

Regular Meeting of the Governing Board (Tuesday, March 8, 2022)

Members present

Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

1. OPENING FUNCTIONS

A. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:02 pm

B. Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum

A quorum was established

C. Announcement and Public Comment Regarding Items to be Discussed in Closed Session

No members of the public addressed the board

D. Adjourn to Closed Session

Adjourned to closed session at 5:03 pm

2. CLOSED SESSION

A. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (Gov. Code, § 54957, subd. (b)(1))

B. Conference with Legal Counsel - Litigation (Gov. Code § 54956.9)

C. Conference with Legal Counsel - Litigation (Gov. Code § 54956.9)

Returned from closed session at 6:15 pm

3. REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Report of Action Taken in Closed Session

Motion by Cheryl Robertson and second by Dr. Javier Ayala the board voted 5-0, in closed session, to non-reelect a probationary certificated employee 2122-401 for the 2022-2023 school year pursuant to education code section 44929.21; the superintendent or designee shall notify the employee in writing of these actions.

4. OPENING FUNCTIONS (continued)

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Announcement Regarding Public Comment

Speakers for agenda item 5.J.:

Toby Ahrens: Music and band teacher Lemon Grove Academy Middle (LGAM) music and band teacher. I would like to thank the families, students, and people that came here tonight to support our music program. I'm here to teach music to our 7th and 8th grade kids. The impact that I feel that I've had; the proof is in the room. I feel like cutting the position in half is going to take this population of kids with less opportunity. If I have half of the time at the school then half of the kids will not get what I have to offer. Right now I teach instrumental band, drumline, and digital music. So possibly your children, if they were attending next year, it's possible that your children will not get this next year. That's what this is about. As far as a story, I can tell you a story, I was sort of a troubled youth and band saved my life. I saw my brother and sister play in the junior high marching band in Altus, Oklahoma when I was 12 years old and I freaked out, I fell in love with the drums, and it saved my life. Because of the drums I became a professional musician and drummer my whole life. I joined the Navy band and spent nine years of my life in the Navy band. I performed all over Europe, performed and recorded with many bands in San Diego, and I still perform as well as teach. What I bring to LGAM, is a

history of performing and being connected with the industry. I share that wealth of knowledge humbly with my students.

Frank Wolftange: United States History (US) teacher at LGAM for 22 years. Tomorrow morning zero period I'll be at LGAM at the invitation of four girls in my second period class because they're the members of the Zend; a band under Mr. Ahrens guidance that they formed. They've been coming up slowly but surely you can see the absolute passion in their eyes. I'll be over there at 7:30 in the morning and it's that exact passion that you're speaking about Mrs. Robertson. It's just indispensable to the work I do in US History and I can find connections. For example, this morning and all day long the lesson was, "To what extent should the United States be involved in world affairs?" This is a question from back in the early 1800's. So the question I would put to you is, "To what extent should we offer (as Mr. Ahren's was eluding to) music for as many students as possible throughout the entire school day?" Not a 50% position, I would argue that again, it's indispensable. Mr. Ahren's spoke to music saving his life. My brother-in-law who who was from Lemon Grove and my wife was a LGA graduate. My brother-in-law (David) went and became a high tech. executive and is very successful in San Diego county. My mother-in-law will tell the story to anyone who will here so I'll share that story by proxy; that music and band (which started here) saved his life and she bought him an instrument when she was working at a second hand store. He was also interested in STEM starting here and bought his first computer in the late 70's - early 80's. I could tell numerable stories. One of the proudest accomplishments in my 27 year career is a young man, who I have to admit, had a rough side and gave me some trouble; came back years later and gave me his band letter from Mount Miguel. I strongly encourage you to answer the question, "To what extent should music, band, and any kind of creative pursuit be offered during the school day at LGA?" The answer should be, "To a great extent."

Gwyneth George: Based on what I saw on the agenda this afternoon with the reduction of Certificated teachers being aloud to provide a full day of music to a .5 reduction and also for AMP and dance. My daughter is also a part of the Zend and they are all very passionate and very excited about being with Mr. Ahrens in zero period. I have never spoken before the board before. I've been asked, in the nine years that I've been in the district, many times to speak. Me standing here today, shows you how important that item is to me. We talk about our kids constantly swiping; how about playing, how about playing, how about playing. We talk about our kids being glued to a screen; let them be glued to a music sheet and produce something beautiful. Something other than pen and paper and computer screens. Let us give our kids the opportunity to explore things that they may never get the opportunity to see again in life. My daughter, fortunately, plays the piano outside of school. Playing a trumpet was never in the cards and now she's asking for an electric guitar. It shows me that the impact that Mr. Ahrens has had on her just with one year of being in person (not even a full year yet) and she's interested in expanding her musical knowledge. She speaks spanish, english, and she speaks music. She spends an hour doing her piano practice that usually is ten minutes and she would be done. Now she will play all of her old tunes over and over. I'm asking you to reconsider that reduction in force. We need more musicians, we need more dancers, we need more cultured individuals so that we can avoid being on the straight and narrow; money, money, money, money. I do have a solution for the money part of it because Mr. Chavez has taught us; let's be solution oriented. Can we start focusing on attendance in our district? There is very little information that goes out about the importance of attendance. Attendance give us more dollars.

