

SULPHUR SPRINGS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting of the Governing Board

December 11, 2024

MINUTES

Meeting Location:

Sulphur Springs Union School District
27000 Weyerhaeuser Way
Santa Clarita, CA 91350

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Catherine Kawaguchi, Superintendent
Dr. Joshua Randall, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services
Dr. Jay Greenlinger, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel/Pupil Services
Mrs. Julie McBride, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Ms. Nancy Raygoza, District Executive Secretary

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Mr. Ken Chase, President
Mrs. Paola Jellings, Clerk
Mr. Denis DeFigueiredo, Member
Mrs. Lori MacDonald, Member
Mrs. Shelley Weinstein, Member

Call to Order, Roll Call

Mr. Chase called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:06 PM and noted the roll.

Pledge of Allegiance

Dean Elliott, District Instructional Technology Manager, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda,

*Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Mr. Chase requested the following change to the agenda order.

Action Item A. Retirement Resolution R-24-68 and R-24-69 will precede Conference Calendar Item A, The 2024 California School Dashboard Report for Sulphur Springs Union School District. The following order will take place:

1. Action Calendar Item A.
2. Conference Calendar Item A.
3. Action Calendar Item B.

Following Action Calendar Item B. 2024-2025 First Interim Financial Report the regular agenda order will resume.

The motion was made by Mrs. Weinstein seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve the Agenda with the requested change to the agenda order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the November 13, 2024, REGULAR MEETING

*Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

The motion was made by Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mrs. MacDonald, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve the Minutes of the November 13, 2024, Regular Board Meeting.

Hearing Session, Advance Request(s) to Address the Board

Mr. Chase asked if any advanced requests to address the Board had been received. There were no requests to address the Board.

Hearing Session,
*Comments and/or
Questions Regarding
Agenda Items*

Mr. Chase asked if there were any comments or questions regarding agenda items. There were no comments or questions regarding agenda items.

**Consent
Calendar,**
*Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

The motion was made by Mrs. MacDonald, seconded by Mrs. Weinstein, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve the Consent Calendar, as follows:

- Conference Action Report #24-20
- Field Trip Action Report #24-20
- Gift Action Report #24-20
- Personnel Action Report #24-20
- Approval of California Multiple Award Schedule (CMAS) Proposal for Uniform Cleaning
- Resolution R-40-70 Approval of Extension of Agreement Term to June 30, 2025 for Piggyback Bid: Downey Unified School District for Hardware, Software, Related Services and Other Branded Products- Contract#165400
- Consultant Agreement - Parker Anderson Enrichment - After School Education and Safety Program
- Consultant Agreement - Balls and Whistles/dba Amazing Athletes - Expanded Learning Opportunities Program
- Consultant Agreement - Dairy Council of California - Leona Cox Community School
- Soles4Souls 2024-25 Partner Agreement
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Oral Health Program Memorandum of Understanding
- Disposal of Surplus/Obsolete Materials

Action Calendar,
*Retirement
Resolution R-24-68
and R-24-69
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

The Board of Trustees recognized the retirement of the following staff members. Each retiree received a Resolution Plaque and a bouquet of flowers from the District, as well as certificates from representatives of the City of Santa Clarita and the State of California. The Board of Trustees expressed gratitude to these District staff members for their valuable contributions to the District.

- R-24-68 Mary Mercogliano
- R-24-69 Michelle Marbach

The motion was made by Mr. DeFigueiredo, seconded by Mrs. Weinstein, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Retirement Resolutions R-24-68 and R-24-69.

**Conference
Calendar,**
*The 2024 California
School Dashboard
Report for Sulphur
Springs Union
School District*

District staff presented the Board of Trustees with the 2024 California School Dashboard results for the Sulphur Springs Union School District. The California School Dashboard is an online resource for parents, guardians, staff, and community members, providing important information about students from transitional kindergarten to grade six. It includes reports on various measures of school success, emphasizing student growth, equity, and a detailed review of performance data based on specific state and local criteria.

Action Calendar,
*2024-2025 First
Interim Financial
Report
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Randall, Deputy Superintendent of Business Services, and Mrs. Fiock, Executive Director of Fiscal Services, presented the 2024-2025 First Interim Financial Report to the Board of Trustees.

The motion was made by Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mrs. MacDonald, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve the 2024-2025 First Interim Financial Report.

Action Calendar,
*J-13A Attendance
Waiver - Request for
Allowance of
Attendance Due to
Emergency
Conditions
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Randall shared with the Board of Trustees that Southern California Edison issued a notice regarding power outages at Leona Cox and Canyon Springs Schools due to high winds and fire alerts in the Santa Clarita area. The power outage occurred from November 6 to November 8, 2024, resulting in the closure of both schools as essential operations were disrupted, making them unsafe for students.

