

**West Park Elementary School District**  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD TRUSTEES  
Monday January 9, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

West Park Elementary School Cafeteria

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board President Aida Garcia called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Board Members Present: Aida Garcia, Araceli Lopez, Fernando Alvarez, Ezekiel Rodriguez and Mark Vivenzi.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Board President Aida Garcia led the Pledge of Allegiance

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion to approve by Trustee Mark Vivenzi. Second by Trustee Araceli Lopez

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Public Comment on any item of interest to the public that is within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard. The Board may limit comments to no more than three (3) minutes pursuant to Board Policy. Public comment will also be allowed on each specific agenda item prior to Board action thereon.

Kelly Morizano (Fresno Charter Academy Teacher)

Introduced herself and welcomed the members and also gave thanks to Aida and Mark in continuing to serve their time to the West Park Community. She introduces all the staff that came out. Celeste Sierra, Polly Brar, Elizabeth Murillo, Steve Hay, Tina Melkonian and Sam Clegg and wanted to invite the board members to come out and see them. See their offices and their cubicles. Thanks them for their dedication.

Christine Douty (Special Ed Teacher with Charter)

Staff wanted to share about what they do and who they are. One aspect that is important is that they have 185 years in teaching experience between the 10 teachers and most

of them have been with the Charter for over 15 years. They love what they do. They love their students and would love to have the board come see them and meet their students and families. She is concerned about losing a significant amount of staff members. In the last 16 mos they have lost 15 staff members. They are unable to provide the same services but are doing all of the things they can. They have done some great things this last fall and would like to share some of those things.

Casandra Garner (Administrative Assistant with West Park Charter)

Ms. Douty took some of her students to Sequoia National Park. They enjoyed themselves. Celebrating Hispanic American Month with John Portillo he had his students make some flowers and they were displayed and beautiful. Armenian Culture Month was also celebrated with Tina Melkonian and they had sweet treats. They took a field trip to Monterey Bay Aquarium. They had a full bus and everyone had a great time. They also took a bus to see the play To Kill a Mockingbird.

Casandra sends out a daily notice to encourage the teachers. 2 videos were played as part of the daily notices that are being sent out by Ms. Garner.

Celeste Sierra (Teacher at the Hanford Charter)

They currently have staffing issues and are in desperate need of more paraprofessionals and teachers. They have an enrollment of 60 students and 28 students on a waiting list. They are at a standstill. She is inviting the board members to come to the Hanford office and meet the teachers as well as the students to gain some insight on their needs. They cover Coalinga, Laton, Lemoore, Corcoran, Avenal and Kettleman City.

Elizabeth Murillo (Charter Registrar)

Enrollment is down due to being short staffed. The sites have a total enrollment of 208 students with 10 teachers. They are in need of Spanish ELD and Math teachers. Per state requirements in order to graduate, they must take 2 years of foreign language and 3 years of Math. We cannot provide that so they are forced to go elsewhere. They are in need of an academic counselor. They currently have one CTE Counselor and he mainly works with 9th-12th grade. Charter has been opened for 29 years. They have many students by word of mouth, as they do not advertise. She believes it is due to the staff and the way the program is ran.

Robin Johnson (Kindergarten Teacher)

Speaking on behalf of herself. Spoke about the signatures collected to unify with Washington Unified. She has received 280 signatures from the community to unify two times. It has been denied but West Park community still wants this merge. It would be a quicker process if the board would approve this instead of this going to ballot. She states how nice it would be if West Park's students had the same programs, the nearby schools have.

Christina Ortega (Second Grade Teacher)

She states that her own children came to West Park but one no longer comes as she has transferred him to another school so they can be offered the programs they deserve. She wanted him to receive the same supports that are needed here at West Park. There are many holes here and how long do students have to wait until they are fixed?

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### A. Routine business transactions:

1. Regular Board Meeting Minutes December 12, 2022
2. Special Board Meeting Minutes December 21, 2022
3. Warrants for December 2022
4. Payroll for December 2022
5. Cash Flow report 2022
6. Revenue Report
7. Budget Report
8. Inter-District Transfer
9. Resolution 2022-23-12 Close Fund 1701 to Fund 1700
10. Resolution 2022-23-13 Close Funds 4000,4001 and 4002 to Fund 0100

Mark Vivenzi: Motion to approve

Ezekiel Rodriguez: seconds

Fernando Alvarez: Yes

Araceli Lopez: Yes

Aida Garcia: Yes

Vote 5/0

## **REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### A. Board Member Report

No report at this time

### B. Superintendent Report (Dr. Brian Clark)

West Park is in the midst of the modernization project and the architects are here to present, he looks forward to working with everyone to make the great and necessary changes needed here at West Park as far as the structural changes, academics and community meetings. He gives special congratulations to Devon Corrente, Ruben Rangel and his team for all the hard work they have done in the remodel of the library.

