

# RIVER DELTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING

August 13, 2019

1. **Call Open Session to Order** – Board President Fernandez called the Open Session of the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 5:35 p.m. on August 13, 2019 at Isleton Elementary School, Isleton, California.

2. **Roll Call of Members:**

Alicia Fernandez, President  
Don Olson, Vice President  
Marilyn Riley, Clerk  
Jennifer Stone, Member  
Chris Elliott, Member  
Rafaela Casillas, Member  
Dan Mahoney, Member

Also present: Katherine Wright, Superintendent

3. **Review, Approve the Closed Session Agenda and Adjourn to Closed Session**

- 3.1 Board President Fernandez announced items on the Closed Session Agenda
- 3.2 Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda Items. – *None to report*

4. **Board President Fernandez asked for a motion to approve the Closed Session agenda and adjourn the meeting to Closed Session @ 5:37 pm**

*Member Mahoney moved to approve, Member Stone seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Fernandez, Olson, Riley, Stone, Elliott, Casillas, Mahoney): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent)*

5. **Open Session was reconvened at 6:47 pm**

- 5.1 Roll was retaken. All members were present.  
Also present: Katherine Wright, Superintendent; Elizabeth Keema-Aston, Chief Business Officer and Jennifer Gaston, Recorder.
- 5.2 Pledge of Allegiance was led by Holly Pauls, School nurse

6. **Report of Action taken, if any, during the Closed Session** (Government Code Section 54957.1)  
Board President Fernandez reported that the Board received information, no action taken during Closed Session.

7. **Review and Approve the Open Session Agenda**

Member Fernandez asked for a motion to approve the Open Session Agenda

*Member Riley moved to approve, Member Olson seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Fernandez, Olson, Riley, Stone, Elliott, Casillas, Mahoney): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent)*

8. **Public Comment:** None to report

9. **Reports, Presentations, Information**

9.1 Board Member(s) and Superintendent Report(s) and/or Presentation(s) –

9.1.1 Board Members' Report(s): Member Stone reported that she attended the Isleton Elementary School's Denim and Diamonds fundraising event. Member Stone stated that Isleton's PTC hosted a well put together event and she urges others to attend this event in the future. Member Stone also reported that the Annual Pair Fair was very successful for both school sites, selling out of all pies made. She appreciates all those who purchased pies.

Don Olson reported that Rio Vista High School's NAMI Club and the Rio Vista LEO Club will be hosting a Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Walk / Fair on September 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm at Rio Vista High School. Member Olson mentioned to wear Green to 'End the Stigma'. Member Olson announced that his sister and Mrs. Olson have arranged for a mental health speaker to make a presentation during the fair.

Member Fernandez reported that she was unable to attend the Pair Fair this year. However, she was thankful that the pies were pre-sold for those who could not attend.

Member Mahoney reported that he and Member Stone made site visits to Clarksburg Middle School and Delta High School. Administration spoke of how many students they have been enrolling this year.

Members Mahoney and Stone also toured D.H. White School. While speaking with Mr. Casey, he mentioned the increase in student enrollment at his site. Member Mahoney feels the District is deeply impacted by the Liberty Ranch Development and wanted the public to know the Board is aware of these issues.

9.1.2 Committee Report(s): None to report

9.1.3 Superintendent Wright's Report(s): Board President Fernandez welcomed Katherine Wright to her first Board meeting as the new River Delta Unified School District Superintendent. Member Fernandez stated they are looking forward to positive changes in the District and are happy to have her on board.

Superintendent Wright reported that this has been a very exciting month starting her new position. Mrs. Wright mentioned that she was invited to the Rio Vision Town Hall meeting to introduce herself and give a brief description of her beliefs and plans for the district. She hopes to have similar meetings in each of the communities even if they do not hold formal meetings as in Rio Vista.

Mrs. Wright reported that she attended the last day of the Walnut Grove Summer Swim Program. She feels this program is very important, because our students need to learn how to swim, especially because we live and go to school in such a close proximity to the water. The students were very excited to see staff members jump off the diving board and swim with them in the pool. After attending these classes, the students were much more comfortable being in the water. Mrs. Wright thanked all those who donated to the program.

Mrs. Wright stated that she had held her first two Cabinet meetings using a different structure, allowing all departments to collaborate and have input. The Leadership Retreat was held off-site for Principals, Directors and District Support Staff. Mrs. Wright thanked Peter's Steakhouse for the use of his meeting room upstairs with its wonderful view of the river.

