



Regular Board Meeting
09/09/2021 05:00 PM
District Office Board Room
435 6th Street
Woodland, CA 95695

Meeting Minutes
Printed : 9/17/2021 7:02 PM PT

Mission Statement

Woodland Joint Unified School District's mission is to prepare and empower all students for a future of endless possibilities.



Scan the above QR code with your phone to view this meeting agenda on your phone.

The meeting will be available for live stream viewing at <https://livestream.com/wjUSD> (click on the Board Meeting date).

[2021 Board Meetings Webpage](#)
[Board Meeting Packet Website](#)

Public Comment to the Board: Members of the public are encouraged to attend Board meetings and to address the Board concerning any item on the agenda or within the Board's jurisdiction.

Additional options for public comment:

- 1. Voicemail Public Comments:* Public comments may be submitted by voicemail by 2:00 pm on the Board Meeting date, at 530-406-5800, and they will be played during the meeting if time permits. Please indicate the item's number and title in your message.
- 2. Written Public Comments Via Email:* Public comments may be submitted via email by 2:00 pm on the Board Meeting date to public.comment@wjUSD.org. Public comments submitted via email will be included in the meeting minutes, but will not be read during the meeting.

Attendees

Voting Members

Deborah Bautista Zavala, Clerk
Bibiana Garcia, Board Member
Kandice Richardson Fowler, Board Member
Rogelio Villagrana, Vice President
Jake Whitaker, President

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

The Board President called the meeting to order in Open Session at 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

B. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA - ACTION

Superintendent Tom Pritchard moved item K.1. Report from Student Board Members prior to item F. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR SECTIONS G. GOVERNANCE SUPPORT, H. CONSENT AGENDA, AND I. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT. Motion was made to approve the agenda as modified at the meeting.

Motion made by: Jake Whitaker

Motion seconded by: Rogelio Villagrana

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

C. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON CLOSED SESSION AGENDA (Please fill out the Public Participation Form): Members of the public are encouraged to attend Board meetings and to address the Board concerning any item on the Closed Session Agenda. Individual speakers shall be allowed three minutes each to address the Board on Closed Session Agenda items. The Board shall limit the total time for public input on each item to 20 minutes. This is a comment period only, and the law does not allow the Board of Trustees to take action on any item not explicitly posted on the agenda in advance. However, Board members may ask for clarification, briefly respond to questions, refer concerns to staff, and/or request that an item be placed on a future agenda.

Irene Difuntorum addressed the Board regarding her support for higher wages for classified staff.

Maya Garrett, Kim Sterner, and one individual addressed the Board regarding their support for a new Elementary School in the Woodland Research and Technology Park (via voicemail).

D. CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

The Board recessed at 5:10 p.m. and reconvened in Closed Session at 5:12 p.m. Closed Session ended at 6:08 p.m.

1. Public Employee: Discipline/Dismissal/Release, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957
2. Conference With Labor Negotiator, Leanee Medina Estrada: WEA, CSEA, and/or Unrepresented Employees, Pursuant to Govt. Code 54957.6
3. Conference with Real Property Negotiators Regarding the potential purchase, sale, exchange, or lease of Real Property, Pursuant to Government Code 54956.8, for the following properties:
 - a. Property: Land Acquisition for Potential Elementary School in the Woodland Research and Technology Park (WRTP) as Specified in the WRTP Specific Plan, Agency Negotiator: Tom Pritchard, Superintendent and Lewis Wiley, Associate Superintendent, Business Services, Negotiating Parties: Woodland Joint Unified School District

E. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION - 6:00 P.M.

The Board President reconvened the meeting in Open Session at 6:11 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

The Board President led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

F. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR SECTIONS G. GOVERNANCE SUPPORT, H. CONSENT AGENDA, AND I. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Echoe Camacho and Kristen Hak addressed the Board regarding their opposition to masking.

The following individuals expressed their gratitude for the layers of measures in place including requiring masks indoors and outdoors to keep students and staff safe: Laura Brubaker (via voicemail), Jenna Myers, Irene Difuntorum, and Becca Bernard.

G. GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

1. Information: Update on Yolo County COVID-19 Status - Dr. Aimee Sisson

The Information item "Update on Yolo County COVID-19 Status" was presented by Yolo County Public Health Officer Dr. Aimee Sisson in a PowerPoint presentation.

Motion was made to move the approval and presentation of the Resolutions for Latino Heritage Month and Constitution Week prior to item G.2.

