

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

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education, District Administration Center, 150 District Center Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92264, October 12, 2021.

This meeting was held in-person and livestreamed.

AGENDA – CLOSED SESSION (4:00 PM)

1. CLOSED SESSION OPENING CEREMONY:

The Closed Session meeting was called to order by President Wood at 4:03 pm with the following persons present:

Tim Wood	President
Madonna Gerrell	Clerk
Karen Cornett	Member
Sergio Espericueta	Member
John Gerardi	Member

Mike Swize, Ed.D.	Superintendent of Schools
Brian Murray, Ed.D.	Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Tony Signoret, Ed.D.	Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Simone Kovats, Ed.D.	Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

2. CLOSED SESSION:

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

3. HEARING SECTION:

There were no public comments.

4. RECESS FROM CLOSED SESSION:

Closed Session was recessed at 6:05 p.m.

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

- a. The Public Session meeting was called to order at 6:18 pm with the following persons present:

Tim Wood	Board President
Madonna Gerrell	Board Clerk
Karen Cornett	Board Member
Sergio Espericueta	Board Member
John Gerardi	Board Member

Keona Corona

Student Board Member

Mike Swize, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

Brian Murray, Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

Tony Signoret, Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Simone Kovats, 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

Student Christopher Vega, Mt. San Jacinto High School led the Pledge.

c. Mission Statement

Student Board Member Keona Corona read the Mission Statement.

6. REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS:

Member Garrell – The Board conducted its appeal hearing pursuant to Administrative Regulation 1312.1 and will render a decision following deliberations.

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Gerardi moved and Member Cornett seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Members Wood, Cornett, Gerrell, Espericueta, Gerardi, Student Board
Member Corona

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

8. SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

9.a. The Governing Board wishes to recognize the 2021/2022 Student Board Member and administer the Oath of Office.

Christopher Vega, Mt. San Jacinto High School

9. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT:

The Student Board Member Report will be presented by Palm Springs High School Student Board Member Keona Corona.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Clerk Gerrell stated that no written comments were received.

Executive Assistant, Erika Barragan stated that no telephonic comments were received.

In-person Comments: The following individuals provided in-person comments:

- 1) Charlee Ervin - Parent
- 2) Jaclyn Aviles – Think Together
- 3) Michelle McMullen – Teacher/Parent
- 4) Sophia Gonzales – CCHS Board Member

11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Member Espericueta:

- On October 5th I attended the Raymond Cree's Advisory Committee. Great information in on how to support students in the areas in need.
- October 6th I attended the ribbon cutting for Nellie Coffman's Cougar Den which will provide opportunities to learn about robots and computers. It is a good program to prepare students for high school.
- On October 8th I attended PSUSD Virtual Legislative Breakfast. It was a good presentation with representatives from the whole Coachella valley.
- I would like to invite the community to CCHS homecoming parade on October 14th in the Cathedral City downtown area.

Member Cornett:

- Congratulations to our new student board member from Mt. San Jacinto, Christopher Vega and all student board members here tonight.
- I would also like to thank those who spoke tonight during public comment. We appreciate your opinions.
- I also want to stress that Palm Springs Unified District has testing for Covid and vaccination clinics available at our schools and the schedules are available online.

Member Gerardi:

- I want to echo what my colleagues said. Thank you to everyone that come out at spoke to the board. We really appreciate hearing your perspectives and we take them very seriously.
- Christopher, welcome to the board. It will be good to work with you this year.
- I also want to congratulate Nelly Kaufman Middle School for their Cougar Den. I think that its going to be a very valuable for middle school students.
- I would also like to congratulate staff for the State of the District. Tim you and staff did a great job. It really came off very well and was very well attended.

Member Gerrell

- I would like to echo what all of the board members said prior to my turn.
- Keona, thank you for your report tonight.
- I would like to talk about the vaccine. We have a dancing vaccine, vaccination ambassador. This is such a proactive district who is helping everyone stay safe.
- Thank you again to all of the community members who come together to work with our nurse Laura Dyson on this amazing movement.
- On October 5th I had the honor in representing the district in the Cathedral City Rotary at Nicolino's. There were about 12 members with Dr. Swize and Joan

Boiko. Thank you to the Rotary Club for the books and all of the activities they sponsor on behalf of our kids.