Dr. Randall informed the Board of Trustees that the District plans to file Form J-13A, as outlined in Education Code 41422 and EC Section 46392, to request an allowance for attendance due to emergency conditions. The District is seeking Board approval to reduce the number of school days for the 2024-25 fiscal year from 180 to 177 for both schools.

The motion was made by Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mrs. MacDonald, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve the J-13A Attendance Waiver - Request for Allowance of Attendance Due to Emergency Conditions.

Action Calendar,
*Resolution R-24-66
Authorization for
Emergency Closure
of the State
Preschool Program
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Randall informed the Board of Trustees that the District recommends approval of Resolution R-24-66 to receive credit for instructional time lost due to the power outages.

Southern California Edison notified the District that power would be shut off at Leona Cox Community Elementary and Canyon Springs Community Elementary on the morning of November 6, 2024, due to high winds and a fire alert in the Santa Clarita area. The power was out from November 6 to November 8, 2024, impacting essential operations, including lighting and heating, which rendered the schools unsafe for students.

Consequently, the State Preschool Programs at these schools were also shut down. According to California Education Code Section 46392, State Preschool Programs are eligible for credit for instructional days lost due to a natural emergency.

The motion was made by Mrs. Weinstein, seconded by Mr. DeFigueiredo, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Resolution R-24-66 Authorization for Emergency Closure of the State Preschool Program.

Action Calendar,
*Resolution R-24-67
Authorization for
Emergency Closure
of the Expanded
Learning
Opportunity
Program
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Randall informed the Board of Trustees that the power shutoff by Southern California Edison affecting Leona Cox Community Elementary and Canyon Springs Community Elementary due to high winds and a fire alert also effected the Expanded Learning Opportunity Program.

The power was out from November 6 to November 8, 2024, impacting essential operations, including lighting and heating, which rendered the schools unsafe for students. The District is seeking approval for Resolution R-24-67 to receive credit for the instructional days lost during this natural emergency as per California Education Code provisions.

The motion was made by Mr. DeFigueiredo seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Resolution R-24-67 Authorization for Emergency Closure of the Expanded Learning Opportunity Program.

Action Calendar,
*Resolution R-24-65
State Preschool
Continued Funding
Application 2025-
2026
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Mrs. Julie McBride, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, presented Resolution R-24-65 for the State Preschool Continued Funding Application for the 2025-2026 academic year to the Board of Trustees. She informed the Board that the Sulphur Springs Union School District intends to operate a State Preschool Program at Canyon Springs, Leona Cox, and Mint Canyon Community Schools. The application for continued funding is submitted annually.

The motion was made by Mrs. Weinstein, seconded by Mr. DeFigueiredo, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Resolution R-24-65 State Preschool Continued Funding Application 2025-2026.

Action Calendar,
*Provisional
Internship Permit for
Nicole Bernier
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Jay Greenlinger, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel and Pupil Services, informed the Board of Trustees that the District is requesting a Provisional Internship Permit for Nicole Bernier, who will be assigned to Pinetree Community School as a Mild/Moderate SDC 1-3 teacher.

The motion was made by Mr. DeFigueiredo, seconded by Mrs. MacDonald, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve the Provisional Internship Permit for Nicole Bernier.

Action Calendar,
*Board Policy 0410
Nondiscrimination in
District Programs
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Greenlinger informed the Board of Trustees that District staff is recommending the approval of the updated Board Policy 0410, Nondiscrimination in District Programs. The update reflects changes in federal law and incorporates suggested language from the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

The motion was made by Mrs. Weinstein, seconded by Mr. DeFigueiredo, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Board Policy 0410 Nondiscrimination in District Programs.

Action Calendar,
*Board Policy and
Administrative
Regulation 4030
Nondiscrimination in
Employment
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Greenlinger informed the Board of Trustees that District staff is recommending the approval of updated Board Policy and the corresponding Administrative Regulation 4030 Nondiscrimination in Employment. The update reflects changes in federal law and includes recommended language from the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

The motion was made by Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mrs. Weinstein, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 4030 Nondiscrimination in Employment.

Action Calendar,
*Board Policy 4033
Lactation
Accommodation
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Greenlinger informed the Board of Trustees that District staff is recommending the approval of the updated Board Policy 4033 on Lactation Accommodation. The update reflects changes in federal law and incorporates suggested language from the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

The motion was made by Mr. DeFigueiredo, seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Board Policy 4033 Lactation Accommodation.

