

**MONTECITO UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Board Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2021**

Present: Mrs. Susannah Osley, President, Mr. Chad Chase, Vice President, Mrs. Jacqueline Duran, Member and, Mrs. Jessica Smith, Member, and Mr. Peter van Duinwyk, Member.

Staff Present: Mr. Anthony Ranii, Superintendent, Ms. Virginia Alvarez, Chief Business Official, Dr. Nick Bruski, Principal, Mr. Rusty Ito, Assistant Principal, and Mrs. Autumn Noe, Executive Assistant.

Call to Order

Board President, Mrs. Susannah Osley called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

There was no public comment for Closed Session Items.

Closed Session

Board President, Mrs. Susannah Osley reported that the Board would be going into Closed Session.

Public Employee Performance Evaluation: Superintendent's Goals 2021-2022 (Government Code Section 54957), Title: Superintendent

Reconvene to Open Session

Report Out of Closed Session

The Board reconvened to Open Session and Mrs. Susannah Osley reported there was no reportable action taken in Closed Session.

Opening Business

Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

There was no public comment reported.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Chad Chase made the motion to approve the Agenda. Mr. Peter van Duinwyk seconded. Motion carried 5-0, members: Chase, Duran, Osley, Smith, and van Duinwyk.

Correspondence

Mr. Anthony Ranii reported receiving an email from both, Mrs. Celeste Barber and Mrs. Denise Spangler Adams requesting that the Board draft a resolution that denounces a memorandum written by Attorney General Merrick Garland seeking partnership with United States Law Enforcement to limit public participation at school board meetings. The email provided a sample proclamation to be approved by board members. Mrs. Susannah Osley also reported receiving the same emails. Mr. Anthony Ranii reminded the Board that they could agendaize this item if they were interested.

Montecito Union School Foundation Presidential Report

Mrs. Tara Fergusson reported that the Foundation has brought back the Running Club, Art at Lunch and Walk N Roll for students. They also recently funded the in-service day for teachers that focused on Mathematics and they will also be supporting this in-service consultant for the day for next year. She also reported that this year the Foundation will be hosting the Pancake Breakfast for families on Halloween. The Foundation is also planning on holding a Gala this year and have secured a location at the Twining Estate.

COVID-19 Update

Mr. Anthony Ranii reported that there continues to be zero cases of COVID at school. He explained that there have been 100 students with COVID symptoms and these students have returned safely to school by parents going through the correct protocol. He said that 43 students have been tested at school and that Zoom proof of testing appointments are still being offered. Ms. Virginia Alvarez presented the COVID safety protocols and information which was provided to staff. Mr. Ranii also presented a documentation regarding outdoor contact tracing that was done with the San Francisco Public Health and the San Francisco Public School System that showed that they had zero transmissions due to outdoors. He expressed his validation of decisions that the Montecito Union School District have made thus far to keep the school open.

Strategic Initiative #1A: Academic Excellence and Whole-Child Success (Design and implement a Multi-Tiered System of Support that provides intervention, enrichment, and differentiation to meet the diverse needs of ALL students.)

MTSS: Progress Report and Update

Dr. Nick Bruski explained that the previous MTSS presentation was a sweeping overview and this presentation is to show how the data is deciphered and the interventions that are implemented. Ms. Jen Wilson was present and explained to the Board how many students are being supported in Tier 2 Reading and Math. There are targeted interventions with progress monitoring to make sure what is planned is successful for students. She explained the enrichment opportunities for reading and math that are available to students. She is currently working on a yearly calendar with systems that are sustainable to be used year after year. She explained the intervention process; assessing students, providing specific students extra support, monitored those students, exiting students from the program and continuing some students with additional support. For the students that continue this could result in different and or more support or possibly a referral for child study. At the 5-6 week check-in there is communication with the teacher for feedback. Mrs. Wilson gave examples of K-3 progress monitoring and the schedule. She also gave an intervention sample for 4th grade math. The Board continued to ask questions about the program. Mrs. Jen Wilson explained that there is literacy prevention team and a math prevention team. Mrs. Maria Kalin is also included in the plans as she works with EL students.

