

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE  
SIERRA-PLUMAS JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
August 11, 2020

*In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order pertaining to the convening of public meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governing Board of the Sierra-Plumas Joint Unified School District held these meetings via Zoom Videoconferencing for the public.*

Immediately followed the 6:00pm meeting of the Sierra County Board of Education

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A. CALL TO ORDER

President MIKE MOORE called the meeting to order at 6:40pm.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mike Moore, President  
Jenny Gant, Vice President  
Allen Wright, Clerk  
Nicole Stannard, Member  
Patty Hall, Member

ABSENT: NONE

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

HALL/WRIGHT  
5/0

D. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Superintendent's Report

a. School Re-Opening Plans for August 26, 2020 (In-Service August 24-25)

*\*\*All site plans available on website: [www.sierracountyofficeofeducation.org](http://www.sierracountyofficeofeducation.org)*

*BERARDI: We surveyed parents and students to get a feel for desires around whether or not to send kids to school physically. We do not have the capacity and/or manpower to give ala carte options, so we are going forward with a plan that will appease the majority of parents and students at this point in time based on feedback received. We will adjust as needed leading up to and throughout the school year.*

*HALL: What is back-up plan 1, 2, 3 if we have to close the school sites?*

*BERARDI: We are sending out another survey to determine our threshold for closing down school sites based on comfort level of parents/families. We have to consider a number of factors such as busing capacity, Independent Study Program capacity, positive COVID cases rising, etc. We will also continue working with the Health Department very closely as we have been throughout this whole process and act based on their guidelines/feedback/criteria. We will do everything we can to get kids in the classrooms. This is the right thing to do educationally.*

*JILLIAN FREETO: What is the liability for the school district going back to in-person learning?*

*BERARDI: AB 1384, if passed, is meant to provide additional protection for schools and entities if someone were to get sick with COVID. I reached out to our attorney and Keenan & Associates for more information. It really comes down to our due diligence. What do the cases look like and what do our plans look like based on the cases in our county/communities at the time of reopening or at the time of any incident?*

- b. Plan for Rescinding Layoff Notices  
*BERARDI: Now that we have our re-opening plans in place we are working through our list of Aides and sending out re-hire letters based on needs for each school site. Duties are changing as well due to needs.*
  - c. Board of Supervisors/CARES Act  
*BERARDI: I've been attending meetings with the finance committee for the Sierra County Board of Supervisors to ask/apply for money passed from the state for expenses related to COVID.*
  - d. Assembly Bill 1384  
*"Local educational agencies: liability for COVID-19-related injuries"*  
*\*\*see notes in item a.*
  - e. Most Recent Inter-District Variance Requests
2. Business Report
    - a. Account Object Summary-Balance from 07/01/2020 to 07/31/2020
  3. Staff Reports
 

LES—CERESOLA: *Last week staff attended 2 days of Google training which will be helpful with conducting distance learning when needed, organized by Wendy Jackson. Staff are also getting in their classrooms starting to prepare for reopening.*

DVL—BERARDI: *New website built. Parking lot repainted today. Physical distancing markers were added.*

LHS—JONES: *We will have a Student Teacher from Chico State working with Cali Griffin this year.*
  4. SPTA Report
 

PRESIDENT—PETTERSON: *Google training last week with a great turn out – new tools for this school year. Thanks to Wendy Jackson for organizing this! MOU for teachers with extra safety in mind for this school year. Teachers enjoying last hours of summer and looking forward to returning to classrooms!*
  5. Board Members' Report
 

WRIGHT: *I recently visited each site and see that every site is very well prepped for "COVID education" – impressive preparations. I'm hearing from kids around Sierra City that they want to go back to school.*
  6. Public Comment
 

JENNA HOLLAND: *I think everyone is doing the best they can with this novel and very challenging situation. Thank you all for your diligence, hard work and dedication to our children, teachers and community! We appreciate you!*

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held July 14, 2020
2. Approval of Board Report-Checks Dated 07/01/2020 through 07/31/2020
3. Approval of 2020-2021 SPJUSD Certificated Substitute List
4. Approval of Assignment to Teach Core Subjects out of Credential Authorization for the 2020-2021 School Year
5. Approval of Consolidated Application for 2020-2021

