

**MARK WEST UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of the REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday, October 20, 2020**

The meeting will be held via Zoom. To access the meeting, please use the following link:

GENERAL SESSION
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84963396371>
Meeting ID: 849 6339 6371

The meeting is open to the public at 5:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Board Members

Sara Azat, President
Brad Sherwood, Clerk
Victor McKnight
Brian Burke
Priscilla Jaworski

Staff Members

Ron Calloway, Superintendent
Regina Cuculich, Associate Superintendent of Business
Rachel Valenzuela, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Service
Principals: Tracy Lavin-Kendall, Patrick Eagle, Emily Todd.
Michelle Franci
Michael Smith, Director of Maintenance/Operation/Technology
Claire Raggio, District Communication Coordinator
Alicia Mills, District Executive Assistant

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At this time, members of the public may seek clarification about any item on the Closed Session agenda for as long as the item is under the jurisdiction of the Board. Comments shall be limited to three minutes per person for a total of 20 minutes. Any person interested in the following items on the agenda will be allowed an opportunity to address the Board at this time.

2. CLOSED SESSION: 4:30PM

- 2.1 Public Employment (Resignations, Hirings, Leaves, Contracts, Reassignments, Layoffs) (Government Code 54957)
- 2.2 Conference with Labor Negotiators pursuant to Section 54957.6: (Classified: CSEA; Certificated: MARFAC; Management; Confidential; District Negotiators: Regina Cuculich, Ron Calloway)

3. STUDY SESSION:

There will be no Study Session

4. PUBLIC MEETING at 5:00pm

- 4.1 The meeting will be called to order at 5:00 P.M.
- 4.2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 4.3 Introductions
- 4.4 Approval of Agenda Order
- 4.5 Report Out of Closed Session
 - The Board unanimously voted to advance student #705824

5. PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

There are no presentations or recognitions

6. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Letter from Sonoma County Office of Education (SCOE), Director of Fiscal Services, Shelly Stiles, stating that the Mark West Union School District budget for 2020-2021 school year has been approved.

7. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS/MATTERS

(Board Communications/Matters item is provided for the purpose of sharing school-related activities, school visitations, conferences attended, meetings scheduled. Board members may share any district related issues with other members of the Board and Staff. No formal Board of Education action will be taken.)

Trustee McKnight mentioned that “every parent he has spoken with has stated how incredibly hard teachers are working and that they recognize how hard this has been on the teachers as well as the students.” “We are very fortunate to be in this district.” Trustee Azat concurred and added that she “very much appreciates the efficiency and thoughtfulness by which information is shared in support of the parents as well as students.”

Trustee Jaworski added that “teachers, administrators, and staff are going above and beyond.” Distance Learning has continued much longer than anyone expected and some of our top students are also struggling online; not because of the support provided by teachers but because they are using computers all the time. She also added that “Mr. Cooper’s presentation was tremendous and very much appreciated; great information and we hope for more moving forward.”

Trustee Sherwood added that “the resources provided to parents are second to none. The district and staff have gone above and beyond; the district is the community. When parents need help, they get it.”

Trustee Burke recognized how challenging these times are for our community but reiterated that the support provided by our staff and leadership is above and beyond; he appreciates all the extra time and effort on behalf of our students and families.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

8.1 School Reports/Principals

Tracy Kendall – Mark West Elementary

- Ms. Kendall highlighted ways the staff are working to meet student needs including: small group instruction; reading, GATE and Intervention teachers are meeting with students during office time; and the formation of study halls, lunch bunches and dance parties.
- Kindergarten – Leslie’s husband Mike has been continuing music and zooming in with the kids in addition to music with Kara Kaufman. 1st grade will begin building their Lego community and 2nd grade will be taking a virtual field trip to the LBC watching the chicken dance
- A Shout Out to Mark West PTA worked hard to figure out how they can help teachers. Most of the fundraising donations will be used to support teachers during Distance Learning

Michelle Franci – Mark West Charter

- The Charter is the middle of enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year. At present, there are 35 completed enrollments, 30 in the que. If a lottery is needed, it will be held in January
- Staff support for students includes – 8th grade study hall, students are invited if they haven’t completed their work; 7th grade offers small group assistance which meets the needs of those students. On Wednesdays, both grade levels meet and students get to see all of their friends in the other classes.
- District Student Council student representatives include: Riley Kobler and Jared Jimenez Rodriguez, Mark West; Taylor Hannon and Bella Pearson, Riebli; Faye Kovacevich and Jackson Diaz, San Miguel; Portia Carlock and Viviana Cruz, 7th Grade, Mark West Charter; Jordyn Volmerding and Rachael Yaya, 8th Grade Mark West Charter. They have worked very hard to create spirit days that would fit the Halloween theme! Halloween Spirit week will be held October 26th- October 30th.

Trustee McKnight asked the principals what percentage of students are really struggling. Principal Franci responded that she doesn’t have a percentage but, teachers are reaching out to students who need additional support; others are thriving in the Distance Learning mode. Principal Kendall added 2-3 per class. Principal Todd concurred but added that some are kids that previously struggled and are continuing to struggle. Others that may have social issues, are excelling in the Distance Learning format. Principal Eagle added that he has 4-5 students that are really struggling.