Mathematics: Professional Development Day

Mr. Anthony Ranii gave the Board an update to the professional development day that was led by Ms. Fawn Nguyen to support staff in the subject of math. Dr. Nick Bruski explained Ms. Nguyen focused on presenting information that math should be taught with an equal amount of time spent on procedural, routine exercises as well as problem solving, non-routine tasks. He explained that the day was split up with half the day dedicated to her presenting and the second part of the day in how to implement those changes for next year. He explained that the teachers appreciated the day. The Board continued to ask questions about the program.

Strategic Initiative #2. Student Character and Wellness (Promote high character and the consistent demonstration of kindness, respect, and integrity. Give students skills to communicate effectively and display appropriate social skills and manners. Nurture students socially and emotionally, and help them develop mindfulness, health, and advocacy skills. Instill a strong sense of empathy and a need to respect the views of others.)

2021-2022 Character, Social, and Emotional Support

Mr. Rusty Ito gave the Board an update to how the Social/Emotional MTSS Team are providing class lessons to support students in their social skills. Mrs. Jennifer Wilson, Mrs. Michelle Villegas, and Mrs. Beth Laurie have been working with Kindergarten through 3rd Grade with 30-minute lessons, which also include follow up activities. He gave examples of the topics; whole body listening, size of problems, expected versus unexpected behaviors, flexible and stuck thinking, and reading the situation. He also

explained that self-regulation strategies have been offered monthly and for all students. They have also created recess coaching in order to help with individual and group support.

The Board inquired about the current schedule being shared with families.

Strategic Initiative #3. Environmental Stewardship (Expand community-wide environmental literacy, advocacy, and leadership opportunities. Make decisions through a sustainability lens. Initiate programs to be carbon free and to minimize our resource consumption. Consistently reduce, reuse, recycle, and compost, striving for zero waste.)

Solar Update

Mr. Anthony Ranii reported to the Board that the majority of the wiring for the lights under the solar canopy have been connected and that outlets are currently being installed. He reported that a subcontractor was scheduled to install the decomposed granite located under the center section of the collaboratory and that the lights will be operational for the ribbon cutting ceremony, however they are still working on making the connection through Southern California Edison.

Strategic Initiative #4. Safe, Efficient Facilities (Improve the safety, efficiency, accessibility, and utility of our physical structures and grounds to support student learning. Ensure all structures are properly maintained. Develop and implement a vision for our adjacent property in keeping with our Strategic Plan.)

Building D and E: Temporary Classroom Plan

Mr. Anthony Ranii gave the Board a presentation on the temporary classroom placement plan that has been drafted for when the remodel work on Building D and E is started. The remodel work for building D and E include; fire alarms, accessible path of travel, infrastructure for electricity, and wireless connectivity. He listed all classroom and spaces that would be displaced, and expressed that every classroom will be placed in a comparable full-size class. Currently, there is a tentative plan for 6 portables classrooms, however he does not know exactly how many classrooms will be needed as of yet.

Mr. Peter van Duinwyk made the motion to approve the proposal for Additional Architectural Services for the Building D and E Remodel: Interim Housing. Mrs. Jacqueline Duran seconded. Motion carried 5-0, members: Chase, Duran, Osley, Smith, and van Duinwyk.

Building D and E: Estimate of Costs, Soft Costs, and Temporary Classroom Costs

Mr. Anthony Ranii reported to the board that in 2018, the District engaged with Cumming Consultants and Roesling, Nakamura, & Terada Architects to prepare a Statement of Probable Cost for the renovation of Building D and E and that document was updated as it determines finance sources and amounts. The updated Statement of Probable Cost was presented with a side-by-side comparison and a removal of projects that have already been completed. Ms. Virginia Alvarez discussed the numbers with total escalation and cost increase. She also presented the modular classroom proposal costs. She also highlighted items that were not included in the original plan and would need to possibly be considered; EV charging stations, an additional restroom in the staff lounge, patio replacements, and seating in the auditorium. The Board continued to discuss items that were considered wants versus needs, the timeliness of the project, and the unknown costs until bids are received. The Board also discussed the escalation cost of hiring a Project Manager.

Proposal for Architectural Engineering for Nature Lab Restroom and Outdoor Learning Pavilion

Mr. Anthony Ranii reported that the Montecito Union School Foundation is interested in funding two projects that they hope will be completed this summer. The two projects proposed are an accessible

bathroom and an outdoor learning pavilion at the Nature Lab. He reported that the architectural proposal presented from Roesling, Nakamura, and Terada was approved by the Montecito Union School Foundation.