Stefanie Ortiz: I share my experience and speak from the heart. I'm a mom and a Lemon Grove native. I have two daughters 15 years old, sophomores at Helix Charter High School, and they play in the band there. They got their start under Mr. Ahrens teaching in 7th grade and had never picked up an instrument before. My husband and I aren't particularly musical, it never really occurred to me that they might take to music. On a whim, my daughters decided to take Mr. Ahrens class as an elective and they fell in love with it. It has changed them and transformed them from introverted students to performing happily, they're engaged as excellent students, they've made friends through band, and are looking at music theory bands at San Diego State that they want to get into. I never would have known that bridge was possible for them and it's thanks to that class. They came home with a syllabus and at the top Mr. Ahrens had, "This class will change your life." I thought, that's a bold statement/who would think that of a music class; it absolutely, 100% has. I've told him that before, how much his class has meant to my girls, how much it's meant to me to see them blossom through music, finding something

that they love and are passionate about. It wouldn't have been possible without his teaching. If it was cut down to 50%, they wouldn't have had the opportunity to try digital music, percussion, to take their hand at different musical instruments. It's been a great experience for them and I wanted to share that with you. I hope that you will consider, not just my girls, but other students in Lemon Grove that he's had a huge impact on them.

Donna Trask: I'm a grandmother of a 7th grader at LGA she found Mr. Ahrens and it has given her an ability to express herself in different ways. It's important to keep band in our schools. All of you attended schools that had band or music of some sort and arts; these things are being taken and you keep looking at dollar amounts. This is way beyond dollar amounts. Please don't do this to this school. My great nephew was also a student of Mr. Ahrens who was bullied at the school who found band and played trombone. He left Lemon Grove and went to Hoover and still plays trombone. He found so much joy in music and the history of music. If you take this away thinking dollar amounts you're really not doing anybody any good. You've spent a lot of time talking about after school programs; some of our students don't get to go to after school programs. Please don't do this, please think beyond dollar amounts, thinks about the students, and what this means to them. How students can grow by having teachers like Mr. Ahrens in their life and how he has touched them in ways that math, english, and history don't allow them to learn the diversity of music.

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda removing item 5.L. to a future meeting date

Motion by Greg Shibley, second by Timothy Shaw.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

D. Governing Board Members Correspondence

Trustee Dr. Ayala: Happy Women's History Month (during my day life, I'm working on promoting women in trades across the County), Monterey Heights Book Fair (every class went to the book fair and each child received free books as well as classroom teacher thanks to the district for sponsoring the event), I received a note about some of our students receiving awards for (coding, math, innovation engineering) from Vista La Mesa Academy, California School Board Association Masters In Governance.

Trustee Preciado: 2/23 City-School District Collaboration Committee meeting, 2/16 PTA Council, Monterey Heights site visit to see mural work in progress, 3/5 Lemon Grove Recreation Center for Chess Tournament Family Day, District English Learner Advisory Committee prep meeting, Extended Learning Program art installation at Monterey Heights parking lot.

Trustee Robertson: Nothing to report.

Trustee Shibley: 2/23 City-School District Collaboration Committee meeting

Trustee Shaw: 2/10 Black and Pan-African Student Excellence, 2/16 PTA Council, 2/17 Special Board Meeting on Local Control Accountability Program, 2/18 Lemon Grove Academy Middle and Mount Vernon site visits, 3/1 Board Meeting on budget priorities, 3/4 Vista La Mesa Academy Read Across America, 3/5 Lemon Grove Recreation Center for Chess Tournament Family Day, Up and coming 16th Annual Young Men's Leadership Conference will be held at Mount Miguel High School March 26, 2022 from 8:15 - 2:15 for young men in grades 6 - 12 and the theme for this year "Unleash Your Greatness".

E. Recognition - Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Award Recipient - Angela Villa a teacher at San Miguel; the district's Community Advisory Committee award recipient for this school year.

F. Hearing of Citizens for Items Not on the Agenda

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. California K-12 Mask Mandate

Motion to approve with visitors required to wear masks unless they provide proof of vaccination effective March 12, 2022.