Patrick Eagle – San Miguel

- Principal Eagle thanked Trustee McKnight and the Board for recognizing the teachers. They are working nights, weekends, late afternoon; the recognition means a lot.
- Parent Club may host a drive-in movie
- Student winners in the Writer’s Day; 1 winner and 2 runner ups
- Principal Eagle is hosting grade level zoom lunches. The students love being able to see their friends in other classrooms

Emily Todd – John B. Riebli

- Principal Todd is also holding lunch activities. 6th grade held a video game over Zoom. Currently Riebli is participating in Digital Citizenship week. The first of November, the “One School, One Book” program will begin
- Riebli will be hosting a November canned food drive for the community in conjunction with PTA
- Lego projects are complete and judging will be held soon

Trustee Jaworski added that she loves how the principals are incorporating “fun” into the programs.

8.2 Maintenance/Operations/Technology Report/Michael Smith

- The laptops were received yesterday and will be distributed to the sites tomorrow morning
- The web cameras weren’t effective. Amazon is accepting them back but the switch from the web cams to the new computers will have to be fast
- Irrigation water was kept on for an additional month due to the heat

8.3 Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services/Rachel Valenzuela

- We are entering the 4th month of Distance Learning and reflecting on the program that has been developed.
- The program is three pronged as it includes: academic, social emotional, and relationships and connectiveness; a social development piece that is missing in Distance Learning. We discussed the development of something to ignite the connection. Out of the discussion came “Friendship Circles”.
- The “Friendship Circles” program will begin in TK-2nd grade classrooms. Counselors will work with teachers to schedule times to mee with their students virtually. Through the Friendship Circles, children will have the opportunity to develop character building, being a good friend, anti bullying and learn to think about situations from another person’s perspective.

Superintendent Calloway and Trustee McKnight thanked the Counseling staff for their continued efforts on behalf of the students, families and staff.

8.4 District Communications Coordinator/Claire Raggio

- Working with Assistant Superintendent Valenzuela by going into classrooms and taking pictures of paraeducators and specialists. The pictures will be added to the Special Education and Counseling pages on the District website
- Teachers are hanging the student work on the walls just as they would during regular session. Mrs. Raggio will be taking pictures of that and posting it to the school websites.
- Researching the potential for virtual fieldtrips with the Santa Rosa Symphony and Safari West
- Mark West Education Foundation’s Virtual Raffle will be held through November 13th

Trustee Azat offered assistance to Mrs. Raggio in connecting with Safari West if needed.

8.5 Superintendent’s Report/Ron Calloway

- Superintendent Calloway reviewed the COVID Recovery Plan. We remain in the Purple Zone which is more than 8%. In order to be in the Red, numbers have to drop to between 5-8% for a minimum of 4 consecutive weeks
- Sonoma County Metrics – we are currently at 15.1% up from the stated 11.1%. We still have warmer weather but with the cold and flu season approaching, it is uncertain how the numbers may fluctuate.
- School Reopening Options by tier were reviewed
- Working on creating the 6 foot distancing markers in each classroom. That way, we are prepared when we eventually can return to the hybrid model.
- Contact tracing is required. District is working on how to put that in place. Trustee McKnight asked when the County steps in to handle contact tracing. Associate Superintendent Cuculich responded that the County steps in once the tracing moves to the home environment.
- Reviewed the rules of framework. Explained the 5% rule that requires the school to quarantine for 14 days. If one school quarantines, that is 25% of the district. Therefore, the entire district has to close. This is a state law.
- RESIG does not offer liability coverage for communicable diseases
- Next steps would involve meeting with teaching and classified staff as we prepare to eventually move to the Red Tier and Hybrid
- Superintendent Calloway will be teaching an 8th grade Math class with Lisa Chapman on Friday

Trustee Sherwood asked how we are going to move to Hybrid and will the process begin with smaller cohorts. Trustee McKnight added that the equity issue is going to have to be brought to the forefront. Superintendent Calloway and Assistant Superintendent Valenzuela added that we have about 20 students that are special needs. Trustee Azat suggested that perhaps we look at a smaller plan to address the needs of students with special needs. Superintendent Calloway added that we have lost 120 students; 9 went to private schools. We are exploring the 4C's. Trustee Azat was surprised to note such a decline in enrollment in the younger grades. Trustee Jaworski added that housing costs in combination with all of these other factors, have caused significant issues for families.

9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At this time, members of the public may seek clarification about any item on the agenda or not on the agenda as long as the item is under the jurisdiction of the Board. Comments shall be limited to three minutes per person for a total of 20 minutes. Any person interested in the following items on the agenda will be allowed an opportunity to address the Board at the end of Board discussion on that item.

Homeschool teacher Susan Gonyo commented that homeschool students really value continuing to be a part of the campuses from which they came. She appreciates that the principals have gone above and beyond to make sure homeschool students receive the information regarding all events and activities at the site.