This year's preservice day was held on August 2, 2019. The teachers made a recommendation on a speaker to come to the preservice and provide presentation on trauma informed strategies. The presenter also spoke about the level of stress on teachers and how to manage this stress as well as how to maintain a balanced life style. The feedback from teachers on the preservice was very positive.

Mrs. Wright met with the City Manager of Rio Vista. Although it was not a formal meeting, they were able to make introductions and have the opportunity to talk about the growth in Rio Vista and on the impact the District based with this growth. Mrs. Wright also mentioned that they spoke of the athletic fields throughout the city.

Mrs. Wright joined the Superintendent of the River Charters Schools, Steve Lewis, for a walk through of the Delta Elementary Charter School (DECS) campus to discuss their needs. She also attended their Board meeting on Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> to obtain current information on their district.

Mrs. Wright gave the Board a list of upcoming events in the district, including the new Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) collaborative meeting groups that are being established for each goal in the District's LCAP. She invited the Board as well as the community members to be involved in one or more of the groups.

9.2 Business Services' Reports and/or Presentations on: Routine Restricted Maintenance; Deferred Maintenance; Maintenance and Operations; Transportation Department; Food Services Department; District Technology; and District Budget – Elizabeth Keema-Aston, Chief Business Officer and Ken Gaston, Director of MOT

- 9.2.1 Monthly Financial Report - Elizabeth Keema-Aston reported she has included the estimated beginning balances from the estimated actuals from the budget report. The balances will be adjusted on the unaudited actuals after the FY2018-2019 books have been closed. Fiscal year 2019-2020 has just begun so little activity is shown on the financial report this month.
- 9.2.2 Governor's Budget 45 Day Revise – Elizabeth Keema-Aston reported that the changes to the Governor's 2019-2020 Budget included a reduction in the LCFF COLA from 3.46% to 3.26%, a reduction in the PERS rate from 20.733% to 19.721% and the Lottery funding will have an increase of \$2.00 per adjusted ADA for Unrestricted funds as well as a \$1.00 increase for Restricted funds. The STRS rate has not changed from the rated used to establish the District's Adopted Budget. The overall cumulative impact of these changes was less than \$20,000. These changes will be updated in the budget at First Interim.
- 9.2.3 Maintenance, Operations & Transportation Update – Ken Gaston reported that the maintenance staff had a busy summer. Currently, they are working on air conditioning units at all of the District's campuses. Mr. Gaston informed the Board and public that years ago the district received a grant from Pacific, Gas & Electric (PG&E) and by accepting this grant we agreed to keep our thermostats set at a certain temperature, which changes in each of the seasons. The District is audited twice a year to make sure we are abiding within the parameters set in the grant. The District will be held to these standards for one more year. Several of our air conditioning units are old and are working at capacity. With the temperatures reaching over 100 degrees the units may not be able to bring the temperature down as low as desired.

Mr. Gaston delivered some good news. The District has been awarded a \$60,000 grant from the California Air Resources Board (CARB). The District has a partial match of \$40,000 which Mr. Gaston reserved funds from his budget to carry over to this year to meet requirements. The District is waiting to hear when the funds will be received. The grant is specific to what can be purchased with these funds. Mr. Gaston noted that when the application was sent in for the grant a request was made for these funds to be used to purchase maintenance trucks and a tractor.

Mr. Gaston reported that the District has several vehicles and busses that need to be eliminated from inventory; some of which are non-operational and the cost of repairs on others far exceeds their value. He noted that several of the vehicles are on this evening's agenda to surplus and others will follow in the next few months.

Mr. Gaston mentioned that summer projects were challenging due to the number of summer time programs at each site.

Mr. Gaston reported that it has been determined that the Delta Elementary Charter School is not hooked into a septic system. The District, Yolo County and DECS are working on a solution to the issue.

Mr. Gaston named a few incidents of the vandalism that have occurred during the summer such as cutting of gates and locks, leaning ladders on fences stretching and bending the fencing, cutting and dragging of soccer goals across the fields.

Mr. Gaston reported that this time of year brings high outdoor temperatures and wasps to the area. He has issued a heat warning to any of his employees that work outside for the next few days with a reminder to drink plenty of water and take breaks out of the sun. His staff is working hard to eliminate the wasp issue as much as they can.