HALL/WRIGHT

5/0

F. ACTION ITEMS

1. New Business

***PUBLIC HEARING – Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators***

- a. Public Hearing *opened at 7:56pm* to receive public comment regarding the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for the 2020-2021 School Year (Item b). *Closed at 7:57pm with no comment. \*\*Item addressed in County meeting\*\**
- b. Approval of Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for the 2020-2021 School Year. *A diligent search to recruit fully prepared teacher(s) was made and an insufficient number of certificated persons met the Sierra-Plumas Joint Unified School District's employment criteria for the position(s)\*\**  
*WRIGHT/HALL*  
*5/0*
- c. Approval of the CBEST Waiver for Substitute Teachers *(The Sierra-Plumas JUSD has been unable to recruit enough day-to-day substitute teachers who have not had an opportunity to take and pass all sections of the California Basic Educational Skills Test. The District anticipates employing no greater than three (3) day-to-day substitutes on variable term CBEST waiver for the 2020-2021 school year)^*  
*WRIGHT/STANNARD*  
*5/0*
- d. Acceptance of resignation for Michelle Clemo, Cafeteria Worker, Loyalton Elementary School, .50 FTE, effective August 28, 2020  
*STANNARD/HALL*  
*5/0*
- e. Acceptance of resignation for Michelle Clemo, Bus Driver, .469 FTE, effective August 28, 2020  
*HALL/STANNARD*  
*5/0*
- f. Authorization to fill Cafeteria Worker, Loyalton Elementary School, .50 FTE  
*HALL/WRIGHT*  
*5/0*
- g. Authorization to fill Bus Driver, .469 FTE  
*GANT/STANNARD*  
*5/0*
- h. Authorization to fill 4-6 Combo Teacher, Downieville Schools, 1.0 FTE  
*HALL/WRIGHT*  
*5/0*
- i. Approval of assignment of Benjamin Raymond, 4-6 Combo Teacher, Downieville Schools, 1.0 FTE  
*STANNARD/HALL*  
*5/0*
- j. Approval of assignment of Sonia Joy, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher, Loyalton Elementary School, 1.0 FTE  
*WRIGHT/HALL*  
*5/0*

- k. Approval of Agreement No. 2020-004D with Sierra Transportation Company, LLC, Downieville Bus Agreement

*WRIGHT/HALL*

*BERARDI: Same price as last year, but how do we want to proceed for this year based on the current environment with COVID-19 factors?*

*Motion died.*

*GANT motioned to make a one-month contract/payment for August while the remainder of the year is negotiated.*

*Motion died.*

*\*\*The Transportation Committee for the West side (HALL & WRIGHT) will meet with Sierra Transportation, the Superintendent and the Business Manager to negotiate the agreement for 2020-2021. The Board will plan to hold a Special Meeting as soon as possible after negotiations in an effort to get an agreement in place before the first day of school on August 26<sup>th</sup>.*

- l. Memorandum Of Understanding with Sierra-Plumas Teachers Association

*WRIGHT/HALL*

*BERARDI: Main issues to address—*

1. *Using personal leave versus receiving worker's comp if a teacher contracts COVID-19*
2. *Requesting additional days for prep*

*MOORE: Do agree that we should provide additional prep days. Do not agree with the worker's comp piece. We cannot guarantee any award of worker's comp.*

*PETTERSON: Teachers are looking for protection from having to use personal sick time if they were to contract COVID due to working in the classroom.*

*WRIGHT: This has to be on CTA to petition with state to get the FFCRA extended regarding worker's comp. Would like to make sure there's accountability for approving additional prep days – please have SPTA reps and/or administrators document what the teachers are doing.*

*BERARDI: If the board agrees to additional days that would only be for this year. That will not carry over to future years. The worker's comp piece is something that we will be looking at with Keenan & Associates and be mindful of when following AB 1384.*

*MOORE motioned to approve two additional paid prep days only – the remainder of the MOU needs to be discussed further. Second by GANT.*

*5/0*

- m. Approval of State Seal of Biliteracy

*WRIGHT/HALL*

*5/0*

#### BOARD POLICIES, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS, EXHIBITS, BOARD BYLAWS

*WRIGHT motioned to approve all policies as was done in County meeting.*

*Second by HALL.*

*5/0*


- n. 0470—COVID-19 Mitigation Plan
  1. Board Policy, *revisions*
- o. 4112.9~4212.9~4312.9—Employee Notifications
  1. Board Policy, *revisions*
  2. Exhibit, *revisions*
- p. 4113—Assignment
  1. Board Policy, *revisions*
  2. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*

- q. 5141.5—Mental Health
  - 1. Board Policy, *NEW*
- r. 5145.3—Nondiscrimination/Harassment
  - 1. Board Policy, *revisions*
  - 2. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*
- s. 6020—Parent Involvement *\*\*tabled to September\*\**
  - 1. Board Policy, *revisions*
  - 2. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*
- t. 6115—Ceremonies and Observances
  - 1. Board Policy, *revisions*
  - 2. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*

G. ADVANCED PLANNING

- 1. Next Regular Board Meeting will be held on September 08, 2020 beginning with Closed Session as needed at 5:00pm and the Regular Board Meeting at 6:00pm.  
*\*\*\*Location to be determined\*\*\**
- 2. Suggested Agenda Items
  - STANNARD: Zoom versus Google platforms for the District.*
  - WRIGHT: Agenda item to recognize District and County administration teams for their efforts in planning for reopening the schools.*

H. ADJOURN at 8:55pm  
*WRIGHT/STANNARD*  
5/0

  
Allen Wright, Clerk

  
James Berardi, Superintendent