



**WOODLAND JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

April 1, 2021

Consistent with the Shelter in Place orders from the Governor and Yolo County, this meeting was compliant with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, which allowed for a deviation of teleconference rules required by the Brown Act. In-person attendance was not permitted. The meeting was available for live stream viewing, and recordings are available at <https://livestream.com/wjuds> (click on the Board Meeting date).

Attendance Taken at 5:00 PM:

Present:

Deborah Bautista Zavala
Morgan Childers
Bibiana Garcia
Kandice Richardson Fowler
Noel Rodriguez
Rogelio Villagrana
Jake Whitaker

A. CALL TO ORDER IN OPEN SESSION - 5:00 P.M.

Minutes:

The Board President called the meeting to order in Open Session at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom and the meeting was live streamed and recorded via Vimeo Livestream.

A.1. Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

The Board President led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA - ACTION

Motion Passed: Motion was made to approve the agenda. Passed with a motion by Kandice Richardson Fowler and a second by Rogelio Villagrana.

Yes Deborah Bautista Zavala

Yes Morgan Childers
Yes Bibiana Garcia
Yes Kandice Richardson Fowler
Yes Noel Rodriguez
Yes Rogelio Villagrana
Yes Jake Whitaker

C. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON CLOSED SESSION AGENDA - In-person attendance at the Board Meeting will not be permitted. Please email public comments by 4:00 pm on the Board Meeting date to public.comment@wjusd.org. Per Board Bylaw 9323, comments (emails) received shall be limited to three minutes per person, and the Board shall limit the total time for public comment on each item to 20 minutes. Public comments may also be submitted by voicemail by 4:00 pm on the Board Meeting date, at 530-406-3202, or by mail postmarked on or before the Board Meeting date, at Attn: Public Comment, 435 6th Street, Woodland, CA 95695. The meeting will be available for live stream viewing at <https://livestream.com/wjUSD> (click on the Board Meeting date).

Minutes:
Please see the attached public comments.

D. CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

D.1. Conference With Labor Negotiator, Leanee Medina Estrada: WEA and/or CSEA, Pursuant to Govt. Code 54957.6

Minutes:
The Board recessed at 5:07 p.m. and reconvened in Closed Session at 5:07 p.m. Closed Session ended at 6:31 p.m.

E. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Minutes:
The Board President reconvened the meeting in Open Session at 6:31 p.m.

E.1. Announcement of any action taken in Closed Session or items to be approved in Open Session that were reviewed in Closed Session

Minutes:
The Board President announced that no action was taken in Closed Session.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA - In-person attendance at the Board Meeting will not be permitted. Please email public comments by 4:00 pm on the Board Meeting date to public.comment@wjusd.org. Per Board Bylaw 9323, comments (emails) received shall be limited to three minutes per person, and the Board shall

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Minutes:

No public comments were submitted for Special Board Meeting agenda items.

G. REPORTS

G.1. Superintendent's Report

Minutes:

Superintendent Pritchard provided brief updates to the Board of Trustees on actions taken since the last Regular Board Meeting.

H. FACILITIES AND FINANCE

H.1. Information: COVID-19 Funding Prioritization Activity

Minutes:

Please see the attached public comments.

The Board recessed the meeting at 6:48 p.m. and resumed the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

The Information item "COVID-19 Funding Prioritization Activity" was led by Superintendent Pritchard using Google Jamboard. Trustees will continue to work on the activity as homework.

The Board recessed the meeting at 8:04 p.m. and resumed the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

H.2. Information/Action: Possible Expenditures of COVID-19 Funds Towards Summer Programs (2021)

Motion Passed: Motion was made to approve a dual language summer school program for grades TK-6. Passed with a motion by Deborah Bautista Zavala and a second by Rogelio Villagrana.

Yes Deborah Bautista Zavala
Yes Morgan Childers
Yes Bibiana Garcia
No Kandice Richardson Fowler
Yes Noel Rodriguez

Yes Rogelio Villagrana
Yes Jake Whitaker

Minutes:

The Board directed staff to look into offering a dual language summer program for grades 7 and 8, and to explore offering full year credit summer courses. The Board approved summer enrichment camps and to support students taking Woodland Community College courses with books, materials, and supplies.

Motion Passed: Motion was made to extend the summer school program from 4 weeks to 5 weeks by adding 4 days. Passed with a motion by Deborah Bautista Zavala and a second by Rogelio Villagrana.

Yes Deborah Bautista Zavala
Yes Morgan Childers
Abstain Bibiana Garcia
Yes Kandice Richardson Fowler
Yes Noel Rodriguez
Yes Rogelio Villagrana
Yes Jake Whitaker

I. GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

I.1. Action: Approve District Input for Joint Statement with the City of Woodland

Motion Passed: Motion was made to approve the District Input for Joint Statement with the City of Woodland. Passed with a motion by Jake Whitaker and a second by Deborah Bautista Zavala.

