

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
January 23, 2024  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
2263 Santa Clara Avenue  
Alameda, California 94501

**ADOPTED MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING:** The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held at the date and location mentioned above.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

1. Public Comment on Closed Session Topics:

The Board did not receive any public comments related to this agenda.

2. Adjourn to Closed Session - 6:00 PM

Board of Education Members present: Board President Jennifer Williams, Board Vice President Gary K. Lym, Board Clerk Ryan LaLonde, Board Trustee Heather Little, and Board Trustee Margie Sherratt.

Staff present for Closed Session: Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, Timothy Erwin; Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Shariq Khan

Items discussed in Closed Session:

Conference with Labor Negotiators – (Govt. Code, §54957.6, subd. (a)) District designated representative: Timothy Erwin, Assistant Superintendent - Human Resources.

Employee organizations: Alameda Education Association (AEA), California School Employees Association Chapter 27 (CSEA 27), California School Employees Association Chapter 860 (CSEA 860) and Executive Cabinet/Administrative and Supervisory/Confidential/Licensed/Unrepresented.

3. Reconvene to Public Session - 6:30PM

Board President Williams reconvened the meeting at 6:30PM.

4. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

Board of Education President Jennifer Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance

5. Introduction of Board Members and Staff:

Board of Education Members present: Board President Jennifer Williams, Board Vice President Gary K. Lym, Board Clerk Ryan LaLonde, Board Trustee Heather Little, and Board Trustee Margie Sherratt.

Student Board Members present: Talia Kotovsky (Alameda High), Mirabelle Kruger (Encinal High) and Lianna Lau (ASTI).

AUSD staff members present: Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, Timothy Erwin; Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Shariq Khan; Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, Kirsten Zazo; Senior Manager of Community Affairs, Susan Davis and Senior Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Kerri Lonergan.

6. Closed Session Action Report:  
There was no action taken in Closed Session.

**B. MODIFICATION(S) OF THE AGENDA:**

There were no modifications of the agenda.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the September 26<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting were considered for approval.

*Motion to approve the minutes from the September 26th Board of Education meeting.*

**MOTION:** Member Lym            **SECONDED:** Member Little

**STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES**

**AYES:** Members Lau, Kruger, and Kotovsky

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**BOARD MEMBER VOTES**

**AYES:** Members Williams, Lym, LaLonde, Little, and Sherratt

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**MOTION APPROVED**

**D. COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Proclamation: African American History Month – February  
Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School student Leiloa Lyons read the African American History Month Proclamation.

*Motion to approve Proclamation: African American History Month – February*

**MOTION:** Member LaLonde            **SECONDED:** Student Member Kotovsky

**STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES**

**AYES:** Members Lau, Kruger, and Kotovsky

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**BOARD MEMBER VOTES**

**AYES:** Members Williams, Lym, LaLonde, Little, and Sherratt

**NOES:**  
**ABSENT:**

## **MOTION APPROVED**

2. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:

*Gerald Pechenuk, candidate for Alameda County District 5 Supervisor:* Mr. Pechenuk stated he is concerned about incidents of fentanyl use he has heard about in AUSD schools (note: *AUSD has not had any published reports of fentanyl use in its schools*).

*Baxy and David Reid, AUSD student and parent:* Baxy (student) described how they were told by a substitute teacher at their elementary school there is no such thing as non-binary people. The student and their parents were understandably very upset by this. They were happy to see the substitute teacher removed from their position immediately.

*John Lewis, candidate for Alameda County Board of Education, Area 2:* Mr. Lewis stated students in AUSD are probably doing better than students in OUSD, but all students are having trouble reading at grade level. Mr. Lewis stated he looked forward to working together if he gets elected.

*Ryan Brazil, AUSD teacher:* Ms. Brazil stated it is her 7<sup>th</sup> year teaching and 5<sup>th</sup> year teaching in Alameda. Ms. Brazil listed all the ways she works to supplement her income due to the low salaries in Alameda. Ms. Brazil stated that she is living paycheck to paycheck. Ms. Brazil stated it is hard to serve her students when she cannot even serve her family.

3. Written Correspondence:

The Board received approximately 6 emails regarding General Business item #1: *Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) Enrollment Update*.

4. Report from Employee Organizations:

*Nancy Read, co-president, AEA:* Ms. Read spoke in favor of higher salaries for her teaching unit members. Ms. Read asked the Board to authorize raises for employees.

*Amy Keegan, president, CSEA 27:* Ms. Keegan announced scholarship applications are open for students of unit members; paraprofessionals will attend a conference in March; and CSEA-27 goes into negotiations with AUSD soon.

5. Report from PTA Council:

*Gabriela Badilla, president, PTA:* Ms. Badilla stated parents are knocking on doors to support Measure E; AUSD staff will talk to PTAC this week about Proposition 28.

6. Board Members' Report:

*Board Vice President Gary K. Lym:* Board Vice President Lym announced that he, Board President Williams, and Superintendent Scuderi met with

Peralta leadership to plan free summer school at the College of Alameda for AUSD students.

*Board Clerk Ryan LaLonde:* Board Clerk LaLonde commented on the student who was discriminated against in their classroom. Board Clerk LaLonde gave his personal story of how teachers in high school bullied him, and he wanted the student to know they were heard, and they are supported. Board Clerk LaLonde also thanked Decca Coach Derrick Lyons for the amazing work he does with the Encinal Decca students.

*Board Member Heather Little:* Board Member Little reiterated her support for the student and family who spoke about being discriminated against in their classroom. Board Member Little also thanked the teachers who came to the meeting in person, and she thanked Encinal student Leiloe Lyons who read the African American History Month Proclamation at the beginning of the meeting.