Mr. Chad Chase made the motion to approve the Proposal for Architectural Engineering for Nature Lab Restroom and Outdoor Learning Pavilion.

The Board continued to discuss the usage of the Nature Lab.

Mrs. Jessica Smith seconded. Motion carried 5-0, members: Chase, Duran, Osley, Smith, and van Duinwyk.

Nature Lab: Miscellaneous Updates

Mr. Anthony Ranii presented the Board with pictures of updates to the Nature Lab.

Strategic Initiative #5. Staff Support (Attract, retain, and support high-quality staff as an integral part of our success. Promote staff growth in all job categories through varied and differentiated professional development consistent with high standards of excellence. Nurture a culture of inclusiveness, wellness, and balance.)

Professional Development Grant: Draft Proposal and Discussion

Ms. Virginia Alvarez explained that the State Budget for 2021-2022 included an Educator Effectiveness Block Grant to provide funding for professional development estimated at \$800 a teacher. She explained that in order to be eligible for the funding, Districts must adopt a plan by December 30, 2021. The preliminary proposal presented is to use the grant funds towards professional development at the Harvard Project Zero Institute and through the Columbia University Teachers Reading/Writing Project.

The Board discussed the support of the draft plan and the importance of staff professional development. Ms. Virginia Alvarez reported that the final plan for approval will be presented at the November meeting.

Strategic Initiative #6. Financial Sustainability (Ensure financial sustainability now and into the future through intentional spending and the building of reserves over time.)

ESSER III Expenditure Plan Approval

Ms. Virginia Alvarez explained that the ESSER III Expenditure Plan had been reviewed by the Santa Barbara County Education Office for feedback. She highlighted the small edits that were made.

Mr. Peter van Duinwyk made the motion to approve the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III funds. Mr. Chad Chase seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0, members: Chase, Duran, Osley, Smith, and van Duinwyk.

California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCA Update)

Mr. Anthony Ranii reported that there is not new information to be added to this item and that Ms. Virginia Alvarez continues to obtain more information and training specific to the regulations and compliance. Ms. Virginia Alvarez reported that this item will be brought back to the Board at a later date.

Strategic Initiative #7. Community Focus (Strengthen connections and collaboration between Montecito Union School and the greater Montecito community.)

Community Events

Mr. Anthony Ranii gave the Board an update to the community events that have been hosted at Montecito Union School; the National Charity League, the UCSB Math Project, AYSO, Friday Night Flag Football, and the YMCA.

Governance

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Anthony Ranii gave the Board an update on the Computer Science curriculum being taught. He gave the Board an update to the Schools for Sounds Finance Regional Meeting and the call for legislators for funding for Transitional Kindergarten. He reported that a new law will go into effect that classified employees will be given the same lay-off notifications up until May 15th. He reported on another law that was recently passed regarding feminine hygiene products made available in all bathrooms at school. He also reported that they will be studying facility positions/job descriptions and will be brought to an upcoming board meeting.

Board Reports

Mrs. Jessica Smith reported that the Foundation.

Consent Agenda

Regular Board Meeting Minutes - September 21, 2021
Warrants (September 3, 2021- October 11, 2021)
Personnel Action Items
Williams Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report – Q3

Mrs. Jessica Smith made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Chad Chase seconded. Motion carried 5-0, members: Chase, Duran, Osley, Smith, and van Duinwyk.

Closing Business

Suggested Agenda Items for Future Board Meetings and Board Business

Mr. Peter van Duinwyk made the suggestion to support the Nature Lab with a policy and Use Agreement, which the Board agreed.

Draft Board Meeting Calendar
Draft/Superintendent Committee Assignments
Draft Budget Calendar
Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)
Budget Hearing: Budget Overview
Board Organizational Meeting Discussion

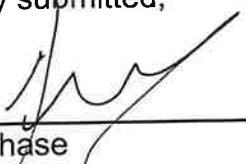
Board Evaluation of the Meeting

The Board and Mrs. Anthony Ranii discussed the timeliness of the meeting and the focus on agenda items at hand.

Adjournment

Mr. Chad Chase adjourned the meeting at 6:43 p.m. Mrs. Jessica Smith seconded. Motion carried 5-0, members: Chase, Duran, Osley, Smith, and van Duinwyk.

Respectfully submitted,



Mr. Chad Chase
Board Vice-President