Yes Deborah Bautista Zavala
Yes Morgan Childers
Yes Bibiana Garcia
Yes Kandice Richardson Fowler
Yes Noel Rodriguez
Yes Rogelio Villagrana
Yes Jake Whitaker

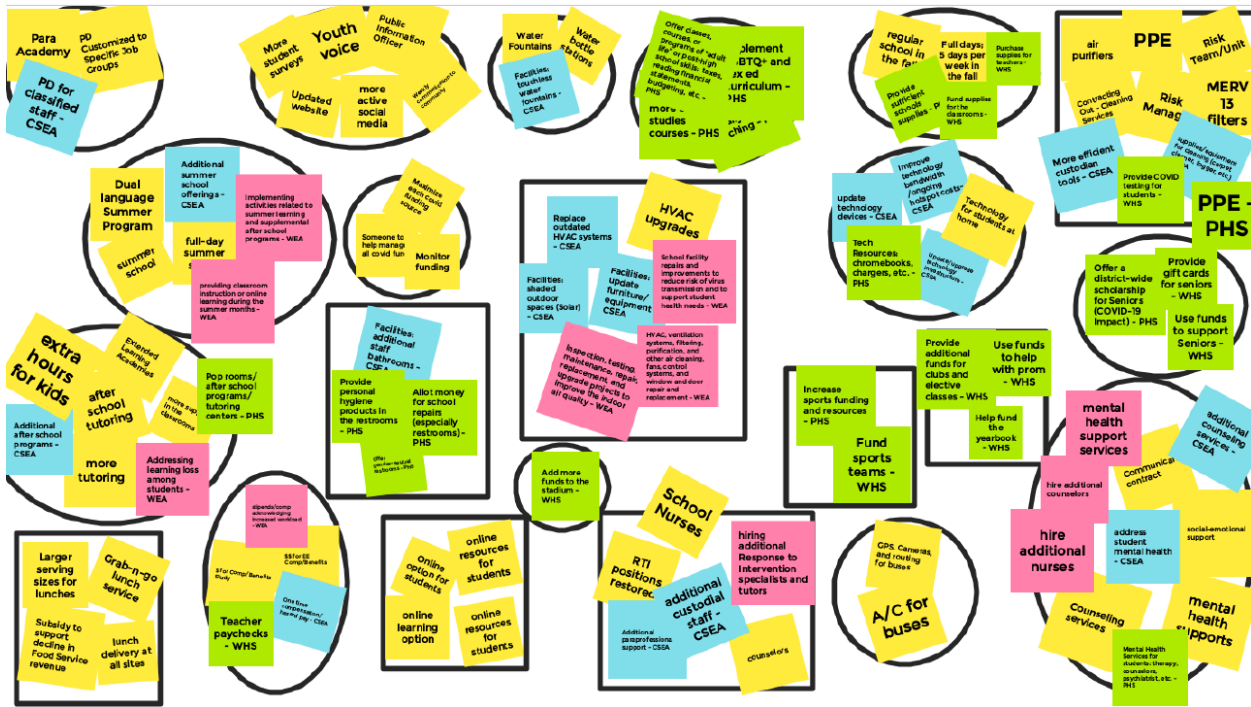
M. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The Board President adjourned the meeting at 9:34 p.m.

BOARD CLERK

BOARD PRESIDENT



**Special Board Meeting
April 1, 2021
Public Comments**

Good evening WJUSD trustees.

Tonight I am choosing to write a different type of letter. I know many of my fellow parents will be writing angry letters, and I can not blame them, we are all very angry at this point, it seems like whenever we turn around our students are losing, but I would like to take a different approach.

I have heard yet another hour with our teachers is expected to be or has been cut from my students schedules. I've heard it belittled 'It's only an hour' or 'there are only 9 more weeks left...' but I thought I might give you some insight into what happens in 'just' an hour of school. Today I sat through 1 hour of my 1st graders zoom class. During this 1 hour, she & the class sang Happy Birthday to a student. During this one hour, she went over the calendar & weather with the class. During this one hour, she worked on skip counting with the class. During this one hour, she worked on spelling with the class. During this one hour, she read a story & had the class do a corresponding assignment. During this one hour, she showed the students some of the classroom. During this one hour, she showed a short educational video. During this one hour, she reminded the students what the schedule will be like after spring break. During this one hour she & the students participated in a short brain break to get them moving & refocus. During this one hour she fielded about 5 April fools jokes with good humor. During this one hour, she had the students get their backpacks, had them find all of their materials they will need to bring back to school & pack them in their backpacks so they are ready to return on April 12. During this one hour she went over several seesaw assignments & gave them a few minutes to work on them. During this one hour, she asked the class questions as a whole or gave them direct instruction over 20 different times. During this one hour, she answered 15 questions from specific students that I heard, probably more. During this one hour, she positively engaged different students by name 45 times that I counted, but probably more. As you have heard a lot can happen in 'just' one hour. Students will be missing out on so much learning & a lot of engagement with their teacher, & expected to work alone even more. This is unacceptable. Never before have such young students been expected to work & 'learn' this much independently. It is a shame to have any time taken away from these students, they don't have enough time with their teachers as it is. I encourage you all to rethink this. While 9 hours may not seem like a lot to an adult, it is vital to our children.