Motion by Dr. Javier Ayala, second by Greg Shibley.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

B. 2021-22 Second Interim Positive Certification

Motion to approve

Motion by Timothy Shaw, second by Yajaira Preciado.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

C. Fund 25 Capital Facilities Fund Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021

Motion to approve

Motion by Yajaira Preciado, second by Dr. Javier Ayala.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

D. Resolution 2021-22-11, Developer Fee Justification Study and Rate increase

Motion to Approve

Motion by Cheryl Robertson, second by Yajaira Preciado.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Greg Shibley

Abstain: Timothy Shaw

E. Memorandum of Understanding with CSEA for Local Holiday/Cesar Chavez Day 2022

Motion to Approve

Motion by Timothy Shaw, second by Greg Shibley.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

F. Memorandum of Understanding for Early-Tell Retirement

Motion to Approve

Motion by Dr. Javier Ayala, second by Yajaira Preciado.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

G. Memorandum of Understanding for LETRS Training (2021-2022 School Year)

Motion to Approve

Motion by Timothy Shaw, second by Dr. Javier Ayala.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

H. Adoption of 2022-2023 Certificated and Classified Workday Calendars

Motion to Approve

Motion by Greg Shibley, second by Timothy Shaw.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

I. Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P) Plan

Motion to approve

Motion by Timothy Shaw, second by Dr. Javier Ayala.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

Break 8:03 pm - 8:11 pm

J. Resolution No. 2021-22-09, Reduction in Force - Certificated
Motion to approve

Motion by Greg Shibley, second by Yajaira Preciado.

Final Resolution: Motion Fails

Nay: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

K. Resolution No. 2021-22-10, Reduction in Force - Classified
Motion to approve

Motion by Dr. Javier Ayala, second by Yajaira Preciado.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

L. Application for County-District-School (CDS) Identification Code - Lemon Grove Academy Elementary

M. Resolution No. 2021-22-13, Approving the Re-opening of a School and Taking Related Actions in
Connection Therewith

Motion to postpone to a later date

Motion by Cheryl Robertson, second by Dr. Javier Ayala.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

N. Resolution No. 2021-22-12, No-Idling at Schools

Motion to approve

Motion by Greg Shibley, second by Timothy Shaw.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

O. 2022-2023 CSBA Delegate Assembly Ballot

Board must unanimously select nine candidates from the list of twelve applicants - no recommendation
from the Superintendent

Marco Amaral, Maria Betancourt-Castaneda, Eleanor Evans, Humberto Gurmilan, Claudine Jones, Gee
Wah Mok, Tamara Otero, Marla Strich, Lucy Ugarte

Motion by Cheryl Robertson, second by Timothy Shaw.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

P. City of Lemon Grove/LGSD Joint Board Meeting Proposal

Motion to change the July XX, 2022 regular board meeting to a joint meeting with the City of Lemon
Grove and Lemon Grove School District

Motion by Timothy Shaw, second by Dr. Javier Ayala.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Certificated Seniority Lists

B. Classified Seniority List

C. Future Agenda Items

7. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Consent Agenda
Motion to Approve Consent Agenda as Presented Items B - V

Motion by Timothy Shaw, second by Yajaira Preciado.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Javier Ayala, Yajaira Preciado, Cheryl Robertson, Timothy Shaw, Greg Shibley

- B. Approval of Minutes January 27, 2022
- C. Approval of Minutes February 8, 2022
- D. Approval of Minutes February 17, 2022
- E. Approval of Minutes March 1, 2022
- F. Personnel Action Report
- G. Ratification of Purchase Orders
- H. Ratification of Contracts
- I. Contract Amendment: TranscendANCE Youth Arts Project for VLMA
- J. Contract Amendment: TranscendANCE Youth Arts Project (ELP)
- K. Contract Amendment: TranscendANCE Youth Arts Project for ECE
- L. NPS Contract Renewal: San Diego Center for Children Academy
- M. NPS Contract Agreement: Aseltine School
- N. NPA Contract Agreement: RO Health
- O. New Contract: Joe Smith
- P. San Diego County Superintendent of Schools Intern Agreement
- Q. Teach for America Educational Professional Services Agreement
- R. San Diego County Superintendent of Schools Teacher Induction Agreement
- S. Award RFP #2021-22-06T E-Rate to Cox
- T. Commercial Warrants
- U. Revolving Cash, Student Body and Cash Clearing
- V. Gifts to the District - Family Health Centers of San Diego

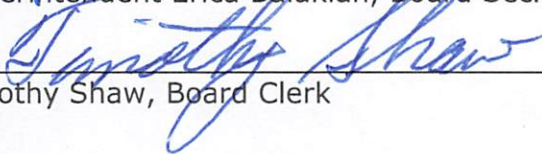
8. ADJOURNMENT

A. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 9:44 pm



Superintendent Erica Balakian, Board Secretary



Timothy Shaw, Board Clerk