Motion made by: Jake Whitaker

Motion seconded by: Rogelio Villagrana

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Motion Passed

2. Information/Action: Board Discussion on Masking Advocacy to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors

Trustee Deborah Bautista Zavala requested that Dr. Sisson provide her recommendation for outdoor masking in writing.

3. Information/Action: Discussion on COVID-19 Testing for Students and Staff

Motion was made to approve the recommendation to use a portion of the \$1 million of one-time funds assigned to testing to address current needs for testing and tracing, with flexibility and periodic reports at the discretion of the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources.

Motion made by: Rogelio Villagrana

Motion seconded by: Bibiana Garcia

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

4. Information: Community Member Request to Discuss Masking Choice Resolution

The Information item "Community Member Request to Discuss Masking Choice Resolution" was presented.

H. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda, excluding items H.4.b and H.4.c. as they were approved previously at the meeting.

Motion made by: Kandice Richardson Fowler

Motion seconded by: Rogelio Villagrana

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

1. Business Services

- a. Approve Purchases of Items/Services in Excess of \$15,000: List 4-22

2. Educational Services

- a. Approve Resolution 10-22: Certification of Signature for Infant/Toddler and Preschool Programs

3. Human Resources

- a. Approve Certificated Personnel Report, 22-04
- b. Approve Classified Personnel Report, 22-04
- c. Approve Nominations for the Yolo County School Boards Association's 2021 Excellence in Education Awards

4. Superintendent's Office

- a. Approve Board Meeting Minutes:
 - I. August 17, 2021 - Special Board Meeting
 - II. August 19, 2021 - Special Board Meeting

b. Approve Resolution 7-22: Latino Heritage Month - September 15 - October 15

c. Approve Resolution 8-22: In Support of Constitution Week - September 17-23

I. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1. Presentation: Resolution 7-22: Latino Heritage Month - September 15 - October 15

Motion was made to approve Resolution 7-22: Latino Heritage Month - September 15 - October 15.

Motion made by: Jake Whitaker

Motion seconded by: Rogelio Villagrana

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

Trustee Bibiana Garcia presented Resolution 7-22 to Gloria Rodriguez.

2. Presentation: Resolution 8-22: In Support of Constitution Week - September 17-23

Motion was made to approve Resolution 8-22: In Support of Constitution Week - September 17-23.

Motion made by: Jake Whitaker

Motion seconded by: Rogelio Villagrana

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

Trustee Rogelio Villagrana presented Resolution 8-22 to Sylvina Frausto.

3. Action: Approve Gifts to the District

Motion was made to approve the Gifts to the District.

Motion made by: Rogelio Villagrana

Motion seconded by: Bibiana Garcia

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

The Board recessed the meeting at 8:30 p.m. and resumed the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

4. Information: Review of Superintendent Search Stakeholder Engagement Plan

The Information item “Review of Superintendent Search Stakeholder Engagement Plan” was presented by the Board President.

J. PUBLIC COMMENT TO THE BOARD (Please fill out the Public Participation Form): Members of the public are encouraged to attend Board meetings and to address the Board concerning any item on the agenda or within the Board's jurisdiction. Individual speakers shall be allowed three minutes each to address the Board on agenda or non-agenda items. The Board shall limit the total time for public input on each item to 20 minutes. This is a comment period only, and the law does not allow the Board of Trustees to take action on any item not explicitly posted on the agenda in advance. However, Board members may ask for clarification, briefly respond to questions, refer concerns to staff, and/or request that an item be placed on a future agenda.

Tammy McMillan asked the Board to be a leader in Special Education and provide equity for Special Education students.

Jen Drewek and Becca Bernard asked the Board to consider pulling students from class in an organized manner to test for COVID-19.

K. REPORTS

1. Report from Student Board Members

Pioneer High School Student Board Member Bryan Fernandez Gonzalez shared information about Pioneer HS events.

2. Superintendent's Report

a. Information: Check-in from the Previous Regular Board Meeting

Superintendent Pritchard introduced Public Information Officer Jerry Jimenez, and provided a brief update on Trustee area redistricting.

3. Report from California School Employees Association (CSEA)

Rebecca Rossiter shared a report regarding CSEA activities from CSEA Vice President Brandi Bolden.

4. Report from Woodland Education Association (WEA)

WEA President Jen Drewek shared information regarding WEA activities.

5. Report from Board Members

Trustees Richardson Fowler and Whitaker shared information regarding activities that they have participated in since the last Regular Board Meeting.