Andrea Quartarolo appreciated all of the teachers and their efforts on behalf of the students. She inquired as to why we haven't applied for a waiver for our special needs students. "Those children desperately need help now". She shared that the reality is as a parent, it's a learning process; behavior is not always the easiest. She's struggling and asked when we would be returning to the classroom. "Our children need to go back to school now. Parents are willing to start a go fund me page to make our teachers feel safe. Working from home and being the teacher is a struggle, the struggle is real."

Lisa Chapman gave the Counseling Department a shout out! They have been very focused and created the connections. "They are a small team making a big change." Susan Gonyo added that they are also supporting the staff.

Eve Sutliff added that she and her husband work full-time but, the kids are struggling. The mental health of the children is suffering. As parents, they have discussed the option of pulling her kids from the district. She requested that we "ask the kids" how things are going. She appreciates what we are doing and the effort we are making but, as parents, we have to advocate for our kids.

The Board thanked everyone for their comments and input.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items are considered routine and can be handled with one action since it is recommended that all items be approved unanimously. Board members may request that any item be discussed or moved to a future calendar.

10.1 PERSONNEL

10.1.1 Consideration of Approval of all items on the Personnel Form

10.2 BUSINESS

10.2.1 Consideration of Approval of the Vendor Warrant Report

10.2.2 Consideration of Approval of the 2020-2021 Free Meals Service (SSO) Procedures

10.2.3 Consideration of Approval of the Speech Language Pathology Assistant Job Description

10.2.4 Consideration of Approval of the Certificated Auxiliary Pay Scale

10.2.5 Consideration of Approval of the Updated 2020-2021 Classified Salary Schedule

10.2.6 Consideration of Approval of the Revised Data Sharing MOU between SCOE and the Mark West Union School District

10.2.7 Consideration of Approval of the 2019-2020 Revised Unaudited Actuals, Form CEA

10.2.8 Consideration of Approval of the following information under the CARES Act Reporting:
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER): 3/30/20 – 9/30/20
Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund : 3/13/20 – 9/30/20
Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF): 7/1/20 – 9/30/20
General Fund: 3/1/20 – 9/30/30

10.3 CURRICULUM

10.4 MINUTES

10.4.1 Consideration of Approval of the Minutes of the September 8, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

10.5 FACILITIES

10.5.1 Consideration of Approval of the Williams Settlement Quarterly Uniform Complaint Report Summary; July 1, 2020-September 30, 2020

10.6 DONATIONS

On a motion by Trustee McKnight, second by Trustee Sherwood, all items on the Consent Agenda were unanimously approved. Aye=5, Ney=0, Abstention=0, Absent=0

11. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

11.1 BUSINESS

- 11.1.1 Consideration of Approval of SB 820 Growth Funding Applications for:
Mark West Charter School
San Miguel Elementary
Mark West Union School District

On a motion by Trustee Sherwood, second by Trustee Jaworski, SB 820 Funding Applications for Mark West Charter School, San Miguel Elementary, and Mark West Union School District were unanimously approved. Aye=5, Ney=0, Abstention=0, Absent=0

11.2 CURRICULUM

11.3 FACILITIES

11.4 BOARD POLICIES

- 11.4.1 Consideration of Approval of Revised Administrative Regulation 1312.3, Uniform Complaint Procedures
11.4.2 Consideration of Approval of Board Policy 3555, Nutrition Program Compliance
11.4.3 Consideration of Approval of Revised Administrative Regulation 4030, Non Discrimination in Employment
11.4.4 Consideration of Approval of Revised Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 4119.11 Personnel, Sexual Harassment
11.4.5 Consideration of Approval of Revised Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5141.22 Student, Infectious Diseases

On a motion by Trustee Burke, second by Trustee Jaworski, all item listed under category 11.4 Board Policies were unanimously approved. Aye=5, Ney=0, Abstention=0, Absent=0

11.5 ADMINISTRATION

12. EVALUATION OF THE BOARD MEETING

13. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 13.1 Public Self-Insurer's Annual Report from RESIG(Redwood Empire Schools' Insurance Group)
13.2 Cashflow Report 2020-2021
13.3 Enrollment Report as of 10/7/20
13.4 CDE Approvals of the 2019-2020 J-13A Waivers for the Kincaid Fire Closures Days/PSPS days and some of the material decrease waiver requests for: Mark West Union School District, John B. Riebl Elementary, San Miguel Elementary, and Mark West Charter

14. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Regular Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10th, 2020.

15. ADJOURNMENT

ADA Compliance

In compliance with Government Code § 54954.2(a), the Mark West Union School District, will, on request, make this agenda available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the American with Disabilities Acts of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individuals who need this agenda in an alternative format or who need a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting, should contact Alicia Mills, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Mark West Union School District, 305 Mark West Springs Road, Santa Rosa, CA, 95404, or telephone (707) 524-2972.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Approved By:

Ron Calloway, Superintendent

Brad Sherwood, Board Clerk