

# RIVER DELTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING

October 11, 2022

1. **Call Open Session to Order** – Board President Stone called the Open Session of the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 5:32 p.m. on October 11, 2022 at Bates Elementary School, Courtland, California.

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

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

3.1 Board President Stone announced items on the Closed Session Agenda

3.2 Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda Items. – None to report

4. **Board President Stone asked for a motion to approve the Closed Session agenda and adjourn the meeting to Closed Session @ 5:33 pm**

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

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

5.1 Roll was retaken. All members were present.

Also present: Katherine Wright, Superintendent; Tammy Busch, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Officer; Nancy Vielhauer, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, and Jennifer Gaston, Recorder.

5.2 Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alicia Fernandez, former River Delta Unified School District Board President

6. **Report of Action taken, if any, during the Closed Session** (Government Code Section 54957.1)

Board President Stone reported that the Board did not take any actions during Closed Session.

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 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Lamera, Casillas, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent)*

8. **Public Comment:** Alicia Fernandez, former River Delta Unified School District Board President and community member, stated that she has seen an increase in the number of school-aged children not in school during school hours. She expressed her concern that, except for truancy issues, she can only conclude that this may be due to transportation issues of getting to and from school. She noted that other districts have higher wages than our District and she encourages the Board of Trustees to increase the salary for bus drivers and consider adding a signing bonus or stipend to attract new drivers. Ms. Fernandez applauded the District for executing a Dual Immersion Program in the District and is pleased that it is being implemented at every class level. She is excited of the energy level and ideas brought to Bates Elementary from Principal, MJ Kiwan Gómez, and hopes it translates to an increase of enrollment. She is unsure of what marketing strategies are being used to attract families to the Dual Immersion Program. She suggests that we target Clarksburg, Courtland and Hood areas as well as Elk Grove and South Sacramento. She had the opinion that Good Day Sacramento or other media outlets would be a good avenue for advertising the program.

Betty Koons, Ministry Coordinator for Sacramento area Good News Club, spoke on her experiences while being a substitute teacher at Sacramento City Unified School District. She also provided quotes that spoke on the need to inform parents on how to recognize signs of suicidal ideation and how to support their

children who may be experiencing emotional crisis. She provided information on the Good News Club and stated that they are not ashamed of the fact that they are a resource for parents who want to either expose children to the love of God or reinforce Biblical teaching already established in their homes. She has the opinion that the Good News Club (GNC) as a non-profit group should not incur fees for custodial and maintenance fees. She also believes that the time traveling to and from the Dr. Henry Go Auditorium will compromise the time they spend with the children and, in the Winter, it may be cold. She has requested that the District allow the GNC to use a classroom on the campus and to waive the associated fees. Four other Good News Club supporters, Sue Spillman (GNC Volunteer, Elk Grove), Julieta Herrera (Lodi USD), Gina Chaffin (GNC Volunteer and former RDUSD employee) and Kristal Chacon (GNC Volunteer and teacher at a neighboring district) spoke of their personal experiences and provided support for the Good News Club.

Ignacio Navarro translated for Cecilia Torres, a parent. Ms. Torres spoke on behalf of several Ryer Island parents in the audience. She indicated that some parents are unable to bring their children to school and, as they realize it is their obligation to get their students to school, it is also important for the parents to go to work to support their families. Ms. Torres has heard that there are two candidates trying to become bus drivers. She would like to know if, when the bus driver candidates completed their training, Ryer Island be the first area to receive service.

## **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 Lamera reported that he attended meetings at Delta High and Clarksburg Middle Schools to introduce himself as a resource. He also attended the School Site Council and the English Learner Advisory Council (ELAC) meetings at Delta High and Clarksburg Middle Schools. Member Lamera mentioned that he attended the Bates Elementary School's Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and School Site Council meetings.

Member Lamera mentioned that site visits have been scheduled for D.H. White Elementary, Riverview Middle and Rio Vista High Schools, noting that he will be accompanied by Board President Stone and Member Jelly.

Member Lamera announced that he attended a Wine and Art Fundraising Auction to support the Clarksburg Library. He enjoyed the event and encouraged others to attend next year.

Member Lamera praised the Delta Saints Football team for their 6:1 season. He confirmed that the upcoming Friday night would be their Homecoming game, which he had plans on attending.

