

MEETING MINUTES

Public Notice: Board Member Brian Wheatley may participate via teleconference from the following location: 1308 Kipling Ct., San José, CA 95118

All meetings of the Governing Board are open to the general public with the exception of closed session items which are discussed confidentially in accordance with the law.

The Governing Board convenes in locations accessible in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Anyone planning to attend a meeting who has a disability and needs special assistance should call 408-535-6078 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to make special arrangements.

Spanish interpretation is available during meetings of the Governing Board. Anyone needing to arrange for interpretation services or to request a translated version of the agenda should call 408-535-6078 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to make special arrangements.

Ms. Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo, President
Ms. Teresa Castellanos, Vice President
Mr. José Magaña, Member
Ms. Carla Collins, Member
Mr. Brian Wheatley, Member

Ms. Nancy Albarrán, Superintendent

Lara Harb, Student Board Member [Leland High School]
Gabriel Ruiz-Flores, Alternate Student Board Member [San José High School]

Current Board of Education information can be found at sjusd.org.

Attendees

Voting Members

Teresa Castellanos, Board Vice President
Carla Collins, Board Member
Jose Magana, Board Member
Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo, Board President
Brian Wheatley, Board Member

A. Call the Meeting to Order - 5:30 PM

Board President Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo called the Special Session Meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Trustee José Magaña announced that equipment for Spanish interpretation services was available on the tables at the back of the room. Board President Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo announced that Board Vice President Teresa Castellanos and Trustee Carla Collins would be a few minutes late.

1. Adoption of Special Session Agenda

Motion made by: Brian Wheatley
Motion seconded by: Jose Magana
Voting:
Teresa Castellanos - Not Present
Carla Collins - Not Present
Jose Magana - Yes
Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo - Yes
Brian Wheatley - Yes

The special session agenda was adopted by a vote of 3-0 with Board Vice President Teresa Castellanos and Trustee Carla Collins not present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Board President Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items

Public comments opened at 5:31 pm. Community members were allowed two (2) minutes each to address the Board. SJTA President Renata Sanchez was allowed five (5) minutes as the bargaining representative for the San José Teachers Association.

Board Vice President Teresa Castellanos arrived at the meeting at 5:31 pm. Board Member Carla Collins arrived at the meeting at 5:32 pm.

Speaker: Trudi McCanna
Topic: Item A.4 Response to 2023-2024 Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report

Speaker: Kristen Brown
Topic: Item A.4 Response to 2023-2024 Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report

Speaker: Ray Kiddy
Topic: Item A.4 Response to 2023-2024 Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report

Speaker: Lenka Wright
Topic: Item A.4 Response to 2023-2024 Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report

Speaker: Renata Sanchez
Topic: Item A.4 Response to 2023-2024 Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report

Speaker: Tomara Hall
Topic: Item A.4 Response to 2023-2024 Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report

Public comments closed at 5:48 pm.

Public comments are located at 1:32 - 8:35 on the 07.24.2024 Special Session Board Meeting Recording. <https://sjusd.app.box.com/v/boardmeetingaudio>

4. Response to 2023-2024 Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report (ACTION)

Recommendation: That the Board of Education (1) approve the Response to the 2023-2024 Civil

Grand Jury Report Findings and Recommendations, and (2) send the approved response to the Presiding Judge of the Santa Clara County Superior Court on or before September 9, 2024.

Superintendent Nancy Albarrán presented the response to the 2023-2024 Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report. She acknowledged the vital role the civil grand jury plays in the community and the work of the civil grand jury volunteers. She introduced the staff members and legal counsel that prepared the draft response to the Civil Grand Jury Report.

The District's legal advisor, Phil Henderson, provided a brief explanation of how civil grand juries in California operate and an overview of the findings of the recent civil grand jury report on San José Unified.

Superintendent Nancy Albarrán provided contextual information regarding public schools across the country and remarked on San José Unified being an outlier in public urban school districts because of how the district has navigated and learned from challenges and continues to move forward. She addressed the District's responses to the Civil Grand Jury's findings and recommendations with additional input from Chief Business Officer Seth Reddy, Manager of Strategic Projects Ben Spielberg, and Director of Human Resources Peter Park.

Trustee Carla Collins left the room at 7:10 pm and returned to the room at 7:17 pm.

At 7:22 pm, Board President Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo called for a brief break.

Board President Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo reconvened the meeting at 7:29 pm.

Superintendent Nancy Albarrán continued providing responses to the findings and recommendations of the Civil Grand Jury with additional input from Director of Human Resources Peter Park, Associate Superintendent Jodi Lax, Manager of Strategic Projects Ben Spielberg and Chief Business Officer Seth Reddy.

Following the presentation, Board President Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo thanked Superintendent Nancy Albarrán and staff for the presentation and provided an opportunity for the Board members to make comments and ask questions.

At 9:55 pm, Trustee Brian Wheatley moved to approve the report as is. Trustee José Magaña seconded the motion for discussion.

The Board members continued their discussion.

At 10:07 pm the Board members agreed to accept a friendly amendment to change the recommendation as follows: That the Board of Education (1) approve the Response to the 2023-2024 Civil Grand Jury Report Findings and Recommendations with an update to the response to Recommendation 9 to state, Recommendation 9 requires further analysis, the district will explore the financial and operational costs of online viewing of Board meetings, remote comments during Board meetings, and video recording of Board meetings by December 10, 2024, and update the Discussion of CGJ Analysis to add: Notwithstanding the above, the district will explore the financial and operational costs of online viewing of Board meetings, remote comments during Board meetings, and video recording of Board meetings, and (2) send the approved response to the Presiding Judge of the Santa Clara County Superior Court on or before September 9, 2024.

Board President Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo called for the vote on the recommendation with the friendly amendment.

Motion made by: Brian Wheatley

Motion seconded by: Jose Magana

Voting:

Teresa Castellanos - Yes

Carla Collins - Yes

Jose Magana - Yes

Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo - Yes

Brian Wheatley - Yes

The recommendation was approved as amended by a vote of 5-0.

The presentation is located at 18:40 - 2:47:41, Board member discussion is located at 2:47:42 - 4:37:44, Board action is located at 4:37:45 - 4:38:06 on the 07.24.2024 Special Session Board Meeting Recording. <https://sjusd.app.box.com/v/boardmeetingaudio>

5. Adjourn Special Session

Board President Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo acknowledged the Board members for their thoughtfulness and preparation. She requested a motion to adjourn the special session meeting.

Motion made by: Jose Magana

Motion seconded by: Teresa Castellanos

Voting:

Teresa Castellanos - Yes

Carla Collins - Yes

Jose Magana - Yes

Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo - Yes

Brian Wheatley - Yes

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 pm.