*Board Member Margie Sherratt:* Board Member Sherratt stated she is just getting caught up to being on the Board again, but it is very hard to hear about everything that needs to be done.

7. Superintendent's Report:

*Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi:* Superintendent Scuderi expressed appreciation and support for the family who spoke about the issue they had today with a substitute. Superintendent Scuderi stated it will never be tolerated when an adult in this district harms a student, and he pledged to look into the matter further.

8. Student Board Members' Report:

*Lianna Lau (ASTI):* Student Board Member Lau thanked all the teachers who showed up for the meeting. Student Board Member Lau also announced the application period for ASTI is closing, with the lottery for enrollment happening next week. Student Board Member Lau announced the Season of Nonviolence Speech Contest is happening in February.

*Talia Kotovsky (Alameda High School):* Student Board Member Kotovsky said hi to the teachers she knows in attendance. Student Board Member Kotovsky also announced the Social Justice and Diversity Committee is holding an art exhibit at the Phoenix. Student Board Member Kotovsky stated the AHS Blood Drive and Senior Auction are coming up, and on February 9<sup>th</sup> AHS will have its annual Suicide Awareness/Social Justice assembly.

*Mirabelle Kruger (Encinal High School):* Student Board Member Kruger announced the first round of tours for incoming freshman are coming up as are student body elections. Student Board Member Kruger stated there is an assembly coming next week for senior students to learn about all the upcoming senior activities. Student Board Member Kruger stated the Encinal musical has been selected and it is Mean Girls. Student Board Member Kruger stated Cash for College night is being held at the District Office, and spring sports are starting, students need to complete the medical paperwork to try out.

**E. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Certificated Personnel Actions
2. Classified Personnel Actions
3. Approval and Acceptance of Donations
4. Approval of AUSD 2026-2027 School Year Calendar
5. Approval of Bill Warrants and Payroll Registers
6. Approval of Facilities Bond Measure I and Measure B Contracts (Standing Item)
7. Approval of New Course Description: AVID Tutor
8. Approval of Out-of-State Field Trip Request: EJSHS to New York, N.Y.
9. Approval of Special Education Local Plan Area Master Contracts
10. Proclamation: A Season for Nonviolence, January 30 – April 4, 2024
11. Proclamation: Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution - January 30, 2024
12. Proclamation: Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness Month - February
13. Ratification of Contracts Executed Pursuant to Board Policy 3300
14. Resolution No. 2023-2024.39 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases
15. Resolution No. 2023-2024.40 Annual Signature Card for AUSD Board of Education Trustees

*Motion to adopt the Consent Calendar.*

**MOTION:** Member Little

**SECONDED:** Member Sherratt

**STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES**

**AYES:** Members Lau, Kruger, and Kotovsky

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**BOARD MEMBER VOTES**

**AYES:** Members Williams, Lym, LaLonde, Little, and Sherratt

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**MOTION APPROVED**

**F. GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) Enrollment Update  
Each year, the law requires school districts to review the annual audit of the school district's financial records for the prior fiscal year at a public meeting.

The audit examines the District's compliance with state and federal standards and procedures for the District to implement sound fiscal management practices for the most effective and efficient use of public funds.

Aurthur Ngo from audit firm Moss Adams, LLP gave the Board the District Audit and Financial Statements for 2022-2023.

A Board member remarked on the excellent report received and he complimented Shariq Khan and his team on the tremendous amount of work this involved.

Public Comments:

*Beth Meloy, parent of AUSD students:* Ms. Meloy stated she had issues with and removed her children from the Right at School afterschool program. Ms. Meloy stated she understands Board members visited several of the Right at School sites, and she cautioned Board members that the visits they have been on have been planned and this may not represent what actually happens during the day.

*Caroline Brossard, parent of AUSD students:* Ms. Brossard stated she does not have students in the Right at School program, but she has heard negative feedback from people she knows who do have children in the program.

2. Parcel Tax Program Annual Reports for 2022-2023

Each year, the law requires school districts to review the annual audit of the school district's financial records for the prior fiscal year at a public meeting.

The Measure I and Measure B Bond audit examines the District's compliance with state and federal standards and procedures for the Measures, facilities bonds, which the citizens of Alameda approved in November 2014 and November 2022. Measure I authorized the District to issue General Obligation Bonds (GO Bonds) up to \$179.5 million, and Measure B authorized the District to issue GO Bonds up to \$298 million.

Aurthur Ngo from audit firm Moss Adams, LLP gave the Board the Measure I and B Bond Performance Audit and Financial Statements for 2022-2023.

Public Comments:

*Joyce Boyd, parent of AUSD student:* Ms. Boyd thanked staff and members of the Parcel Tax committee for all their hard work.

3. Report on Budget Priorities, Challenges, and Constraints for 2024 and Beyond: Governor's Budget Proposal for 2024-2025 Fiscal Year

Pasquale Scuderi, Superintendent, gave the Board information on AUSD's budget priorities. Back in September, AUSD published its first Budget Summary for community members. The summary provided basic information about the cycle and elements of a school district's budget, as well as specifics about the 2023-24 budget.

As we start the New Year, we want to provide an update to that budget, which we published just a few months after the Board adopted it. Our intention in providing this update is threefold:

- To raise community awareness of changing conditions in the budgetary landscape
- To be transparent about some of the decisions our staff, in partnership with school communities, may need to make over the coming months
- To help the community the process by which we will make those decisions

**G. ADJOURNMENT** – Board President Jennifer Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:46pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Kerri Lonergan  
Senior Executive Assistant  
Alameda Unified School District