Member Mahoney reminded the Board of the letter received at the previous meeting regarding the expulsion of students. He prepared a letter to read to his colleagues and the audience of his personal points of view about student expulsions. His points of view were collected from his personal experiences throughout his life and long career in education. He has the opinion that the selling of drugs is one of the worst expellable offenses, as they are premeditated and calculated. They are not done in an emotionally charged moment. Member Mahoney noted that the selling of drugs goes against criminal and California Educational Codes. He named a long list of friends and family members who are deceased due to drugs, including his brother. Member Mahoney gave an analogy of "what ifs", referring to schools. "What if, in the 1970s: schools didn't have a smoking section, where some students got high?"; "What if the schools had discipline rallies to make sure the students knew what the rules were and of the consequences?"; "What if the schools just enforced the rules when violators were caught instead of just letting things slide?" Member Mahoney has heard people say that death due to the use of drugs are sometimes called a "victimless" crime. Member Mahoney assured that after watching what he, his friends, parents of friend all went through with a loss of a loved one due to drugs, as well as what his parents went through with the loss of his brother, that this statement is not true. He mentioned that this doesn't include those who become mentally unstable after the heavy use of drugs. This also doesn't include those great

athletes and academics that showed so much potential, but chose the path of heavy drug use. Some of these people went to jail, can't hold a job, are homeless, suffer from mental illness, or a combination of all of those things. Member Mahoney stated that he will always be an anti-drug advocate due to his life experiences as a student, a coach, a teacher, an administrator, a community member and now as a Board member. Member Mahoney named many of the expellable offences that are listed in the California Education Code, stating that these acts are criminal. He noted that Educational Codes have been written to protect the students and teachers that attend and work at our school sites, which is needed for a properly learning environment. Mr. Mahoney remarked that, if the criminals are not removed from the school setting, then we are promoting an unsafe learning environment. It is the duty of the administration, Superintendent and School Board to keep the schools safe. Students need to feel safe to learn properly.

9.1.2 Committee report(s)

9.1.2.1 City of Rio Vista 2 X 2 – Member Jelly reported that she, Superintendent Wright, and Member Mahoney met with the City's team and discussed active shooter drills and response. She mentioned that these conversations will be on-going.

9.1.3 Superintendent Wright's report(s) - Superintendent Wright thanked everyone for their understanding for her absence over the past weeks while she was required to be in Sacramento representing the District. She included a special thank you to Nancy Vielhauer and Tammy Busch for being her designee when it was impossible for her to be present in the District. She is excited to be able to focus her attention and work in the District.

Superintendent Wright noted that she and Mrs. Vielhauer attended a School Threat Response Symposium sponsored by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department. They were enlightened by their knowledge of how to evaluate the safety of our schools and take action to make them even safer. Superintendent Wright stated that, in the upcoming weeks, the District is planning on implementing additional safety measures at each school site, collaborating with local law enforcement and first responders, as well as raising awareness and preparedness. Some of the safety measures may seem less welcoming or less convenient in nature but are essential in making our schools safer. The school sites are reviewing their response plans and will be holding drills soon if they haven't already. The District's goal is to continually improve the safety procedures and protocols for all types of emergencies. She appreciates everyone's support in keeping the school safe.

9.1.3.1 Notice of Intention to Amend the Conflict-of-Interest Code for River Delta Unified School District – Superintendent Wright reported that it is essential and legally required for the District's conflict of interest code reflects the current structure of its organization. Part of the process in amending the conflict-of-interest code is identifying the proper officials who should file statements of Economic Interest, the Form 700. When a change is made to our conflict-of-interest code, we are required to hold a 45-day comment period and to notify all employees of the change. The comment period has been established commencing on October 12, 2022 and closing on November 25, 2022. Any interested person may submit written comments relating to the proposed amendment no later than the November 25, 2022 deadline.

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 – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services; Ken Gaston, Directors of MOT

9.2.1 Business Services' Report – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services, reported that the Unaudited Actuals have been accepted by the Sacramento County Office of Education. The Business Department is in the process of submitting data to qualify for community eligibility provision for Cafeteria Funding which is a requirement for

our universal free meals. They are also working on first interim, facility and safety items as well as Bond projects.

9.2.1.1 ADA/Enrollment Report – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services, reported that the Districtwide enrollment has had a decrease of 90 students compared to the same month of the 2021-2022 school year. The Districtwide enrollment had a decrease of 32 students compared to last month. However, the Districtwide attendance has increased by 56 ADA compared to last month. Students have been attending more, even though the district is in declining enrollment.

9.2.1.2 Monthly Financial Report – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services, reported that each month this report shows the amount budgeted versus the actual expenditures at that point in time.

