

**RIVER DELTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
April 13, 2021

1. **Call Open Session to Order** – President Stone called the Open Session of the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 5:30 p.m. on April 13, 2021. As the result of the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19), on March 12, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-25-20. This order includes directives canceling large gatherings. The Executive Order also allows local legislative bodies to hold meetings via conference calls while still satisfying state transparency requirements. The Governor has also issued Executive Order N-33-20, prohibiting people from leaving their homes or places of residence except to access necessary supplies and services or to engage in specified critical infrastructure employment. The health and well-being of our students, staff and community members are the top priority for the Board of Trustee of River Delta Unified School District. To facilitate this process the meeting was held remotely via Zoom Webinar. Access was available to the public to attend with audio and video.

We have modified the meeting procedures while the Shelter-in-Place for Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19) is active. President Stone gave instructions on how the public is to address the Board during public comment or on any agenda item.

2. **Roll Call of Members:**

Jennifer Stone, President  
Dan Mahoney, Vice President  
Marilyn Riley, Clerk  
Rafaela Casillas, Member  
Marcial Lamera, Member  
Wanda Apel, Member  
Randall Jelly, Member

Also, present: Katherine Wright, Superintendent and Jennifer Gaston, Recorder.

3. **Review Closed Session Agenda (see attached agenda)**

- 3.1 Board President Stone announced items on the Closed Session Agenda  
3.2 Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda Items Only – None to report

4. **Board President Stone asked for a motion to approve the Closed Session agenda and adjourn the meeting to Closed Session @ 5:32 pm**

Member Lamera moved to approve, *Member Riley seconded. Motion carried by roll call Vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

5. **Open Session was reconvened at 6:37 pm**

- 5.1 Roll was retaken. All members were present.

Also, present: Katherine Wright, Superintendent and Jennifer Gaston, Recorder.

- 5.2 Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Stone

6. **Report of Action taken, if any, during the Closed Session (Government Code Section 54957.1)**  
Board President Stone reported that, during Closed Session, the Board did not take any actions.

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

Board President Stone asked for a motion to approve the Open Session Agenda.

*Member Lamera moved to approve, Member Riley seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

8. **Public Comment:** Ms. Latimer greeted the Board and reported that there were three public comments. Victoria Turk, Principal of Rio Vista High School thanked the Board and Superintendent Wright for “bringing the Rams home”. She stated that anyone who has been on campus knows it was the right thing to do. Each day the students become more alive and the joy, laughter, and enthusiasm in their voices are amazing. Mrs. Turk mentioned that this has given them hope in a year that has felt hopeless.

Mrs. Turk urged the Board to bring back all students to campus daily and stated that the families trust the judgement of the Board knowing that their students are safe. Mrs. Turk promises that, the Rams will do whatever it takes to ensure the safety of everyone. She feels that bringing the students back to normalcy

9.1.3 Superintendent Wright's report(s) – Superintendent Wright expressed her gratitude to all those who have made the Hybrid Learning Model work at the school sites offering in-person learning for the students. Protocols have been followed and going well. She encouraged anyone who sees something that needs attention to please report it.

Superintendent Wright noted that 94.5% of the student enrollment is now back on site for Hybrid Learning. Approximately 105 student chose an alternative educational option to continue their learning remotely. These figures are reported weekly to the California Department of Education (CDE). She is happy to say that 99% of the district staff is working on-site at their assigned location. She is appreciative that everyone is doing a great job being safe, carefully following and reinforcing the social distancing protocols.

Superintendent Wright mentioned that she attended the two Town Hall Meetings in Clarksburg. She was appreciative for the turn-out of in-person and online attendees and for the input given. She thanked staff for finding a way to use technology for these meetings, so both in-person and zoom attendees could participate. The staff will continue to work on ways to improve the meeting platform.

Superintendent Wright attended the Courtland Town Association meeting with Member Lamera, noting that they came away with a better understanding and perception of each other. The summary of the meeting will be discussed during Action Item 11.

Superintendent Wright announced that the District successfully achieved the sale of the General Obligation Bonds 2021 Series earlier in the day. A \$15.3 million sale for Measure J and a \$4.9 million sale for Measure K. The opinion of the professionals who orchestrated the sale felt it was a very successful. She is looking forward to making upgrades to the facilities in both attendance areas.

9.1.1.4 Presentation of Potential State School Facility Program (SFP) Modernization Grant Funding – Mimidene Williams, Williams & Associates, LLC explained to the Board that obtaining all the information was extremely difficult during COVID, due to offices being closed. She provided an overview of the State School Facility Program, the status of funds in the program and the estimated modernization eligibility for the school sites for River Delta Unified School District. She explained the next steps starting with the Application for Eligibility. These documents will be filed with the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC). The Applications for Funding will be filed with the Division of State Architect (DSA) with approved plans and specifications. The plan will be submitted to The California Environmental Quality Act (CEAQ) for compliance and to the California Department of Education (CDE) for approval. The completed funding application to OPSC for placement on the 'Acknowledge List'. And, lastly, she explained that future processing and State Allocation Board (SAB) approval is dependent upon a future statewide bond measure approved by voters of California.

