students to go to UCLA. We are very excited for Gavin and his wonderful opportunity. There really aren't adequate words to describe the work that Gavin has done, not only advocating for students who are Native American, but also educating us as a district of the ways in which doors have been closed. He has helped to open them. We've learned lessons: how we better serve, and make connections with the students as well as our Rancherias, our parents, and our broader community; the accomplishments of our increased graduation rates; and the number of students who are Valedictorians and going to college. The list goes on. Dr. Ireland saw someone who was ready and needed a spot to make a contribution, and found a place for that to happen. We're very grateful to Gavin and wish him the very best in his new endeavor. We're very fortunate that Gina Riley has been willing to step in immediately on an interim basis for us, with her connections with Big Sandy and the community. This will be an interim role, as we reassess the positions for advocacy for our students who are Native American, and what our goals are going forward. Dr. Harris looks forward, in the months ahead, to be working with Gina and Jaime Smith, and with the 3 Rancherias, in crafting job descriptions that really match the work as we go forward. Lastly, we have been doing some work on understanding better, the donation and fundraising process. In our Administrative Regulations, it notes that it does need to go through the Superintendent as proxy for the Board. We realized that we need to get a better handle on that whole regulation and procedure piece. We will work on getting our internal procedures in place, both so that we are better knowing what is out there, but also that we know what comes and are better able to report back to the district and the Board appropriately.
4. Department Reports
- a. Facilities, Maintenance and Transportation – Craig Barnes, Supervisor  
Mr. Barnes shared that we have a brand new stadium light switch. The staff no longer has to open the high voltage panels to turn on the stadium lights. Stadium handrails should be installed in less than 2 weeks. The substation transformer project looks to be on schedule for 12 weeks out. It will likely be December before power is restored to the PC and other buildings.

- b. Business Services - Janelle Bryson, Assistant Superintendent  
Mrs. Bryson reported that our insurance company has taken our claim for the substation transformer, and will be pursuing it with PG&E. Governor Newsome elected to sign some education bills. One has the probationary period for Classified employees will go from one year down to 6 months. The other, Senate Bill 328, which prohibits the school day from beginning earlier than 8:00 for middle, and 8:30 for high school. There is an exception for rural school districts, but it is not determined yet if we are in that group. Mrs. Bryson then reviewed the monthly budget report and a solar comparison with the Board, as well as a snapshot of [student movement](#) in the district. Please see links for details.
    - 1. [Monthly Budget Report](#)
    - 2. [Solar Comparison](#)
  - c. Education Services – Teresa Page, Director – NO REPORT
  - d. Curriculum and Instruction – Tammy Montgomery, Director  
Mrs. Montgomery reviewed the reviewed the school climate survey, last year’s DLA 3 reports and SBAC, and provided a data summary, as well as some SUSD fingertip facts. Please see links below for details:
    - 1. 2018-2019 Data Reports  

<a href="#">School Climate Surveys</a>	<a href="#">SBAC</a>
<a href="#">DLA 3 Reports</a>	<a href="#">Fingertip Facts</a>
<a href="#">Data Summary</a>	
5. Program Reports
- a. [Athletics](#) – Jon Hendrix, Director  
Mr. Hendrix shared information about Sierra Athletics including: numbers; the last five years; goals; facilities; and budget. Please see above link for details.
6. Sub-Committee Reports – NONE

**B. Board Reflections**

Connie Schlaefer spoke about being lucky to see a little football, a little volleyball, and a little water polo. She was able to visit the Sierra sites and see some of the new things going on, like the temporary placement for art classes.

Wes Qualls was able to go to the Fresno Fair and check in on the Ag activities. The other day was the 1<sup>st</sup> Water Polo match that he has seen this year. What a bunch of guys out there. When ahead they split our team and shared with the opposing team to make it fairer. He had to search for a seat, the stands were packed.

Don Fowler shared that his grandson is playing Water Polo, and joked about Homecoming being with it instead of football, because there are so many fans. It’s pretty cool to see what they’re doing.

Jason Schroer had an opportunity as a family to go to the 4.0 and above event at the Fresno Fair. It was exciting to see Alan emcee again. We had a student who won a \$3,000 scholarship. It was a fun night.

**V. CONSENT CALENDAR AGENDA**

Motion to approve Consent Calendar Agenda: Schroer: Second: Schlaefer: 6/0

BREAK – 6:56-7:02

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. INFORMATION: [Facilities Assessment](#)**

Dr. Harris shared two different versions (samples) of Request for Qualifications (RFQ). We don’t currently have a Master Facilities Plan with which to make decisions for future. Instead of an RFQ for just a facilities assessment, we really need to consider a Master Facilities Plan.

**B. DISCUSSION/ACTION: Approval of [Contractor for Emergency Repairs](#)**

Motion to approve Contractor for Emergency Repairs: Fowler: Second: Eldridge: 6/0

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. DISCUSSION/ACTION: Approval of [LCAP Local Indicators](#)**

Five (5) priorities that address the following: Academic Performance; Academic Achievement; Conditions and Climate; and Parent/Family Engagement

Motion to approve the Local Indicators as presented: Eldridge: Second: Schroer: 6/0

**B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM: SUSD Dual Enrollment – [Student/Parent Agreement](#) – Exhibit 6172.1**

Motion to approve the revised Student/Parent Agreement for Dual Enrollment: Eldridge: Second: Qualls: 6/0

**C. ACTION ITEM: [Foundational Reading Materials Addition/Edit](#)**

Addition: The Diary of Anne Frank: A Play, by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett, to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading list. The novel aligns with our Study Sync Novel Study, Unit 2: In Time of War. Copies are available at the District Office for public review.

Motion to approve the Foundational Reading Materials Addition/Edit: Schroer: Second: Eldridge: 6/0

**E. DISCUSSION ITEM: October Workshop on District and School Goals**

Dr. Harris spoke of the upcoming workshop where we will talk through the Fingertip Facts and have data for that, and the Principals will talk through their own data analysis and their goals in the year ahead.

**X. ADVANCED PLANNING**

**A. [Governance Calendar](#)**

**B.** Next Regular meeting date: November 4, 2019

**C.** Next Special meeting date(s): October 28, 2019–Workshop (Academic Achievement / Goals) @ 4:30 pm

**D.** Requested Future Agenda Items:

**XI. CLOSED SESSION** The Board of Trustees went into Closed Session at 7:35 p.m.

**A.** Personnel - Public Employee Discipline / Dismissal / Release / Complaint / Appointment / Employment (Government Code § 54957)

**B.** Potential Litigation (Government Code § 54956.9)

**XII. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

**A.** Adjourn Closed Session and Reconvene Open Session – 8:48 p.m.

**B.** Report Action Taken in Closed Session – NONE

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

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Chrissy Falk, President

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Alan Harris, Ph.D, Superintendent

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Ron Eldridge, Clerk