6. Information: Board Committee Updates

Trustee Villagrana provided an update on a recent Collaborative for Woodland Youth meeting. Trustee Richardson Fowler provided an update on a recent Yolo County School Boards Association meeting.

L. TEACHING AND LEARNING

1. Action: Public Hearing and Approve Resolution 9-22: Resolution of Sufficiency of Approved Instructional Materials

The Board President opened a Public Hearing at 9:02 p.m. As no one submitted comments on the subject, the Public Hearing concluded at 9:02 p.m.

Motion was made to approve Resolution 9-22: Resolution of Sufficiency of Approved Instructional Materials.

Motion made by: Rogelio Villagrana

Motion seconded by: Deborah Bautista Zavala

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

2. Information/Action: FLEX Program Update and Staffing Needs

Motion was made to approve reassigning the extra funding from the Edgenuity line item from the ESSER spending plan to allow for flexibility to spend it on the expansion of the FLEX Program.

Motion made by: Jake Whitaker

Motion seconded by: Rogelio Villagrana

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

M. INFORMATION: TRUSTEE REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

N. INFORMATION: CLOSING COMMENTS

O. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT SCHEDULED REGULAR BOARD MEETING: September 23, 2021 - Closed Session at 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. for Open Session.

P. ADJOURNMENT

The Board President adjourned the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

Public Comments Submitted Via Email

I am writing in support of the school board's acquisition of land in the new research park for a school. Small, local schools are important because a small setting is best for young children. Local schools promote walking and bike riding which is important to achieving climate goals. It would be a travesty if this large new development with so many houses did not have a local school too. Thank you.

Peggy Bernardy

It is critical that the City of Woodland and the WJUSD plan for the future needs of our youth and community. Locating a neighborhood school in the Tech Park development is vital to achieving those needs.

Mike Brugh

Dear Board Members -

Neighborhood schools with reasonable classroom sizes are the lifeblood of a thriving community. They bring together parents and children, they improve property values, and create positive outcomes for children because of the proximity to the school and attention from teachers.

When I moved to Spring Lake, I was under the assumption that schools would be built to educate the massive growth happening in the southeast corner of Woodland. In fact, when you look at the area from an airplane approach Sacramento International Airport, the area south of Gibson Rd. looks like it will be roughly 1/3 the total area of Woodland by time all is said and done. We have beautiful parks and thriving young families. What we do not have, is a neighborhood school to accommodate the nearly 1000 children who are anticipated to be of school age in the coming years. I grew up a public school kid, and would love my 1 year old daughter to experience the diversity and education of a public school. However, I may have no choice if I have to drive her miles away to go to her "local school," Tafoya, which really is not local at all and will be dramatically overcrowded.

The goal of any school board should be to provide the best education possible for each and every student. Unfortunately, an overcrowded school where kids are driven or bussed in from miles away does not provide the best education possible. A new neighborhood school to accompany the new growth and tax base the city is seeing would be, giving each child the attention they need to succeed.

The time to act is now. The past is the past, but all could be forgiven if you take the first step in acquiring land at the Tech Park in order to build this school. The demand is there, the tax revenue is there, but the school is not.

Ryan Dietz

Hello,

I have lived in Springlake since 2010. When I bought the house it was clear to me in the Springlake master plan that multiple schools would be built to serve Springlake residents. The developer fees were evidently supposed to fund these, but it has become clear that the efforts by the school board and the city have been magnificently mismanaged. It is appalling that so many elementary students have to be driven to schools on the other side of Woodland as the Springlake school is not adequate. Now the city is on the cusp of approving a new development (Tech Park) which needs to include adequate funding for local schools.

I am asking the city and the school board to have a spine and negotiate with the tech park developers and not give us, the people affected by your decisions, the run around. It is your chance to redeem previous inadequate efforts. Fix your broken promises to those of us who feel betrayed. Betrayal fuels resentment and that isn't good for anybody. You can't continue to make decisions on important issues that affect us without our input.

Note that there are many residents in Springlake seething with anger and this issue is never going

to go away until the city and board step up to fulfill promises made to many of us when we moved here. Also note that any "developer fees" associated with residential construction are actually paid by US, the homeowners who shelled out good money for our homes. So we are asking you to be responsible for OUR money as you proceed with your tech park negotiations. Take a hard look at the long run and not putting little band-aids on past bad decisions (like choking the roads with parents driving their kids to school across town). This is no way to create a thriving community. The school district is already losing funding by Springlake parents who are fed up and finding other out-of-district schooling for their kids. Where is your vision??

