

**PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA  
MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Education, Desert Hot Springs High School, 65850  
Pierson Boulevard, Desert Hot Springs, CA 92234, November 12, 2019.**

**AGENDA – CLOSED SESSION (3:30 PM)**

**1. CLOSED SESSION OPENING CEREMONY:**

The Closed Session meeting was called to order by President Clapp at 3:30 pm with the following persons present:

Richard Clapp	President
John Gerardi	Clerk
Karen Cornett	Member
Madonna Gerrell	Member
Timothy Wood	Member

Sandra Lyon, Ed.D.	Superintendent
Brian Murray, Ed.D.	Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Tony Signoret, Ed.D.	Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Mike Swize, Ed.D.	Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

**2. HEARING SECTION:**

Members of the audience may at this time address the Board of Education regarding only matters on the Closed Session Agenda.

**3. CLOSED SESSION:**

At this time, the Board of Education went into Closed Session to take up matters identified on the Closed Session agenda.

**4. RECESS FROM CLOSED SESSION:**

Closed Session was recessed at 4:30 pm.

**5. STUDY SESSION (4:30 PM)**

**a. DEMOGRAPHICS**

Dr. Brian Murray, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services and Larry Ferchaw, Cooperative Strategies presented the following information regarding demographics:

- Enrollment Projections
  - Inputs
    - Student Enrollment
    - Cohort Survival Factors
    - Birth Rates
    - Student Generation Rates
    - Residential Development
- Attendance Boundaries
  - When to consider elementary school boundary changes
    - Concentration of new residential development within an attendance boundary
    - Enrollment exceeds capacity greater than 40 percent
  - When to consider closing or reconfiguring elementary schools from low enrollment
    - School enrollment moves below 350 students
    - Greater than 40% available capacity
  - Measure to deal with declining enrollment
    - Open enrollment, student school of choice
    - Instituting new educational programs to attract new students
    - Continue inter-district transfer enrollment growth
- Trustee Areas
  - Next Steps
    - Nationwide 2020 Census to be conducted in April 2020
      - Census information made available to the public around April 2021
    - Districts update trustee areas by March 2022, if necessary
    - Shifting population within communities of the School District since the 2010 Census may trigger need to adjust trustee areas
      - State and federal law allows for a maximum of 10 percent population variance between most populated and least populated trustee areas

**6. REGULAR MEETING OPENING CEREMONY (6:00 PM):**

**a. The Public Session meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm with the following persons present:**

Richard Clapp	President
John Gerardi	Clerk
Karen Cornett	Member
Madonna Gerrell	Member
Timothy Wood	Member
Modesto Martin	Student Board Member

Sandra Lyon, Ed.D.	Superintendent
Brian Murray, Ed.D.	Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Tony Signoret, Ed.D.	Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Mike Swize, Ed.D.	Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

In accordance with the California Education Code Section 35144 and Brown Act, written notices of the meeting were delivered to the Board, news media, and a copy posted seventy-two hours in advance of the time of the meeting.

**b. Pledge of Allegiance**

**c. Mission Statement**

**7. REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS:**

None.

**8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Member Cornett moved and Member Wood seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: President Clapp and members Cornett, Gerardi, Gerrell and Wood

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**9. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:**

Mt. San Jacinto High School Student Board Member Modesto Martin reported the following MSJHS news and activities:

- MSJ – Cathedral City campus held its first awards assembly of the school year
- Boys volleyball ended season at 5-1 and the girls team ended with a 1-5 record
- FAFSA night was successful with 50% of seniors completing their applications on that evening
- Basketball season has started strong for teams on both campuses
- MSJ – EWEC campus students walked in the Pride Parade

**10. SPECIAL RECOGNITION:**

**a. The Governing Board presented the District's Shiny Apple Award to:**

- Walmart for their \$2,000 donation of school supplies to Bella Vista Elementary School
- Sulma Solano for her continued dedication as a parent volunteer at Cabot Yerxa Elementary School
- Dr. Kephyan Sheppard for his consistent support and vision for young people's futures

**b. The Governing Board recognized and commended the following Employees of the Month for November 2019:**

Classified:

- Zindi Aguirre, Bubbling Wells Elementary School
- Silvia Hernandez, Desert Springs Middle School
- Ruth Perez, Desert Hot Springs High School

Certificated:

- Scott Davis and Pat Mattison, Bubbling Wells Elementary School
- Olivia Mejorado, Desert Springs Middle School
- Grcy Espinoza, Desert Hot Springs High School

**11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

The following individuals spoke regarding the topics indicated:

- Rockie McKee – New Desert Hot Springs Library
- Karen Johnson – Discipline issues
- Elvira Velasquez – Special Education parent support