Action Calendar,
*Board Policy 5146:
Married/Pregnant/
Parenting Students
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Greenlinger informed the Board of Trustees that District staff is recommending the approval of the updated Board Policy 5146 pertaining to Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students. The update reflects changes in federal law and incorporates suggested language from the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

The motion was made by Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mr. DeFigueiredo, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Board Policy 5146: Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students.

Action Calendar,
*Board Policy and
Administrative
Regulation 5145.3
Nondiscrimination/
Harassment
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Greenlinger informed the Board of Trustees that District staff is recommending the approval of updated Board Policy and the corresponding Administrative Regulation 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment. The update reflects changes in federal law and includes recommended language from the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

The motion was made by Mrs. Weinstein, seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment.

Action Calendar,
*Board Policy and
Administrative
Regulation 5145.7
Sex Discrimination
and Sex-Based
Harassment
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Greenlinger informed the Board of Trustees that District staff is recommending the approval of updated Board Policy and the corresponding Administrative Regulation 5145.7 Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment. The update reflects changes in federal law and includes recommended language from the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

The motion was made by Mr. DeFigueiredo, seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5145.7 Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment.

Action Calendar,
*Administrative
Regulation 5145.71
Sex Discrimination
and Sex-Based
Harassment
Complaint
Procedures
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Greenlinger informed the Board of Trustees that District staff is recommending the approval of updated Board Policy and the corresponding Administrative Regulation 5145.71 Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Complaint Procedures. The update reflects changes in federal law and includes recommended language from the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

The motion was made by Mrs. MacDonald, seconded by Mrs. Weinstein, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5145.71 Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Complaint Procedures.

Action Calendar,
*Board Policy and
Administrative
Regulation 6173
Education for
Homeless Children
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Greenlinger informed the Board of Trustees that District staff is recommending the approval of updated Board Policy and the corresponding Administrative Regulation 6173 Education for Homeless Children. The update reflects changes in federal law and includes recommended language from the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

The motion was made by Mrs. MacDonald, seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Board Policy and Administrative 6173 Education for Homeless Children.

Action Calendar,
*Business Services
Report #24-20
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

The motion was made by Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mrs. Weinstein, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Business Services Report #24-20.

**Correspondence
and Board
Information**

Mrs. Weinstein reported that the CLASS Education Foundation recently held a productive strategic planning meeting, and the new foundation board members are enthusiastic about their roles. She expressed her gratitude to the District for allowing her to attend the CSBA Annual Education Conference. During the conference, she participated in ethics training alongside Trustees Mrs. Jellings and Mr. DeFigueiredo, and Superintendent, Dr. Kawaguchi. Mrs. Weinstein emphasized the importance of understanding the laws and appreciated the valuable information gained from the training.

Mrs. MacDonald announced that she would be attending the Annual Organizational Board Meeting on December 18th and expressed her excitement about hosting the Special Board Meeting on December 16th. She shared that she looks forward to having everyone over. Mrs. MacDonald shared that the CSBA Annual Education Conference was excellent,

and she felt validated that the District is doing commendable work. Mrs. MacDonald is looking forward to the holiday break and hopes everyone finds time to enjoy the holiday season.

Mr. DeFigueiredo enjoyed attending the CSBA Annual Education Conference along with the other five Board Members. He shared that as a tech enthusiast himself, he was particularly drawn to the workshops on AI. There were at least twenty workshops available. He noted that the most interesting aspect of the sessions was the prevailing attitudes. Rather than discussing solutions or resolutions, many participants expressed fear regarding their experiences with AI. There was some discussion about support from outside executives to help districts utilize these tools, but Mr. DeFigueiredo found that there was a lack of substance in content in those conversations.

Mr. DeFigueiredo shared that he reflected on how we are currently in the midst of another generational shift. In the past, educational trends included learning math facts because calculators were not always accessible, the advent of the internet, and the introduction of mobile phones. Now, we find ourselves with mini-computers at our waist and facing the rise of AI. There are concerns that students may never need to write a paper again, but he emphasized that children will still need to learn how to learn.

Mr. DeFigueiredo also shared that one of the best outcomes of the conference was the validation that our current practices are on the right track. He appreciates the wonderful staff and the dedication they demonstrate daily, positively impacting students' lives.

Mrs. Jellings expressed her desire for more people to attend the CSBA Annual Education Conference. She shared that she believes it is important for community members to understand the different perspectives of board members and non-board members. She values transparency, and she feels that this conference provides an invaluable inside look at the School Board's activities. Mrs. Jellings shared that she appreciates the opportunity to attend, as it allows her to learn about other districts as well. Overall, she feels positive about our District and considers the conference to be a beneficial experience.

