

# Board of Education

## Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, February 11, 2021  
TIME: 5:00 PM  
LOCATION: Gravenstein Elementary, Multipurpose Room

**Gregory Appling, President**  
**Joyce Eichelberger, Trustee**  
**Alexander Kahn, Trustee**  
**Jennifer Koelemeijer, Clerk**  
**Patrick Lei, Trustee**

[Zoom Link](#)

### **I. CALL TO ORDER AT 5:00 PM**

Meeting called to order at 5:03 pm with all board members present except Joyce Eichelberger who joined the meeting a few minutes later. JE joined at 5:12pm

### **II. ADOPTION AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Approval of the agenda for February 11, 2021 (2 min.)**

Action taken/comments:

Motion GA Second PL

Vote: GA: A PL: A JK: A AK: A JE: \_\_\_\_\_

### **III. REPORTS, AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **A. (p.1) Gravenstein Principal (10 min.)**

Keri Pugno (KP) report in packet.

KP - Additionally, wants to reiterate how helpful the new Wednesday schedule has been for Teachers and Staff. And wants to share positive feedback from Enrichments Teachers and increased attendance to Enrichment classes due to the new Wednesday schedule.

#### **B. (p.3) Hillcrest Principal (10 min.)**

Will Deeths (WD) report in packet

Dave Rose (DR) - asked about potential visual arts coming up

WD - Yes we have a group of students who are coming together to do a performance. Mr. Pulley is also looking into some sort of software to try and get something that will work for a virtual band concert in spring.

**C. Gravenstein Union Teachers' Association (5 min.)**

Aimee Otterson (AO) - Have a date set up for next week to have our GUTA negotiators to meet with Admin.

**D. District Site Council (0 min.)**

**E. (p.5) Gravenstein Parent Association, GPA (5 min.)**

Dave Rose (DR) - Sarah Tendall (ST) asked me to share the Read-Athon coming up and the Spring Book Faire. See report for other highlights

Jennifer Koelemeijer (JK) - asks if GPAs financial guru is able to prepare multi year projections to better understand potential impacts to GUSD budgeting.

**1. Financials for November and December 2020**

**2. Minutes for December 15, 2020**

**3. Agenda for January 19, 2021**

**F. Trustee Reports (5 min.)**

No reports

GA - The board will be doing its yearly retreat on Feb 20th to set District and Supt goals.

**G. Racial Justice Committee (5min.)**

WD - We decided we do need to move forward with hiring a consultant. I have had a meeting with one and will be meeting with another in a week. Hoping to bring a final decision to the Board in March for approval. We realized that there are other schools that have already done a lot of the work and that there is no reason to reinvent the wheel.

**H. Master Plan Committee (5 min.)**

DR report should be tabled until later in the meeting.

**I. (p.23) Facilities Report (5 min.)**

DR - B Sposato, KP, and WD are working with a COVID inspection team at each site, which includes teachers and staff, to see if there is anything we need to improve.

**J. (p.24) CBO Report (5 min.)**

Wanda Holden (WH) - Discussed the report that is in the Board Packet.

Regarding the modernization funding there is no change, we are still expecting the funds to come in at 2.7 million.

The 2nd interim reports will be in the March meeting.

**K. Superintendent Report/District Correspondence (15 min.)**

Cheryl DeMarta recently lost her husband. Many of you know Cheryl from her many years of working at Gravenstein. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family.

Mr. Sotiras also had a loss in the family, and so will not be with us tonight. So his presentation will be moved to next month. He has been working on his project and it will be included in the class curriculum.

- 1. Questions from the January Board Meeting**
- 2. (p.25) Positive Certification of First Interim Report**
- 3. (p.27) \$5,000 COVID Technology Support Fund Grant**
- 4. Tobacco Use Prevention Program Update - George Sotiras**
- 5. Review of Emergency Powers**

DR - I had to commit to services to the contract for our Speech Therapist Provider or we would have had a break in service.

GA - asks about the amount for the Speech services.

DR - the amount does vary based on the students, but the cost ranges between \$8000 and \$11000 a month.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (15 min.)**

At this time the public may address the Board on any item not listed on the agenda. Presentations are limited to three minutes per person per topic. The Board may not respond to presentations. The public may address the Board on any item listed on the agenda at the time the matter is taken up by the Board.

Peter Kostas - Trustee for SCOE. I hope you had a chance to be a part of the recognition program for Trustees. Dr. Harrington spoke and we want to acknowledge all the work the Trustees have been doing all over the county. Really appreciate everything that the trustees, teachers and staff are doing for our students.