Jackie Gness

This has been a year like none other. WJUSD educators are and have been doing more work than ever before. Please consider giving a stipend to them from the one time COVID funds to fairly compensate them for their work as other districts have provided to educators.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Linda Galos

This has been a year like none other. WJUSD Educators are doing more work than ever before. WJUSD educators need a stipend from one time COVID funds to fairly compensate them for

their work as other districts have provided to educators.

Reinette Carlson
First Grade
Freeman Elementary

Hello Board of Trustees,

As we all know, this year has been a year like no other. Collectively, teachers in this district have literally put in THOUSANDS of unpaid hours of overtime, often working 3, 4 or 5 additional hours after their contracted work day. They have sacrificed so much to make this year as successful as possible for their students. Each and every lesson they teach has been recreated to be used on a completely new online platform that they learned how to use just 4 days before the first day of school. Their own physical and mental health have been strained in order to make this possible. Their families have sacrificed quality time to the late nights spent behind computer screens trying to meet the demands of distance learning. WJUSD educators are doing more work than ever before and they deserve a stipend from the one time COVID funds to fairly compensate them for their work. In the education world, we often say that our students will not remember the lessons we taught them, but they will remember how we made them feel. My students probably won't remember how to find their maximum heart rate or how hard it was for them to do PE in front of a camera forever, but they will remember that I cared about them and valued them as human beings. We probably won't remember the specifics of all the challenges we've faced this year, but we will remember how we felt about the year and how we were treated by our District. We keep hearing the "thank you's" for our hard work coming from district admin and Trustees, but please take this opportunity to show us through your actions just how much you value and appreciate our hard work.

Thank you for your consideration,
Oanh Nguyen

This has been a year like none other. Educators are doing more work than ever before. WJUSD educators need a stipend from COVID funds to fairly compensate them for their work.

Dear Board and Cabinet Members,

I am not a teacher, but I was both raised by one and raised one myself. The pandemic experience has been uniquely challenging, and some of the most dramatically affected people are not only students, but parents and teachers as well. Few parents understood how intense elementary education is until it entered the home and they became involved directly. Sadly, many people are envisioning teachers sitting on their laurels and avoiding the classroom; nothing could be further from reality. Parents learned that grammar school is not enhanced daycare. Our teachers had to gamely get on the fast-track of a steep learning curve to deliver safe, effective remote education. The amount of work and number of hours each individual teacher has put into the effort to both broadcast and personalize learning is much more intense than other jobs that can be managed remotely. Attempting to maintain communication with parents and individual students requires extensive commitment and hours of work daily that extend well beyond conventional classroom demands. Teachers deserve fair compensation for their extraordinary efforts.

- WJUSD educators should receive a stipend from one-time Covid funds to fairly compensate them for their work as other districts have provided.
- Let educators know their dedication and efforts are recognized and appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Ash, Yolo County resident

Dear WJUSD Trustees and Cabinet,
Educators like myself are doing more work than ever before. While this has been difficult for everyone, it has been especially difficult for teachers. We have sacrificed our own personal needs in order to sit behind our screens into the night to try to navigate the numerous digital platforms in order to create engaging lesson while teaching students behind a screen. We've also had to remain flexible and quickly adapt to the ever-changing situation we're currently in. Tonight, please consider giving WJUSD educators a stipend from COVID funds to fairly compensate them for their work. Other districts are doing this. We appreciate all the "thank yous" we've gotten, but a stipend would help us feel just a little more valued and recognized. Thank you.

This has been a year like none other. Educators are doing more work than ever before. WJUSD educators need a stipend from COVID funds to fairly compensate them for their work.

Dear WJUSD Trustees and Cabinet,
This has been a year like none other. Educators are doing more work than ever before. WJUSD educators need a stipend from COVID funds to fairly compensate them for their work. I work for the third largest school district in California and we are receiving daily compensation for each day we teach concurrently. WJUSD educators deserve the same respect and compensation as us. We are all in this together and we need to ensure that our educators are taken care of. Thank you.

