

A **Regular** meeting of the Buellton Union School District Board of Trustees was held on **Wednesday, July 22, 2020** via video conference.

Trustees Present: Elaine Alvarado, Marcilo Sarquilla, Andrew Morgan, Elysia Lewis and Jessie Skidmore

Administration Present: Dr. Randal Haggard, Lisa Melby, Claudia Echavarria, Danielle Spahn and Diane Turner

- I. **Call to Order, Roll Call and Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda Items**
- II. **Closed Session**
  - A. Personnel Matters - (Pursuant to Government Code § 54957)
- III. **Opening Ceremony –**
  - A. Call to Order and Roll Call – *Elaine Alvarado called the meeting to order at 7:06pm and said all members were present.*
  - B. Report of Actions Taken During Closed Session – *Mrs. Alvarado continued to say that the Board just came out of closed session and no action was taken.*
  - C. Pledge of Allegiance – *Led by Elaine Alvarado*
- IV. **Continue Opening Ceremony**
  - A. Establish Order of the Agenda – *No changes*
  - B. Governing Board Comments
- V. **Public Comments/Staff Comments**

Two (2) Public Comments were received:

Hello,

1. We hear so many conflicting analyses on virus transmission, infection & hospitalization & mortality rates, and all these conflicting analyses say they are science-driven. They cannot all be science-driven, so we have to conclude that at least some of the hype is pure politics. What freedom does BUSD have to review the data independently and make our own decision on school re-opening, regardless of the politics of the Governor or County?

2. If a teacher is willing to assume any risk of returning to the classroom with appropriate precautions, will he/she be allowed to do so, even if distance learning is the approach chosen by the district?

Thanks,  
Scott Aiken

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July 22, 2020

Dear Members of the Board and Dr. Haggard,

Thank you for taking the time to listen to and hear the concerns of families in Jonata Oak Valley School District. This year I have two Jonata students and one Oak Valley student. All three of my children have benefited from an in-person public education at the hands of our exceptional teachers since kindergarten.

Today I am probably coming from a different perspective than most parents here in the valley. I speak as one of millions of parents who has faced and suffered what we are all trying to avoid. It's left me still sick and likely immunocompromised, after 17.5 weeks intense post viral illness, now diagnosed as Post Viral Dysautonomia. It is not at all uncommon for nonsevere Covid-19 survivors in their 30s-50s, but can affect children to the elderly with few or no health problems. It is debilitating for weeks or months.

Like most families in spring, distance learning was difficult for us, but not for the same reasons. From my family's perspective, schooling was what it was. Whether I would live was an issue and then why I wasn't getting better. Contagion was an issue. Concern over how many weeks of symptoms my kids had after

getting sick and not being there for them during birthdays, during sad or happy events due to solitary quarantine. Concern over my kids fragility in crisis. These were our additional spring concerns beyond school, employment, and housing. My family would do almost anything to avoid getting this devastating virus again and to keep our teacher, staff, and community as sheltered as possible, for as long as possible, because I believe opening will help spread the virus and it is not worth it.

For those of us who may not be able to return to in-person education for a while once school opens up, what will that look like? Will teachers teach both in-person and independent study students or will there be separate teachers for independent study students? It might be helpful to do a new survey with current options and the current situation in mind to get input from parents.

I ask you, the board, to make preparations to take care of the safety and needs of your teachers, staff, and families. Think outside of the normal school year box and beyond the black and white of Covid-19 deaths and recoveries. There is more to this illness and your community depends on you to be compassionate. Think how you can provide childcare safely for families and teachers, or give them more options. What about if teachers are recovering for months from debilitating post viral symptoms or are immunocompromised? How are special needs students going to have their needs met safely? How is technology going to be provided...and how is not going to overwhelm the school day? How are sick days going to be used at home during distancing learning in order not to stress struggling families with illness that may last weeks or longer?

Most importantly, please take this virus seriously in every decision. You have not just a number in your hands, but actual people's lives, ongoing health, and employment if they are unable to work.