**12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

- Student Member Martin
  - Commented that it is very good to have parents updated when curriculum is altered
- Member Gerrell
  - Extended her appreciation to DHSHS community and all who came out to the Board meeting
  - Suggested the District look into a program that installs laundry facilities on campuses
- Member Cornett
  - Thanked those who spoke during public participation
  - Talked about the Native American studies curriculum
- Member Wood:
  - Shared that the past few weeks have been very busy with school and community activities
- Member Gerardi:
  - Thanked the library advocates who came out and asked that a District representative connect with the group
  - Thanked that the special education parents for sharing about their group and suggested that they work with Ruby Rivera regarding suggested classes and trainings for parents
  - Stated that he appreciates Karen Johnson for sharing staff concerns regarding discipline
  - Commented that he concurs with his colleagues regarding the success of the homecomings, Marine Corps Birthday Luncheon and fall festivals
  - Congratulated Desert Hot Springs HS on their fall academic awards program
  - Thanked Desert Hot Springs HS for hosting the Board meeting twice each year
- President Clapp
  - Stated that the Board does not tolerate violent acts and that administration will look into the concerns expressed during public comment

**13. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

Dr. Lyon:

- Stated that staff members will reach out to the library group and parent group
- Commented that her EAB National conference was very worthwhile and provided a great opportunity to discuss relevant topics with the consultant group that the District contracts with to work on specific issues including:
  - Adolescent mental health
  - Technology

- Announced that the pool at Cathedral City HS has reopened
- Shared information regarding the Riverside County Student Unity Conference that was attended by students from Cathedral City, Desert Hot Springs, Mt. San Jacinto and Palm Springs high schools
- Remarked that Champions of Excellence was a huge success and Daniel Seddiqui was a great motivational speaker
- Reminded everyone that English Learner reclassification ceremonies will be held Friday, November 15 and Saturday, November 16
- Encouraged everyone to attend the Musical Theatre University production of “Gypsy” this weekend (November 15 – 17), at Rancho Mirage HS

**14. PUBLIC HEARING:**

**a. EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR WAIVER REQUEST (OE-10)**

- President Clapp opened the public hearing regarding the Extended School Year Waiver Request.
- President Clapp asked if any written comments had been received regarding the Extended School Year Waiver Request.
  - Member Gerardi stated that no written comments have been received regarding the Extended School Year Waiver Request.
- President Clapp asked if anyone present wished to provide oral comments regarding the Extended School Year Waiver Request.
  - No oral comments were presented.
- President Clapp closed the public hearing regarding the Extended School Year Waiver Request.

**15. BOARD ACTION ITEMS:**

**a. APPROVAL OF MONITORING REPORT, GOVERNING POLICY: OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS, ASSET PROTECTION (OE-7)**

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Dr. Tony Signoret and Renee Brunelle, Risk Management Director, presented the OE-7 Asset Protection monitoring report.

- Dr. Signoret and Ms. Brunelle presented evidence that the District is in compliance in all nine areas of the report.
  - Ms. Brunelle presented a special report that included worker’s compensation data for 2018/2019.
  - Ms. Brunelle recognized the following custodial employees for safety practices resulting in a reduction of worker’s compensation claims
    - Jose Garcia, Custodial Manager
    - Jackie Holmes, Night Custodial Supervisor
    - Amalia Cervantes, Night Custodian
    - Renard Gibson, Lead Floor Maintenance Worker
    - Jose Israel Lopez Torres, Head Custodian III
    - Isabel Navarro, Head Custodian II

Member Gerrell moved and Member Gerardi seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: President Clapp and members Cornett, Gerardi, Gerrell and Wood  
 NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**b. APPROVAL OF MONITORING REPORT, GOVERNING POLICY; R-2 ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, ARTS (R-2.4)**

Dr. Swize presented the following regarding the R-2, Academic Achievement, Arts monitoring report:

- This report has been on hold for since 2016 and is being reinstated due to the recently adopted Declaration of the Rights of All Students to Equity in Arts Learning.
- The Palm Springs Unified School District has created a well-rounded arts experience for Palm Springs Unified students in partnership with the major cultural institutions of the Coachella Valley.
- As evidenced by the wide variety of arts enrichment opportunities available to students in the Palm Springs Unified School District and the Board's commitment to equity in arts education, it is recommended that the Board certify that PSUSD is making reasonable progress towards meeting R-2.4, Academic Achievement, Arts.

