



# SIERRA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

Monday, July 12, 2021

4:30 Closed Session – 5:00 p.m. Public Session

If needed, additional 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/83601203114?pwd=RGVkcldvdXI0bnl0eFBkLzVHeHN4dz09> Passcode: 134005

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 Schlaefel, Cortney Burke, Lauri King, Jeremiah Gilbert, James Hoak, Ben Kimbler
- C. Adopt Agenda
- D. Pledge of Allegiance
- E. Identify Closed Session Topics
  - 1. *Public Employee Evaluation - Superintendent*
  - 2. *Personnel*
  - 3. *Potential Litigation*
  - 4. *Negotiations*
- F. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS: Persons wishing to address the governing board on any closed session item may do so at this time. The Board may limit comments to no more than 3 minutes pursuant to Board policy. Speakers are requested to state their name and address, and to address their comments to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees is governed by the Brown Act and may briefly respond to public comments but take no action except on items scheduled on the agenda. Adjourn to Closed Session
- G. Adjourn to Closed Session

II. CLOSED SESSION

- A. DISCUSSION ITEM: Public Employee Evaluation – Superintendent
- B. DISCUSSION ITEM: Personnel - Public Employee Discipline / Dismissal / Release / Complaint / Appointment / Employment (Government Code § 54957)
- C. DISCUSSION ITEM: Potential Litigation (Government Code § 54956.9)
- D. DISCUSSION ITEM: Employee Bargaining Group Negotiations (Gov. Code § 54957.6)

III. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

- A. Report Action Taken in Closed Session

IV. 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.*

## COMMUNICATIONS

### A. Reports

1. Superintendent Report – Alan Harris, Ph.D.
  - a. Summer School
  - b. 100 Year Reunion
2. Department Reports
  - a. Facilities, Maintenance and Transportation – Craig Barnes, Supervisor
    1. Facilities Update
  - b. Business Services - Janelle Bryson, Chief Business Officer
    1. Monthly Budget Report
3. Program Reports
4. Sub-Committee Reports – NONE

### 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. May 3, 2021 – Special
    - b. June 14, 2021 – Regular
  3. Approval of Donations
  4. Approval of Contracts
    - a. Reading & Math, Inc. – Site Agreement
    - b. Infinity
  5. Approval of CSBA Recommended Board Policy Edits
  6. Approval of Quarterly Williams Report
  7. Approval Authorized Individuals / Payroll Pick-Up
  8. Approval of Authorized Board Signature Permit / FCOE
  9. Approval of Mailing Permit / FCOE
  10. Approval of Con-Ap

B. Certificated Personnel Items

1. Resignations/Retirements:

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

- a) Resignation; Teacher; Brittany Collins; effective 6/8/2021.
- b) Resignation; Teacher; Gerardo Espinoza; effective 6/8/2021.
- c) Resignation; Teacher; Michelle Mercier; effective 6/8/2021.

2. Terminations:

3. Employments:

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

- a) New Temporary Position; Teacher; Ashley Armstrong; effective 8/12/2021.
- b) New Temporary Position; Teacher; Brett Brown; effective 8/12/2021.
- c) New Temporary Position; Teacher; Taylor Esquivel; effective 8/12/2021.
- d) New Temporary Position; Teacher; Fallon Hammon; effective 7/1/2021.
- e) Replacement; Teacher; Vanessa Johnson; effective 8/12/2021.
- f) New Temporary Position; Teacher; Amber Jones; effective 8/12/2021.
- g) Modification; Director of Alternative Education; Heather Wheeler; 7/1/2021.
- h) Replacement; Teacher; Bailey Winiger; effective 8/12/2021.

C. Classified Personnel Items:

1. Resignations/Retirements:

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

- a) Resignation; Food Server; Tracy Laney; effective 6/8/2021.

2. Terminations

3. Employments:

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

- i) New Position; Activity Bus Driver/Utility; Charles Ferguson; effective 6/18/2021.
- j) New Temporary Position; Clerk Typist; Antoinette Jones; effective 8/10/2021.
- k) Replacement; Food Server; Rosario Ramirez; effective 8/16/2021.
- l) Replacement; Food Server; Rosario Ramirez; effective 8/16/2021.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM: Superintendent Evaluation / Contract The Board performed an annual Superintendent Evaluation on June 14, 2021. Based on the reported outcome of "Satisfactory", the Superintendent is eligible for an annual Merit Based Step Increase, Merit Based COLA Increase, and one year contract extension. As noted in the attached addendum, the new end date for the contract is June 30, 2024. The Board is requested to approve the extension of the Superintendent's contract.

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. DISCUSSION ITEM: California School Employees Association (CSEA) and its Sierra Chapter #476 and Sierra Unified School District (SUSD) Tentative Agreement
- B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM: Extension of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Sierra Unified School District (SUSD) and Sierra Unified Teacher's Association (SUTA) – Distance Education due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

The Board is requested to approve the extension of the MOU between SUSD and SUTA.

- C. DISCUSSION ITEM: Approval of Interfund Transfers – Resolution #01-21/22

Education Code Section 42603 provides authorization for temporary interfund transfers, at the direction of the District's Governing Board. In actual practice, these temporary transfers often need to happen on very short notice (e.g., needing a same-day cash transfer to cover an Accounts Payable run or Payroll). The County Office cannot process these without District Board approval.

- D. DISCUSSION ITEM: Adoption of Resolution #02-21/22 though #04-21/22, Board Authorization for Temporary Interfund Transfers (Janelle Bryson)

General to Deferred Maintenance \$100,000

General to Capital Reserve \$50,000

General to Cafeteria \$89,748

- E. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM: Election of Clerk

With Tom Mendenhall's departure, the position of Board Clerk is vacant. The Board should elect a new Clerk.

The Board will nominate and elect a new Board Clerk.

- F. DISCUSSION ITEM: Board Meetings on Zoom

As access to Board meetings has opened up, the Board should decide if it wants to continue Zoom streaming, and if it wants to allow public comment via Zoom during agenzized items.

- G. DISCUSSION ITEM: Board Self-Evaluation Process

Per Board Bylaw 9400, the Board shall annually perform a self-evaluation. For the past several years, the Board has used the evaluation tool offered through CSBA. The prior year's evaluation is attached. It is proposed that summer is a good time to conduct this review, in conjunction with the school year cycle and goal setting.

The Board will decide if it wants to continue using the CSBA self-evaluation tool, affirm that members will complete the questionnaire and review the results at the August regular meeting. Discussion must be held in open session.

H. DISCUSSION ITEM: COVID-19 Mask Guidelines

The Board will review the status of mask guidelines and legal boundaries of local control. Legal counsel's analysis will be presented.

I. DISCUSSION ITEM: Goal Setting for the District and Board / LRMFP

The Board and Superintendent will brainstorm and refine goals for the 2021-22 school year. Ideally, the Board should agree on 4 – 6 goals that align with the district's vision and strategic goals. These goals would be approved as an action in the August regular meeting. These goals also provide the basis for annual Superintendent goals.

The Board will generate a set of annual goals for approval at the next Regular meeting.

IX. ADVANCED PLANNING

A. Governance Calendar

B. Next Regular meeting date: August 8, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m.

C. Next Special meeting date(s): August 2, 2021 – New Board Member Interviews

D. Requested Future Agenda Items:

XI. ADJOURNMENT