9.2.1.3 Riverview Middle School New Parking Lot Bond Project Update - RGM Kramer. Ms. Busch announced that RGM Kramer was unable to attend this meeting. However, Melissa Regan-Byers from HKIT Architects will be making the presentation. Ms. Regan-Byers explained the process of developing the plan for the Riverview Parking Lot to accommodate off-street parking and accessibility on-site parking, which was needed to move forward with future construction or modernization projects. While attending a Division of State Architects (DSA) Pre-application meeting to ask questions regarding the project and to make sure the designs aligned with current DSA policies, it was discovered that if the school site didn't currently have on-site drop-off, it would not be required to provide on-site drop-off for new construction or modernization projects. This project was being done to set up the site for future projects as it was thought it was a requirement to do so. It was also discovered that it is no longer a DSA requirement to provide on-site parking for accessibility if the site does not currently have it. If this parking lot projects moves forward, it would be a requirement to create an accessible path of travel to the main office. This path of travel would be a large undertaking as of the elevation change on the campus from the proposed parking lot to the main office. Ms. Regan-Byers stated that, although DSA does not require the on-site parking at this time, the District may have a request that will mandate they undertake this project.

Ms. Byers reminded the Board of some of the other projects that were proposed during the planning process. Superintendent Wright reminded the Board that, although it is not a requirement of DSA, it is the rights of individuals to have accessibility and the District would be required to meet these accessibility requirements if requested. After discussion from the Board, it was determined that a Facilities Steering Committee will need to reconvene to discuss this and future projects.

9.2.2 Maintenance, Operations & Transportation Update, Ken Gaston, Director of MOT, reported that, in addition to the report submitted, he had a transportation update. Mr. Gaston mentioned that there are five bus driver candidates in training and one van driver applicant. Mr. Gaston clarified that the process can take anywhere from three to six months.

9.3 Education Services' Reports and/or Presentation(s) - Nancy Vielhauer, Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services and Tracy Barbieri, Director of Special Education

9.3.1 Educational Services Update – Nancy Vielhauer, Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services, reported that three classes for classroom culture trainings have been provided to the teaching staff, as well as one Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) training as part of the Crisis Intervention Prevention Trainings for the Special Education staff. The District is in the process of scheduling professional development opportunities for the teachers to take part in during the November 1 non-student day and during the Thanksgiving and January breaks if they choose to participate.

The school social worker has been working diligently to verify our homeless and foster youth students and to provide them with resources for services that they are entitled to.

The CTE Coordinator has been working on the educational pathways making sure we are complying with the grant requirements. Curriculum has been ordered for the Culinary Arts Program that will be on display at the District Office. The coordinator is also working on a possibility of obtaining AP credit when completing a CTE pathway.

The Technology TOSA has been working hard to support each school site with their technology needs.

Ms. Vielhauer announced that, unfortunately, they will be holding the first Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) hearing at the end of the week.

Ms. Vielhauer announced that there is good news. The news is that the CalPads end of year data have been submitted and approved. Stating that the states CalPads software system has had significant troubles this year, which made the deadline dates to several times. Ms. Vielhauer noted that many district's in the state did not meet the deadline and certify their data.

Ms. Vielhauer announced that the District is pushing to obtain the data confirmation from all families. The information is required each year to update emergency and contact information. In the past, it was provided in paper form, however, it is now available electronically. The data confirmation information is needed for our state and local funding. The school sites will be reaching out to families to complete their data confirmation in Aeries. Ms. Vielhauer emphasized that accurate information is important for safety reasons.

Superintendent Wright reiterated that current and accurate contact information is very important for safety reasons and is a high priority for the District.

9.3.2 School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) 2022-2023 Presentation: Bates Elementary School, Walnut Grove Elementary School, Delta High School and Clarksburg Middle School – Site Principals greeted and presented the Board with information regarding their plans for student achievement for the 2022-2023 school year.

9.3.3 Bates Elementary Dual Immersion Presentation - MJ Kiwan Gómez, Ed.D., Principal, provided the Board with how the implementation of the Dual Immersion Plan is working schoolwide. Students spoke on how the Dual Immersion Program is working for them and how it will benefit them in the future. A parent of one of the students supported the program and expressed how happy she was that her students were learning to read and write in Spanish and English and that this will help her children be successful in the future. Mrs. Whitley, teacher at Bates Elementary School, noted that she was very proud of this program and said it was wonderful when the students make learning connections. Mrs. Whitley is happy to be part of the program.

9.3.4 Williams' Settlement Public Notification Regarding Sufficiency of Teachers, Facilities, and Textbook and Instructional Materials – First Quarter (July – September 2022) – Nancy Vielhauer, Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services reported that the District has not received complaints during this quarter.

9.4 River Delta Unified Teacher's Association (RDUTA) Update – Chris Smith, RDUTA President, acknowledged and commended both the teacher's and District's bargaining teams, as they successfully reached a Tentative Agreement, which was accepted by the RDUTA members almost unanimously. Mr. Smith is confident that the next round of negotiations in the Spring will be positive.