Mr. Gaston reminded everyone that at the beginning of the school year transportation has always been somewhat of an issue. Each year it is unforeseen how many students will be transported and which bus a student will be riding until they are standing at the bus stop for pick up. This year in particular multiple rounds have been made to accommodate the students riding the same route. Changes are being made daily to the bus routes and schedules until these issues can be resolved.

Member Fernandez thanked Mr. Gaston for the parking lot at Delta High School. She was happy to see that parking spaces were defined with painted lines. Member Stone shared with Mr. Gaston that the students at Walnut Grove Elementary School were playing on the newly paved playground and they were ecstatic. She thanked him for his efforts. Member Mahoney commented that the driveway at D.H. White School turned out great. Member Fernandez stated that the little things make a big impact.

9.3 Other – Educational Services' Reports and/or Presentation(s) – Nicole Latimer, Director of Educational Services

9.3.1 Educational Services and Special Education Updates – Nicole Latimer made a presentation on what the Educational Services Department has been working on during the summer in preparation for the beginning of the new school year. The Board was pleased with the dissemination of the presentation including the photos.

9.3.2 Williams' Settlement Public Notification regarding sufficiency of teachers, facilities, textbooks and instructional materials – Fourth Quarter (April - June) – Nicole Latimer reported that the district did not have any insufficiencies in the district during the fourth reporting quarter.

9.4 Annual report by School Nurses about health services provided throughout the District – Holly Pauls, RN and Angela Patin, RN the two District nurses, gave the presentation on the services they provide, the challenges they face each day as well as the kinds of services that are provided annually through out the district. Former District nurse, Linda Van DeMeale, who currently provides reproductive health instruction to our district students, gave a brief recap of the curriculum that is provided to the student and at what grade level it is offered. The Board thanked all the nurses with their services.

9.5 Delta Unified Teacher's Association (RDUTA) Update – Bill Hodges, RDUTA President and teacher at River Delta Community Day School introduced himself to the Board. He mentioned that he had the pleasure of meeting the Mrs. Wright over the summer and is looking forward to working with her. He had the opportunity of meet several of the educators over the summer and mentioned that he has received some concerns from the staff. One of the concerns voiced was the need for more time at the beginning of the school year to prepare their classrooms. Staff was pleased with the pre-services workshop presentation. Mr. Hodges mentioned that he would love to have the Board members visit his classroom.

9.6 California State Employee's Association (CSEA) Chapter #319 Update – None to report

10. **Consent Calendar**

10.1 Approve Board Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Board, June 25, 2019

Special Meeting of the Board, July 17, 2019

10.2 Receive and Approve Monthly Personnel Report

As of August 13, 2019

- 10.3 District's Monthly Expenditure Report  
June and July 2019
- 10.4 Request to approve the Independent Contract with Dora Dome Law to provide trainings for the River Delta USD administrative staff and their designees for educational, legal compliance and loss-prevention purposes, at a cost not to exceed \$10,000 Special Education and General Funds – Katherine Wright
- 10.5 Request to approve the Professional Expert Agreement with (Denise Stine) to provide Psychology services for the 2019-2020 school year at a cost not to exceed \$15,000 - Special Educational Funds – Nicole Latimer
- 10.6 Request to approve the Professional Expert Agreement with (Collette Da Cruz) to provide nursing services for the 2019-2020 school year at a cost not to exceed \$5,000 - General Funds – Nicole Latimer
- 10.7 Request to declare as surplus District vehicles that are non-operational or the cost of repairs are higher than their value – Ken Gaston
- 10.8 Request to approve the Master Plan for English Learner Success for the 2019-2020 school year – Nicole Latimer
- 10.9 Request to approve the 2019-2020 General Agreement for Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School/Agency (Jabbergym Inc.) to provide physical therapy services for district students at a cost not to exceed \$10,000, Special Education Funds – Nicole Latimer
- 10.10 Request to approve the Independent Contract for Services Agreement with Lisa Cesario, Retired Superintendent from Las Lomitas School District to provide district Leadership coaching during the 2019-2020 school year – at a cost not to exceed \$10,000 from General Funds - Katherine Wright
- 10.11 Request approval to apply for the BIIG-K12HSN Grant – Wave 5 for internet connectivity improvement districtwide – Elizabeth Keema-Aston
- 10.12 Donations to Receive and Acknowledge:

**Walnut Grove Elementary School – Summer Program Swimming Lessons**

Mary and Daniel Wilson \$800  
Elizabeth Keema-Aston \$80  
Liz Pauls-Diede \$80  
The Tyler Uslan Foundation \$1200  
Lynne Imel \$80  
James and Sally Christie \$160  
Richard and Rebecca Elliot \$80  
Wilcox Agri Products \$100  
Chuck Joy Trust \$100  
Caroline G. Werder \$160  
John Allerson (in memory of Gary Enger) \$80  
Tim Ogleby \$160  
Carina Palafox \$160  
Susan and Calvin Jones \$80  
Industrial Optics \$500  
CA Delta Real Estate: Doris Specht \$25

*Member Stone moved to approve, Member Riley seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Fernandez, Olson, Riley, Stone, Elliott, Casillas, Mahoney): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent)*

Member Fernandez acknowledged those who donated and thanked them for their continuing support. Member Fernandez also stated that she feels the summer swim program is very important in our communities. Member Stone mentioned that each one of the students that attended the swim program received a lifejacket from a gracious donor. Mrs. Wright added that swimming suits and towels were also donated to the program.

With the approval of the Consent Calendar, Superintendent Wright introduced Jane Cronin, as the new Vice Principal of Rio Vista High School. Mrs. Wright also introduced the new principal of Isleton Elementary School Stacy Wallace who was formally approved at a Special Board meeting held on July 17, 2019.

**Action Items -- Individual speakers shall be allowed three minutes to address the Board on any agenda item. The Board shall limit the *total time* for public presentation and input on *all items* to a**

**maximum of 20 minutes.** With Board consent, the Board President may increase or decrease the time allowed for public comment, depending on the topic and the number of persons wishing to be heard and the overall length of the agenda. The Board President may take a poll of speakers for or against a particular issue and may ask that additional persons speak only if they have something new to add. (BB 9323) Anyone may appear at the Board meeting to testify in support of, or in opposition to, any item on this agenda being presented to the Board for consideration.

- 11. Request to approve the Notice of Completion for the Rio Vista High School Access Road Asphalt Paving Repairs – Ken Gaston  
*Member Olson moved to approve, Member Elliott seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Fernandez, Olson, Riley, Stone, Elliott, Casillas, Mahoney): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent)*
- 12. Request to approve the Notice of Completion for the Delta High School Parking Lot Asphalt Paving Repairs – Ken Gaston  
*Member Olson moved to approve, Member Elliott seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Fernandez, Olson, Riley, Stone, Elliott, Casillas, Mahoney): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent)*
- 13. Request to approve the Notice of Completion for the Walnut Grove Elementary School Playground Asphalt Paving Repairs – Ken Gaston  
*Member Casillas moved to approve, Member Stone seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Fernandez, Olson, Riley, Stone, Elliott, Casillas, Mahoney): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent)*
- 14. Request to approve Resolution #769 authorizing temporary inter-fund transfers of Special or Restricted Monies for FY 2019-2020 – Elizabeth Keema-Aston  
*Member Olson moved to approve, Member Riley seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Fernandez, Olson, Riley, Stone, Elliott, Casillas, Mahoney): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent)*
- 15. Request to approve the contract with Government Financial Strategies, Inc. for financial advisory services in connection to planning the 2020 General Obligation Bond Measure, post-election and pre-bond issuance services and the issuance of bonds following a successful General Obligation Bond Measure – \$23,500 for Planning and \$9,500 for Post-Election Services – Unrestricted General Funds - Elizabeth Keema-Aston  
*Member Fernandez moved to approve with the understanding that funds will not be spent until the facility needs assessment has been reviewed and approved, Member Mahoney seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Fernandez, Olson, Riley, Stone, Elliott, Casillas, Mahoney): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent)*
- 16. Re-Adjourn to continue Closed Session, if needed – Board President reported that re-adjourning to Closed Session was not necessary.
- 17. Report of Action taken, if any, during continued Closed Session (Government Code Section 54957.1) - Board President Fernandez reported Closed Session was not necessary – no actions to report.
- 18. Adjournment: There being no further business before the Board, Board President Fernandez asked for a motion to adjourn.

*Member Riley moved to approve, Member Olson seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Fernandez, Olson, Riley, Stone, Elliott, Casillas, Mahoney): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent)*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Submitted:



Katherine Wright, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Approved:



Marilyn Riley, Clerk, Board of Trustees

By: Jennifer Gaston, Recorder  
End