Your developer "negotiations" may be closed doors but we will find out what you've done one way or another. And the community will know about it.

Thank you for your time.
Margaret Faye

I would like to encourage the School Board to consider the whole of the Spring Lake area, including the proposed research park, as a unified area of need for elementary and junior high schools. Before more housing is added to the area it would seem prudent to be sure that educational needs of all of the residents, current and future, are met. As it stands now the residents of Spring Lake have one expanding elementary school and yet residents of that area cannot be guaranteed that their elementary aged children can attend that school. Moreover, attendance by one child at Spring Lake Elementary does not guarantee that siblings can also attend that school. This is a ridiculous situation and sends more WJUSD students into private schools or to Davis schools.

My children both attended Whitehead elementary and Lee Junior High which were both in our neighborhood. It would have made our lives much more chaotic had they been at different elementary schools or in schools across town.

Please make elementary and a future junior high school, neighborhood schools which can be used by the residents of Springlake and a future research park housing area.

Vivian Walker

I am writing to support the inclusion of a school site in the proposed Woodland Tech Park.

Spring Lake residents were promised access to neighborhood schools in the Master Plan. Now homes sit on two of the originally proposed neighborhood school sites. Spring Lake Elementary had 42 kids on the kindergarten wait list this year. MANY of our neighborhood kids lost the opportunity to attend a school that they can walk or bike to due to lack of foresight and inclusion of adequate seats in a neighborhood school.

With the planning of the Tech park and housing that goes along with it, there MUST be a neighborhood school included in the plan. This is not only good for our kids and our community, it is good for the developer. We want this project to be successful, and this project will be much more attractive to businesses if future employees can access local housing and schools for their kids.

We have heard many arguments and excuses from the City and District against including a school in Spring Lake. None hold water, and are quite frankly, lame.

We have heard that enrollment in WJUSD is declining. While that may be true district-wide, it is NOT true in Spring Lake where all of the growth is--and the houses keep going up and the families keep moving in. There was a significant wait list at Spring Lake Elementary this year, and according to the district's own student generation numbers, when Spring Lake is completed and the tech park finished, there will be close to 1000 elementary aged kids without a neighborhood school. Yes, district enrollment will certainly go down if we don't give them seats at a neighborhood school--

they will leave the district, or move to private school options!

We have heard that existing schools can't be closed because it is too hard and politically unpopular, but many of our existing schools are old and crumbling. Yes, closing an existing school is politically hard and unpopular, but let's talk about EQUITABLE access to neighborhood schools. There are NINE elementary schools on the other side of Hwy 113, and TWO on this side, where all of the population growth and development is happening. Spring Lake master plan included at least three new elementary schools when I bought my first house here in 2008. We were lucky to get a spot at Spring lake for our first child, but there is a good chance that there won't be room in a neighborhood school for our second. Including another school in the Tech Park, is an opportunity to provide more equitable access to a neighborhood school (that we were promised) for Spring Lake residents, and will be a draw for businesses looking to set up shop in the tech park--what a selling point--come to work, live down the street, and drop your kid off on the way!

Planning for our kids' and our community's future by ensuring equitable access to neighborhood schools, decreasing the environmental impact of commuting across town to deposit kids at a distant school site, making locating a business in the tech park more alluring by providing amenities such as a neighborhood school, and delivering on the promise Woodland made in its master plan, and that we were promised when we bought homes here are the right thing to do, and good for our community, kids, developers, and all of Woodland.

Please do the right thing and include a neighborhood school in the Tech Park.

Kim Sterner

As a resident of Spring Lake
I have the following concerns

1. It is unfair and unjust to think residents of Spring Lake will not be able to have their elementary children attend a school in Spring Lake. The solution is to increase the size of Spring Lake School to 660+ students as soon as possible and to start planning to build another elementary school within 3 years
2. The city must be pressured by the school district to require all developers/builders to pay for this school as other cities have done
This requires a backbone of not backing down
3. It is also time to decide where to build a 3rd junior high school. You know that our current junior highs cannot accommodate all the students in Spring Lake that will need a junior high.
4. I feel the WJUSD must be open and honest with their communication to all parents in Woodland on how they plan to serve the needs of all students equally

Thank you
Toni Smith

Our family highly supports the development of public schools as a priority in the development of the Tech Park being planned/developed on road 25A, adjacent to the Spring lake development/residential area.

Marissa Sirota

Please plan for more neighborhood schools, especially in the research park and spring lake areas.

Thank you,
Diana Howard

Board President

Board Clerk