-Madeline Cedill

WEA Action Alert! Take this action before 4 today 4/1, no joke. Send the following message to the WJUSD Trustees and Cabinet: This has been a year like none other. Educators are doing more work than ever before. WJUSD educators need a stipend from COVID funds to fairly compensate them for their work.

Good evening,

My name is Jackie Taylor and I am a 4th grade teacher at Maxwell Elementary. I am glad to hear that the district is receiving one-time Covid funds to help mitigate the impact of this pandemic, and I am hopeful that the very high workload I and many of the teachers throughout the district have experienced over the past year is a one-time event in our professional careers. This has been an extraordinary year like no other, and we teachers have invested more of our time, talent, and energy with our students than ever before. The district now has an opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of their educators by compensating us with stipends from the Covid funds, as other school districts across the state have done.

Since it has been nearly a year, I just wanted to remind everyone of what some of those contributions were.

For all the extra hours over weeks and months.

For all the time invested in learning new technology tools.

For constantly accommodating changing schedule and relaying that information out to students and families.

For all the unpaid overtime.

For all the time and energy we have invested in re-designing/re-creating lessons to make them as efficient and effective as possible through an online format.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jackie

This has been a year like none other. WJUSD educators are doing more work than ever before. WJUSD educators need a stipend from one time COVID funds to fairly compensate them for their work as other districts have provided.

- Dylan Oliver

Trustees and Superintendent,

Thank you very much for your work as well as dedication to tonight's live jamboard activity. We appreciate the input our board members will have and the opportunity for transparency of spending these funds with our community in the process. We are writing to reiterate our thoughts from last week as well as those expressed by our school board members last week related to summer school.

We think all agree that this summer needs to look different and be considered differently as it should be viewed to be an opportunity for students to regain necessary skills to move forward for a successful 21/22 school year. We fully realize not all will want to or be able to participate in a summer school program (families and teachers alike) which is why it is separate...not part of a teacher's regular contract...and does not require bargaining with WEA. However, we appreciate our school board trustee's recognition that all students need to have an opportunity to access these programs should choose and we should attempt to build a program to encompass all WJUSD student participation. As we consider equity in providing for different student's needs and possibly even creating a more robust program than what has been seen in many years for our district it is our hope we allocate COVID 19 Relief funds to include the following:

*Expanding our summer program to 6 weeks from 4 weeks for General education and to 8 weeks for Special Education. Best practices show that Sped students qualifying for ESY should not have more than a 3 week interruption in services to ensure they do not regress which generally equates to an average of a 5-6 week program for districts to ensure they are close to this. Let's do better this year and give Sped students 8 weeks since they had a solid year of interruption in services. Let's do better by gen ed and give them 6 weeks instead of 4 since they lost so much over this past year with regards to social and emotional enrichment. Let's do better and set them up for success next year.

*Adding additional programs such as dual immersion for those kids that lost a year of being in an dual immersion setting (we can't even fathom what it must have been like for those early learners in dual immersion this past year not having the contextual cues peers and a classroom provide), athletic camps for those kids who lost a year of being able to access their passions in the athletic department, music/theatre enrichment camps for those students who lost a year of being able to access their passions, enrichment prep camps for students moving up to middle or high school to have the opportunity to reconnect with the scaffolding that challenges them at their individual level and reignite that spark that was once there to seek out more knowledge, but has been lost over this past year in zoom as well as have in person opportunities to visit their future campuses and familiarize themselves with a program opposed to just watching a description given on a camera. We believe we should focus just as much on enrichment camps as academic skill development for our student's in order to rebuild these student's social emotional wellness. We hope to see more "camps" such as the STEAM camp with a majority if not all hands on learning already presented for secondary level.

*Response to Intervention Specialists and Educationally Related Mental Health Services should be available at every site in which there are camps/programs to begin the identification process and possibly even beginning some tier 1 strategies to hopefully mediate the social and behavioral challenges students will face as they attend more in person learning. Let's do better and start next school year on the right foot with these kids.

*Access and availability to summer programs/camps for ALL WJUSD students that pursue a summer program.

*Early recruiting and incentives to identify qualified and passionate educators who are able to be part of such a necessary and robust summer program.

We cannot change the past, but we can change the future and use this COVID summer as an opportunity for our students to hopefully regain some of what was lost this past school year. Social emotional wellness has been a big focus for our schools this past year...let's take the opportunity of this summer to make some real difference in that area for our youth. In recent weeks we have seen more and more districts having lawsuits filed against them due to SEL detriment that has occurred to our youth this being greater than the risk of exposure to COVID 19 for students. When we know better we can do better, so let's use this summer to get ahead of that WJUSD.

Brian and Ann Christison

This has been a year like none other. Educators are doing more work than ever before. WJUSD educators need a stipend from COVID funds to fairly compensate them for their work.