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- Public Health Update: The current numbers for Riverside County have the case rate at 15.3 per hundred thousand and just for comparison. In July it was at 10.4 but at its highest point it was at 35 per 100,000. So we are continuing to decrease but not back to the level that we were at before we started school. At the beginning of August our current dashboard shows that we have 19 students and one staff member with active cases and those numbers have continued to decrease. We are offering COVID 19 vaccination clinics and testing is available five days a week for all of our staff and students and that is also extended to the families of our students if there is a concern of exposure.
- I have enjoyed attending the various civic organizations with our Board members who are presenting on the state of the district. I would like to thank Joan, Erika, Monica and Brandon who worked so hard behind the scenes to put together the event including these wonderful boxes that all the board members have in front of them and were delivered out to participants in advance of the Zoom session.
- We have two special board sessions next week as part of our board retreat and I am looking forward to getting to work with the board on October 19th and 20th.
- Later this week I will be speaking at the Palm Springs City Council meeting. That invitation came after an excellence conversation with the interim Police Chief of Palm Springs Melissa Desmarais.

13. BOARD ACTION ITEMS:

13.a. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT NUMBERS C0004161, C0004151, C0004149, AND C0004160; SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM AGREEMENT WITH PALM SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT, DESERT HOT SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT, CATHEDRAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR THE 2021/2022 SCHOOL YEAR.

Member Gerardi moved and Member Cornett seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Members Wood, Cornett, Gerrell, Espericueta and Gerardi
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

13.b. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH LEADERSHIP ASSOCIATES, LLC THROUGH DECEMBER 2021.

Member Gerrell moved and Member Cornett seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Members Wood, Cornett, Gerrell, Espericueta and Gerardi
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

**13.d. APPROVAL OF MONITORING REPORT, GOVERNING POLICY: R-2.2
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT; CORE ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES IN MATHEMATICS
(R-2.2)**

Member Gerardi moved and Member Espericueta seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Members Wood, Cornett, Gerrell, Espericueta and Gerardi
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

**13.e. APPROVAL OF EXPULSION CASE 2021/2022-004, RECOMMENDATION AND
FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSION OF LAW (OE-11)**

**13.f. APPROVAL OF EXPULSION CASE 2021/2022-005, RECOMMENDATION AND
FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSION OF LAW (OE-11)**

Member Cornett moved and Member Gerardi seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Members Wood, Cornett, Gerrell, Espericueta and Gerardi
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

**13.g. APPROVAL OF READMISSION OF EXPULSION CASE 2019/2020-018 TO
PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (OE-11)**

**13.h. APPROVAL OF READMISSION OF EXPULSION CASE 2019/2020-029 TO
PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (OE-11)**

Member Cornett moved and Member Gerrell seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Members Wood, Cornett, Gerrell, Espericueta and Gerardi
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

13.i. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2021/2022-72; STATE SEAL OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (OE-10)

Member Gerardi moved and Member Gerrell seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Members Wood, Cornett, Gerrell, Espericueta and Gerardi
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

13.j. APPROVAL OF NEW JOB DESCRIPTION, DIRECTOR - HEALTH SERVICES (OE-4.7)

Member Espericueta moved and Member Gerardi seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Members Wood, Cornett, Gerrell, Espericueta and Gerardi
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

13.k. APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATED AND CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS (OE-4.4)

Member Cornett moved and Member Gerrell seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Members Wood, Cornett, Gerrell, Espericueta and Gerardi
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

14. SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT ITEMS:

14.a. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THINK TOGETHER FOR THE USE OF PROPERTY AT 1000 EAST TAHQUITZ CANYON WAY. (OE-12.9)

14.b. APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 WITH GDL BEST CONTRACTORS, INC., FOR THE DRINKING FOUNTAIN REPLACEMENT PHASE 5, AGREEMENT NO. C0003962 (OE-12.7)

14.c. APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 WITH LOS ANGELES AIR CONDITIONING CO. INC., FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF LOCKER ROOM HVAC

REPLACEMENT AT DESERT HOT SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL, AGREEMENT NO. C0003972 (OE-12.7).

14.d. APPROVAL TO FILE THE NOTICE OF COMPLETION WITH LOS ANGELES AIR CONDITIONING CO. INC FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF LOCKER ROOM HVAC REPLACEMENT AT DESERT HOT SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL, AGREEMENT NO. C0003972 (OE-12.14)

14.e. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS OR MORE AND OTHER CONTRACTS (OE-6.2)

14.f. APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDER REPORT (OE-6.2)

Member Gerardi moved and Member Espericueta seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Members Wood, Cornett, Gerrell, Espericueta and Gerardi
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

15. BOARD CONSENT ITEM:

a. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes – September 28, 2021

Member Gerrell moved and Member Cornett seconded approval.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Members Wood, Cornett, Gerrell, Espericueta and Gerardi
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

17. SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no suggestions for future agendas.

18. SETTING OF THE NEXT BOARD MEETING:

a. Regular Board Meeting:

Regular Session: October 26, 2021, 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: Members Wood, Cornett, Gerrell, Espericueta and Gerardi
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Recorder: Erika Barragan