**V. CONSENT AGENDA (2 min.) \_\_\_\_\_ ACTION ITEM**

- A. (p.28) Warrants**
- B. (p.33) Payroll**
- C. (p.34) Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of January 14, 2021**
- D. (p.53) Year 3 of 3-Year Contract with Stephen Roatch Accountancy Corporation**

- E. (p.63, redacted) Individual Services Agreement with JUVVO Autism and Behavioral Health Services
- F. (p.67) Application for Notice of Exemption from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Inspection for Hillcrest Heat Mitigation Project
- G. (p.68) Extension of Presence Learning Contract through June 30, 2021

Action taken/comments:

GA - asks to pull minutes from Agenda  
 AK motions to approve with minutes removed

Motion \_\_AK\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_PL\_\_\_\_

Vote: GA: \_\_A\_\_ PL: \_\_A\_\_ JK: \_\_A\_\_ AK: \_\_A\_\_ JE: \_\_\_\_\_

**VI. GENERAL ACTION ITEMS**

**A. (p. 70) School Safety Plan (5 min)**

**Situation:** By March 1st of each school year, California *Education Code* Section 32286 requires each school site to review and update its school safety plan, which must be developed and written by a School Site Council (SSC) or its designated Safety Planning Committee in collaboration with teachers, classified staff, parents, and first responders to ensure they are up-to-date and complete. The plans must have policies and procedures addressing critical issues including: disaster preparedness; crisis response; mental and physical health; earthquake emergencies; school learning environment; discipline, suspension, and/or expulsion; hate crime reporting; child abuse reporting; release of a pesticide or toxic substance; and more.

**Plan:** Site administrators have taken the plan from last year, discussed with staff and conducted drills, and has discussed the updated plan with Site Council and gained their approval.

**Recommended motion:** For the Board to approve the School Safety plans for Gravenstein Elementary and Hillcrest Middle.

Action taken/comments:

DR - The school council did a lot of work before the school closure, however we do have some updates and so we need to present them to the board before March. The draft that has been included in the board packet speaks to the tier 1 and tier 2 interventions. Also need to add some of the work with the Racial Justice Committee.

GA moves to approve school safety plan for Hillcrest and Gravenstein

Motion \_\_GA\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_PL\_\_\_\_

Vote: GA:   A   PL:   A   JK:   A   AK:   A   JE:       

**B. (p.105) 2021-2022 School Year Calendar (15 min)**

**Situation:** After consultation with administration and GUTA leadership, a draft of a calendar for the 2021-2022 school year is ready for Board consideration. Submitted along with the draft are a list of basic assumptions that were taken into account during the process.

**Plan:** Creation of a calendar that is very similar to the calendar proposed for the West County Unified School District that also includes Emergency Days as recommended by the California Department of Education and the Sonoma County Office of Education.

**Recommended motion:** For the Board to approve the submitted draft of the 2021-2022 school year calendar.

Action taken/comments:

DR - GUTA has recommended that we include all religious holidays on the District Calendar. We have added November 1st as one of the Emergency days in consideration of Halloween activities.

Motion   PL   Second        AK       

Vote: GA:   A   PL:   A   JK:   A   AK:   A   JE:       

**C. (p.107) Consolidated Application for Funding Categorical Aid Programs, 2021 Winter Submission (2 min.)**

**Situation:** The Consolidated Application (ConApp) is used by the California Department of Education (CDE) to distribute categorical funds from various federal programs (Title I, II, III, and IV). Annually, each local educational agency (LEA), using the Consolidated Application and Reporting System (CARS), submits the spring release of the ConApp that confirms our application for funds and provides assurances that we will comply with the legal requirements of each program.

**Plan:** For the Board to approve our application for federal program funds and to provide the assurance that we will comply with the legal requirements.