Member Wood moved and Member Cornett seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: President Clapp and members Cornett, Gerardi, Gerrell and Wood

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**c. APPROVAL OF REJECTION OF CLAIM NO. 2019/2020-04, KINZIE VS. PSUSD (574929) (OE-7)**

Member Wood moved and Member Gerrell seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: President Clapp and members Cornett, Gerardi, Gerrell and Wood

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**16. SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT ITEMS:**

- a. APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATED AND CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS (OE-4.4)**
- b. APPROVAL OF NEW JOB DESCRIPTION, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SECURITY AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS (OE-4.7)**
- c. APPROVAL OF EXPULSION CASE 2019/2020-003, RECOMMENDATION AND FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSION OF LAW (OE-11)**

This item was pulled for separate consideration.

Member Gerardi moved and Member Wood seconded approval with the following changes: All conditions remain as stated, with the addition of a public apology by the student to the school community, as arranged by the Student Services department.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: President Clapp and members Cornett, Gerardi, Gerrell and Wood  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

- d. **APPROVAL OF EXPULSION CASE 2019/2020-005, RECOMMENDATION AND FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSION OF LAW (OE-11)**
- e. **ADOPTION OF PROCLAMATION OF THE GREAT AMERICAN SMOKE-OUT - NOVEMBER 21, 2019 (OE-10)**
- f. **ADOPTION OF PROCLAMATION OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY AWARENESS WEEK - NOVEMBER 11 - 15, 2019 (OE-10)**
- g. **APPROVAL OF COMPROMISE AND RELEASE AGREEMENT #19/20-03 BETWEEN PARENTS AND DISTRICT DATED OCTOBER 11, 2019 (OE-6.1)**
- h. **APPROVAL OF COMPROMISE AND RELEASE AGREEMENT #19/20-04 BETWEEN PARENTS AND DISTRICT DATED OCTOBER 11, 2019 (OE-6.1)**
- i. **APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY (BP) 5131.62; TOBACCO, (OE-11)**
- j. **APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 WITH OAKVIEW CONSTRUCTORS, INC., FOR SITE WORK AND UTILITIES FOR THE PORTABLE CLASSROOMS AT DESERT HOT SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL, AGREEMENT NO. C0003495 (OE-12.7)**
- k. **APPROVAL TO FILE THE NOTICE OF COMPLETION WITH OAKVIEW CONSTRUCTORS, INC., FOR SITE WORK AND UTILITIES FOR THE PORTABLE CLASSROOMS AT DESERT HOT SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL (OE-12.14)**
- l. **APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDER REPORT (OE-6.2)**
- m. **APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS UNDER TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (OE-6.2)**
- n. **APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS OR MORE AND OTHER CONTRACTS (OE-6.2)**
- o. **APPROVAL OF RECOGNITION OF QUALIFIED SCHOOL-CONNECTED ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (OE-6.7)**
- p. **APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS (OE-6)**

Member Wood moved and Member Gerrell seconded approval of items 16(a), 16(b) and 16(d) through 16(p).

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: President Clapp and members Cornett, Gerardi, Gerrell and Wood  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

**17. BOARD CONSENT ITEM:**

- a. **Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 22, 2019**

Member Wood moved and Member Cornett seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: President Clapp and members Cornett, Gerardi, Gerrell and Wood  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

**18. INFORMATION:**

- a. **FIRST READING OF THE DISTRICT CALENDAR FOR 2020/2021 SCHOOL YEAR (OE-10.9)**
- b. **FIRST READING OF REVISIONS TO ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION (AR) 4030; PERSONNEL NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT MEASURES TO PREVENT DISCRIMINATION (OE-4)**
- c. **FIRST READING OF REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY (BP) 4030; PERSONNEL - NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (OE-4)**
- d. **FIRST READING OF REVISIONS TO ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION (AR) 4031; PERSONNEL - COMPLAINTS CONCERNING DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (OE-4)**
- e. **FIRST READING OF REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY (BP) 5145.3; STUDENTS - NONDISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT (OE-4)**
- f. **FIRST READING OF REVISIONS TO ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION (AR) 5145.7; STUDENTS SEXUAL HARASSMENT (OE-4)**
- g. **FIRST READING OF REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY (BP) 5145.7; STUDENTS SEXUAL HARASSMENT (OE-4)**

**19. SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:**

- Boundaries

**20. SETTING OF THE NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

**a. Special Board Meeting:**

November 22, 2019, at 8:30 a.m. – Board Study Session with Leadership Associates

**b. Regular Meeting:**

Closed Session: November 26, 2019, at 3:30 p.m.  
Study Session: November 26, 2019, at 4:30 p.m. – Transportation  
Regular Session: November 26, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

**21. DEBRIEF:**

None.

**22. ADJOURNMENT:**

Member Gerardi moved and Member Cornett seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:



AYES: President Clapp and members Cornett, Gerardi, Gerrell and Wood  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Recorder: Brenda J. Williams