9.5 California State Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter #319 Update – David Groves, CSEA President, reported that all employees will benefit from the Tentative Agreement and the CSEA bargaining team is working on recruitment.

## 10. Consent Calendar

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are to be considered routine action and all will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the

Board of Trustees requests that specific items to be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate action. Any items removed will be considered for separate action after the motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

- 10.1 Approve Board Minutes  
Regular Meeting of the Board, September 13, 2022
- 10.2 Receive and Approve Monthly Personnel Reports  
As of October 11, 2022
- 10.3 District's Monthly Expenditure Report  
September 2022
- 10.4 Request to Approve the Consolidated Application (ConApp) for 2022-2023 School Year  
Tammy Busch, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
- 10.5 Request to Approve the Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for the 2022-2023 School Year for Bates Elementary School, Walnut Grove Elementary School, Delta High School and Clarksburg Middle Schools – Site Principal
- 10.6 Request to Approve the 2022-2023 General Agreement for Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School/Agency (CCHAT Center) to Provide Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services for District Students – Not to Exceed \$5,000, Special Education Funds – Tracy Barbieri, Director of Special Education
- 10.7 Request to Approve the General Agreement for Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School/Agency (New Directions Solutions, dba ProCare Therapy) to Provide a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) for the 2022-2023 School Year – Not to Exceed \$120,000, Special Education Funds – Tracy Barbieri, Director of Special Education
- 10.8 Request to Approve the 2022-2023 General Agreement for Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School/Agency (Soliant Health, LLC) to Provide Speech Therapy Services for District Students– Not to Exceed \$173,000, Special Education Funds – Tracy Barbieri, Director of Special Education
- 10.9 Request to Approve the Out of State Travel for Ken Gaston, Director of MOT and John Preston, Supervisor of MO to Attend The National Hardware Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada from January 31-February 2, 2023 – Ken Gaston, Director of Maintenance, Operations and Transportation
- 10.10 Request to Approve the Overnight Travel for Mrs. AK Smith and Four (4) Rio Vista High School Students to Attend the Friday Night Live Youth Summit on November 3-7, 2022 in Anaheim, California, No Cost to the District – Victoria Turk, Principal
- 10.11 Request to Approve the Agreement with Kontraband Interdiction & Detection Services, Inc. for the 2022-2023 School Year - Nancy Vielhauer, Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services
- 10.12 Donations to Receive and Acknowledge:
  - Isleton Elementary School**
    - Foster's Bighorn - \$350
    - The Rich Family - \$50
    - Brian Fonseca in Memory of Delores Fonseca - \$50
    - PTC – Color Run event in the approximate amount of \$700

**Walnut Grove Elementary School**

Received \$7,000 worth of school supplies from various donors through Walmart

*Although the Board didn't pull any items for discussion, it was asked if the \$94,000 PG& E bill for Rio Vista High School was a typo. Ms. Busch confirmed that it was not a typo and gave an explanation which was provided to her by PG&E. She stated that, PG&E's billing systems were in the process of being changed and the District didn't receive an invoice for three months, even though the District had made several attempts to contact them regarding the missing invoices. The Business Department is working on rectifying the problem.*

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

*Board President Stoned acknowledged the donations and thanked them for their continued support.*

**Action Items** -- Individual speakers shall be allowed two minutes to address the Board on any agenda item. The Board may limit the total time for public input on each agenda item to 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. Procedures for Public comment will follow the same process as in number 8.

11. Request to Approve Resolution #839 Authorizing Compensation Agreement with Successor Agency and the Transfer of Real Property of the Former Redevelopment Agency of the City of Rio Vista to the City of Rio Vista – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services

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

12. Request to Approve the First and Final Reading of the Administrative Regulation 1330 – Use of School Facilities – Nancy Vielhauer, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services and Tammy Busch, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

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

13. Request to Approve the Payment of Division of the State Architect (DSA) Fees for the Rio Vista High School (RVHS) New Classrooms and Delta/Clarksburg (DHS/CMS) Cafeteria Modernization Projects, Measure J not to exceed \$25,980 for Rio Vista High School New Classroom Project and Measure K not to exceed \$25,980 for Delta/Clarksburg Cafeteria Modernization Project - Tammy Busch, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

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

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

15. 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.

16. Adjournment: There being no further business before the Board, Board President Stone asked for a motion to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm

Submitted:

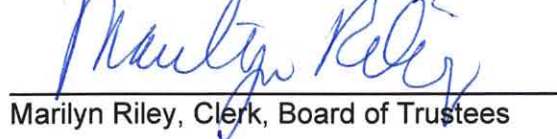


Katherine Wright, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board of Trustees

By: Jennifer Gaston, Recorder

End

Approved:



Marilyn Riley, Clerk, Board of Trustees