Sincerely,

**Becky Letts**

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VI. **Correspondence – No correspondence**

VII. **School/Community Reports**

- A. Superintendent – *Dr. Haggard started his report by thanking all staff for their incredible work in these difficult times. Our amazing custodial and maintenance staff has been working very hard to make our schools ready for the return of staff and students. He ended his report by acknowledging the sadness and other feelings that parents and staff are experiencing. He reiterated the importance of following all public health steps to keeping safe and healthy. He said the distance learning will be different than the one we put together last Spring.*
- B. Principal – *Lisa Melby started her report by thanking her staff especially the custodial and maintenance staff for their hard work these last few months. Mrs. Melby said that we passed our CHP bus inspection. We will publish all schedules for distance learning as soon as we have them.*
- C. Special Education – *Claudia Echavarría reported that the SYVSEC staff has been busy getting ready for all schools to open and preparing the professional development for staff.*
- D. B.E.A. – *Debbie Goldsmith reported that BEA has been meeting with the district and legal to get an MOU in place for the beginning of school.*
- E. P.T.S.A – *Tracy Hawkhurst there is no official report this time and hopes to have a report next month.*

VIII. **Information Items**

- (Information) A. Enrollment/Staffing for 2020-2021 school year-projections will be presented based on current enrollment.

*Dr. Haggard reported the current numbers and said another more current report will come to the board at the August meeting. **No Action was taken on this item. Information Only.***

- (Information) B. COVID-19 Update – Dr. Haggard will update the Board on district issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, school closure and re-opening.

*Dr. Haggard reported that this update keeps changing daily. He started by saying that he will be setting up a Town Hall Meeting next week and will be posting this on Parent Square and our website. He continued by saying that a lot of hard work has been taking place by all involved in getting an MOU*

*in place the BEA for the start of school. BEA concerns are childcare and its impact on staff returning to the classroom. Dr. Haggard ended his report that health checks for staff and students will be used daily and has started in the district office where employees who come on campus have their temperature taken before heading to their work stations. **No Action was Taken on this item. Information Only.***

**IX. General Items**

- (Action) A. Preliminary Adoption of *Impact Science* materials to support Science instruction in Grades 6-8—Dr. Haggard will bring forward the recommendation to adopt these materials preliminary to a review period for parents and the community.

*Lisa Melby reviewed the proposed Impact Science materials with the board. She outlined the steps that were taken to get to this point of the adoption process. Mrs. Melby showed a two minute video of the materials included in this adoption. Jessie Skidmore **MOTIONED** to approve Impact Science as Jonata's new Science adoption materials. Elysia Lewis **Seconded** the motion. **Roll call was then made. The Ayes have it with a vote of 5-0.***

- (Action) B. Approval of a Variable Term Waiver – Dr. Haggard will bring forward a recommendation for the approval of a Variable Term Waiver for Casey Hynes.

*Dr. Haggard brought forth a recommendation to approve a Variable Term Waiver for Casey Hynes who is enrolled in a special ed credential program but needs time to complete this program. Elysia Lewis **MOTIONED** to approve the Variable Term Waiver for Casey Hynes. Marcilo Sarquilla **Seconded** the motion. **Roll call was then made. The Ayes have it with a vote of 5-0.***

**X. Approval of Minutes/Action Consent Agenda**

Consent Agenda Summary

- (consent) 1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting held June 22, 2020  
(consent) 2. Approve for payment - General Fund Warrant Report  
(consent) 3. Personnel Action Form - (See attached list)  
(consent) 4. Donations –  
(consent) 5. Agreement between BUSD and Document Tracking Services for SARC's

**XI. Closing**

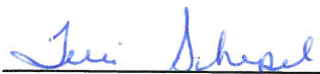
A. Future Meeting Dates


- Regular Meeting, August 5, 2020
- Regular Meeting, September 9, 2020
- Regular Meeting, October 7, 2020
- Regular Meeting, November 18, 2020

B. Adjournment

*Elysia Lewis **MOTIONED** to approve Consent Agenda as presented. Jessie Skidmore **Seconded** the motion. **The Ayes have it with a vote of 5-0.** Elaine Alvarado read the Consent Agenda. There being no further business the open session of the meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.*

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Terri Schrepel  
Buellton Union School District

  
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Jessie Skidmore - Clerk of the Board  
Buellton Union School District