C. Dean of Schools Report (Darrell Yates)

The Rewards assembly will be for academics, attendance and citizenship. This event will be happening January 13th. Community is invited and welcome. Mr. Yates is in discussion with the Athletic Director on the schedule of events with sports. Evaluations are ongoing and will be completed by February 17<sup>th</sup> for probationary teachers and March 17<sup>th</sup> for the others. Enrollment is now at 304 for West Park Elementary and 208 for Charter Academy. As of this week Mr. Yates will be going to charter on a regular basis. He will be at the Fresno site on Tuesdays and the Hanford site on Thursdays.

D. HR Report (Tamita Boyd)

Director Boyd is working hard on filling positions and needs credentialed people to apply. She will be attending upcoming job fairs. Fresno State is scheduled for February 22 through March 1<sup>st</sup> with two that we will attend. Fresno Pacific will be having one on March 30<sup>th</sup> and she is planning on attending this one as well. She is also working on negotiations with CSEA and working to get the salary schedule up to date.

E. MOT Report (Director of Maintenance, Operations and Transportation)

Director Rangel presents a presentation showing the progress through the Winter break. He has had inspections during this time. The electrical work was completed in December. There are currently 2 systems in the district. Preschool has its own. He is working to get them connected as one system. All fire extinguishers were inspected including both charter offices. He is working on the electrical issues in the kitchen. He is working on the Ansul system. This system will shut everything down in the event of a fire. The students and teachers are excited to go into their new library. He thanks Mrs. Corrente again as he says it looks outstanding and she did a great job. He would like the board to approve the surplus list he has brought forward for disposal. There are desks that are no longer being used and some items are also from the Pacific Union preschool.

F. It Report (Randy Randolph)

He has entered into the ESSER III grant projects and is now able to purchase a new set of chrome books for every student in the classroom. There has been an access point installed in the classrooms and will help the online experience. He is most excited about the new equipment being replaced in the server room and the current one that is roughly 15 years old. He has also been working with the teachers on the online resources we currently have and they had the opportunity to see all the programs. He was happy with the results as teachers are using them. He would like to regularly get together with them to do this.

G. Review of Fiscal Year 2021-22 Independent Audit (Helen Bellonzi)

The overall audit are that our financial records truly reflect our financial position. We are in compliance with state and federal program regulations. Findings are the most important to her and West Park did have four findings. She was unable to locate certain documents or evidence that hearings or meetings were properly notified to the public. There were deposits and payments made that we were unable to obtain any backup for. We must always maintain proper documents and receipts and we hope not to find any findings on this next year. We were unable to find community meetings or sign up sheets for LCAP or parent involvement meetings. The Sufficiency of textbooks (Instructional materials for students) meeting was held past the 8 week requirement mark and there will be another finding on this next year as we had this meeting a little later than the 8 week requirement. The last finding was on the SARC (School Accountability Report Card) report. It must be completed and published in January to be completed by February 1. We were unable to find it. We have submitted all the documentation to have that SARC report to be completed for last year and are now waiting on the report to be published. For the current year we have already submitted all the information to the publisher and hope to have it back by the February meeting.

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. APPROVAL: Authorized Signature Permit

Araceli Lopez: Motion to approve

Ezekiel Rodriguez: second

Mark Vivenzi: Yes

Aida Garcia: Yes

Fernando Alvarez: Yes

Vote: 5/0

2. APPROVAL: Mailing Permit

Mark Vivenzi: Motion to approve

Fernando Alvarez: second

Araceli Lopez: Yes

Ezekiel Rodriguez: Yes

Aida Garcia: Yes

Vote: 5/0

3. APPROVAL: Disposition of Surplus Property Resolution 2022-23-14

Mark Vivenzi: Motion to approve

Araceli Lopez: second

Aida Garcia: Yes

Fernando Alvarez: Yes

Ezekiel Rodriguez: Yes

Vote 5/0

4. APPROVAL: Changes/Updates to Modernization Project

Ezekiel Rodriguez: Motion to approve

Fernando Alvarez: second

Aida Garcia: Yes

Mark Vivenzi: Yes

Araceli Lopez: Yes

Vote 5/0

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD RE: CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

General public comment on any closed session item that will be heard. The Board may limit comments to no more than three (3) minutes pursuant to Board policy. Following public comment on closed session agenda items, the Board will immediately recess into closed session.

No comment at this time

**CLOSED SESSION**

Trustee Lopez motions and Trustee Alvarez seconds the motion to go into closed session.

Closed session convened at 7:13 pm

5/0

Returned from closed session at 7:49 pm. Motion by Trustee Lopez and second by Trustee Vivenzi.

**REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

No action taken

**ADVANCED PLANNING**

A. Regular Board Meeting: February 13, 2023

**ADJOURNMENT @ 7:50pm**

Mark Vivenzi: Motion to accept

Ezekiel Rodriguez: second

Araceli Lopez: Yes

Aida Garcia: Yes

Fernando Alvarez: Yes

Vote 5/0