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 – Sharon Silva, Chief Business Officer, Chief Business Officer; Ken Gaston, Director of MOT

9.2.1 Monthly Financial Report – Vina Guzman, Interim Chief Business Officer reported as submitted. Ms. Guzman informed the Board of potential future COVID funding opportunities. The District will be working to complete the required application and plan. The plan must be Board approved prior to the deadline submittal date of June 1<sup>st</sup>. If the plan is not completed prior to the May 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, a Special meeting will be required to approve the plan.

Superintendent Wright noted that these funds are to be used to extend services, provide or purchase in addition to or different than what is normally expensed. All expenses will need to be justified during an audit.

Ms. Guzman provided a timeline for Budget Development for FY 2021-2022. During the process of Budget Development, Position Control is being reviewed, current and future expenses are being examined and the District is looking for areas for possible reductions. These possible reductions will be brought to the Board at a future meeting.

school in the District to become AVID Certified, with half of the teaching staff are AVID Certified. She mentioned that No Red Ink was also implemented in ELA. This program helps with writing and grammar. Number Talks and iXL has been implemented to help students in Math. Other AVID strategies and academic conversations will be used. Mrs. Rossi is most proud of the change in school culture. In 2019-2020 Riverview started using Positive Behavior Incentives and Support (PBIS) and another program Alternative Means of Correction. The suspension rate dropped dramatically and these strategies being used has made a difference in the students. Starting in the 2021-2022 school year, Riverview Middle School will be moving to a Block Schedule. Four classes will be offered in the Fall and four in the Spring. ELA and Math will be in both semesters allowing for double the amount of instruction in these areas.

- 9.3.5 Special Education Update – Tom Anderson, Director of Special Education supported the principals and their presentations. He mentioned that he has worked in other districts that offered Dual Immersion Programs and, if done correctly, they become a destination school and the District becomes a destination district. He noted that a good program takes a lot of work, takes time and is a building process. It is the opinion of Mr. Anderson that, if this program is done properly, many students from outside of the District will apply to be part of the program.

Mr. Anderson stated that Walnut Grove Elementary has a tremendous principal and a great community. When he is on the campus he is impressed and happy to be there.

Mr. Anderson stated that middle schools are a “unique beast”. It takes strategic planning to make them work properly. Riverview is in the beginning stages of a good strategic plan.

Mr. Anderson complemented Nicole Latimer for her hard work. He mentioned that he has worked with Vina Guzman in other districts. We are lucky to have her working with us.

This year the District is dealing with learning loss. In a normal year 20 days of Extended School Year (ESY) instruction is provided. He is meeting with other Directors of Special Education within the County and the SELPA’s attorney to make sure we cover all aspects to be legally compliant. He hopes to provide more information at the next Board meeting regarding ESY for special education students.

Mr. Anderson spoke of the social and emotional needs of the students. He hopes to bring information to the next meeting about an organization called Care Solace. Although they do not provide mental health services themselves, they help connect families with high quality mental health services. These services will be accessible for both district families and district employees.

- 9.4 River Delta Unified Teachers Association (RDUTA) Update – Marsha Montgomery, RDUTA President reported that the negotiation team is continuing to work on the contract that is two years out of date. The union is looking to elect a new Board, as several members will be stepping down next year. Mrs. Montgomery mentioned that they are all very happy to have the students back on campus; it makes the day much brighter.

- 9.5 California State Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter #319 Update – Melinda Barkman, CSEA President reported that the CSEA negotiation team was scheduled to meet with the District negotiation team. However, they had to postpone due to the reopening of school. He will be meeting in the next few days. They will be working contract language and the Return-to-Work MOU. She mentioned that everyone was happy to be back at school and seeing their friends.

## 10. Consent Calendar:

- 10.1 Approve Board Minutes  
Regular Meeting of the Board – March 9, 2021  
Special Meeting of the Board – March 23, 2021
- 10.2 Receive and Approve Monthly Personnel Report - As of April 13, 2021
- 10.3 District’s Monthly Expenditure Report  
March 2021

*Member Riley moved to approve, Member Lamera seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

15. Request the Board's authorization for Superintendent Wright to review and approve on behalf of the Board the District Service Agreement (DSA) with Butte County Office of Education Migrant Education Region 2 for Migrant Services in RDUSD for the 2021-2022 school year – Nicole Latimer, Chief Educational Services Officer

*Member Riley moved to approve, Member Casillas seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

16. Request to approve the Elimination of the First 5 Secretary Position for the 2021-2022 School Year – Katherine Wright, Superintendent

*Member Lamera moved to approve, Member Riley seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

17. Re-Adjourn to continue Closed Session, if needed – Board President Stone reported that re-adjourning to Closed Session was not necessary.

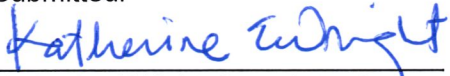
18. Report of Action taken, if any, during continued Closed Session (Government Code Section 54957.1) Board President Stone reported Closed Session was not necessary – no actions to report.

19. Adjournment: With no further business before the Board, Board President Stone asked for a motion to adjourn.

*Member Casillas moved to approve, Member Apel seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

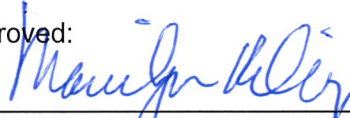
The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 pm

Submitted:



Katherine Wright, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Approved:



Marilyn Riley, Clerk, Board of Trustees

By: Jennifer Gaston, Recorder

End