**Recommended motion:** For the Board to approve the ConApp.

Action taken/comments

Motion        GA        Second        JK

Vote: GA: \_\_\_A\_\_\_ PL: \_\_\_A\_\_\_ JK: \_\_\_A\_\_\_ AK: \_\_\_A\_\_\_ JE: \_\_\_\_\_

**D. Resolution Adopting Procedures and Guidelines for Selection of Lease-Leaseback Contractor and Approving Prequalification Questionnaire Packet and Request for Proposals for the Hillcrest Heat Mitigation Project, Resolution #210211-01(p.108, see GUSD Website for Exhibits) (15 min.)**

**Situation:** As school districts in California consider construction or building projects, one procurement method, which potentially provides savings in time and cost to the District is the use of a Lease-Leaseback (LLB) agreement pursuant to Education Code 17400 et. seq. This financing process, which requires a competitive “best value” procurement of a general contractor pursuant to law, allows the district to work with a qualified construction firm through the preconstruction/pre-DSA approval phase and then allows the district to lease property or a building to the qualified construction firm during the time frame of construction with the understanding that the construction firm will lease the property back to the district after the project is complete for an interest-bearing period of time.

**Plan:** Pending Board approval of the resolution, the district will solicit bids for the Hillcrest Heat Mitigation Project under an LLB agreement.

**Recommended Motion:** For the Board to approve Resolution #210211-01.

Action taken/comments

DR - The lease leaseback agreement allows the ability to work more quickly with a contractor. We essentially lease the property to a contractor during the project. This allows us to save time and money.

WH - In my brief experience at Gravenstein, using the lease leaseback was very beneficial. Counterpoint and Legal are working to make sure the District’s interests are being upheld.

GA - this does not lock us into a cost. This allows us to move forward with the process and set the timeline to get work done this Summer. Everything will come back to the board before decisions are made.

Motion \_\_\_\_\_ GA \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_ PL \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: GA: \_\_\_A\_\_\_ PL: \_\_\_A\_\_\_ JK: \_\_\_A\_\_\_ AK: \_\_\_A\_\_\_ JE: \_\_\_\_\_

**E. GUSD Actions to Support Distance Learning and Other Related Essential Services (15 min.)**

**Situation:** With the constant changes in guidelines and mandates related to the suspension of in-person instruction due to the Coronavirus for GUSD students, this

item is a placeholder in the event that any action items arise between the time this agenda is posted and the time of the meeting, as well as serving as a potential action item that arises based on Board discussion during the meeting.

**Plan:** For the Board to consider any new action item based on new or additional mandates as well as any action item put forth by the Board during the meeting.

**Recommended motion:** None at this time.

Action taken/comments

DR - Shares the responses for the recent Distance Learning Check In Survey. Will be reaching out to the students and parents who are struggling.

DR - Presentation on Returning to In-Person Instruction and Vaccination Update.

DR - Vaccinations Update.

Various questions answered regarding presentations. No action

Motion \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: GA: \_\_\_\_\_ PL: \_\_\_\_\_ JK: \_\_\_\_\_ AK: \_\_\_\_\_ JE: \_\_\_\_\_

**F. (p.114) Resolution to extend the Declared Instructional Method for 2020-2021 School Year, Resolution #210211-02 (5 min)**

**Situation:** Sonoma County is currently in the “purple tier (widespread)” according to the state’s *Blueprint for a Safer Economy* due to COVID-19 case and positivity rates. Additionally, on July 17, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom declared that full time in-person instruction would not be allowed in California schools until further notice.

**Plan:** To continue with a distance learning program as the primary instructional strategy through March 19, 2021 pursuant to the resolution language.

**Recommended motion:** For the Board to approve Resolution #210211-02.

Action taken/comments:

GA wants to draw attention to the last line of Resolution #210211-02, the board “will pursue any available waivers or options to offer in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible should a change in restrictions occur prior to March 19, 2021.”

Motion \_\_\_ JK \_\_\_ Second \_\_\_ PL \_\_\_

Vote: GA: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ PL: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ JK: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ AK: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ JE: \_\_\_\_\_

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS IN CLOSED SESSION**

No Public Comment

GA moves to adjourn to close session at 6:55pm

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION** (15 min.)

**A. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54957.6**

- 1.0 Student Discipline**
- 2.0 Pending litigation**
- 3.0 Administrator Performance Updates**
- 4.0 Conference with Negotiations team:  
GUTA negotiations update**

**IX. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

Returned to open session at 7:10pm

**X. PUBLIC REPORT OF ACTION ON ITEMS HEARD IN CLOSED SESSION**  
(2 min.)

Action taken/comments: No action taken

Motion \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: GA: \_\_\_\_\_ PL: \_\_\_\_\_ JK: \_\_\_\_\_ AK: \_\_\_\_\_ JE: \_\_\_\_\_

**XI. FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS**

- A. March 11, 2021 at 5pm**
- B. April 8, 2021 at 5pm**
- C. May 13, 2021 at 5pm**

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at 7:12pm

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