Mr. Chase expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to attend the CSBA Annual Education Conference and he enjoyed the various sessions. He highlighted that there were different types of sessions, including breakout sessions, general sessions, and speaker presentations. He noted that there are usually student performers at the conference, and he was particularly impressed with the San Bernardino City Unified School District's arts program, which showcased a fantastic performance. It was truly wonderful to see the students shine, featuring bands and a dance performance to "September," by Earth, Wind & Fire.

Mr. Chase shared that the keynote speaker discussed happiness, the measurement of the stock market, and presented a survey comparing the top 100 companies. He emphasized the connection between employee satisfaction and company success, suggesting that happier employees tend to lead to higher profitability. An extreme example illustrated that it's often the case that people who earn more money are not necessarily happier because of their income; rather, they may earn more because they are happier.

Mr. Chase shared that one of the entertaining speakers, Jack O'Connell, the former state superintendent, showcased a great sense of humor, drawing on his experience as a former English teacher to create engaging banter with the audience.

Additionally, there were discussions regarding the budget and a well-attended show floor with various vendor booths. Mr. Chase noted competitors to i-Ready, along with vendors showcasing solar energy solutions. Engaging with these vendors offered interesting information that might later come to the board. It provided an opportunity to network with current vendors and financial advisors, as well as gain free information.

Mr. Chase also discussed the Teachers' Retirement System (STRS), mentioning how many people he surveyed were unaware of the specifics regarding retirement contributions. He spoke with a knowledgeable individual who informed him that the ideal retirement age for teachers falls between 63 to 65 years. The correct contribution rate to STRS is 10.75 percent from their salaries. Mr. Chase was impressed with the depth of knowledge this person had on the

subject. In contrast, he found that another classified staff member was not as well-informed. Overall, he enjoyed the conversations and the opportunity to connect with colleagues.

Mrs. Weinstein expressed her appreciation for Dr. Kawaguchi, who not only planned and led her own workshop, but also organized the trip for the Board. The Board thanks her for her efforts in showcasing the District so positively.

Mr. DeFigueiredo and Mrs. Weinstein expressed their gratitude to Nancy Raygoza, District Executive Secretary, and District staff for their hard work in organizing the CSBA Annual Education Conference preparations for the board. They shared that they greatly appreciated the efforts put into arranging the conference and ensuring that the board secured accommodations at the host hotel. Neighboring districts had to walk a considerable distance to reach the conference each morning.

**ITEMS FOR THE
December 18,
2024, MEETING
AT Sulphur
Springs Union
School District
Administrative
Offices**

The Annual Organizational and Regular Board meetings will be held on December 18, 2024, at the District's Administrative Office.

Closed Session
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye

The motion was made by Mrs. Weinstein, seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to adjourn to Closed Session at 8:20 PM for discussion regarding:

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 54956.9 (i.e., potential litigation).

- Potential Litigation:
LIABILITY CLAIMS: Government Code section 54954.5(d). Name of claimant unspecified pursuant to Government Code section 54964 (b). Agency claimed against: Sulphur Springs Union School District.

**Reconvene to
Open Session**
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye

The motion was made by Mrs. Weinstein, seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to adjourn to Reconvene to Open Session at 8:41 PM.

**Report Of Closed
Session**

On a motion by Mrs. MacDonald, seconded by Mrs. Weinstein, the Governing Board took action by a vote of 5-0 to deny Claim Number #647182.

The roll-call vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mrs. MacDonald, Mrs. Weinstein, Mrs. Jellings, Mr. DeFigueiredo, Mr. Chase

**Reconvene to
Closed Session**
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye

The motion was made by Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mrs. MacDonald, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to adjourn to Closed Session at 8:56 PM for discussion regarding:

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 54957 (i.e., Personnel).

- Personnel:
Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release: Government Code Section 54957

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 54957.6 (i.e., labor negotiations)

- Labor Negotiations

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 54957.8 (i.e., property negotiations).

- Property Negotiations

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 54956.9 (i.e., potential litigation).

- Potential Litigation

Adjournment
Chase-Aye
Jellings-Aye
DeFigueiredo-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Weinstein-Aye

The motion was made by Mr. DeFigueiredo seconded by Mrs. MacDonald, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to adjourn the Board Meeting at 11:10 PM.

January 15, 2025


Mr. Denis DeFigueiredo, President


Mrs. Shelley Weinstein, Clerk