

Board of Education Minutes  
Regular Meeting: November 14, 2023  
Open/Closed Session: 4:30 p.m.  
Open Session: 6:00 p.m.

I. OPEN SESSION –President Ayala-Quintero opened the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

a. ROLL CALL – Melissa Ayala-Quintero, Patty Holohan, Jim O’Neill, Michele Rendler, Alex Vara

b. Announcements – None.

Staff Attending:

Juan Cabral, Superintendent

Ken Wagner, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

Sabine Robertson-Phillips, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a. COMMUNITY INPUT

1. None.

III. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

a. The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 4:32 p.m.

IV. CLOSED SESSION

a. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR - CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

*No Action* was taken.

b. HEARINGS

*No Action* was taken.

c. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT

**During Closed Session, the Board took action to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to appoint Maria Fernanda Naves Arias to the position of Director I, Accounting & Payroll, effective November 15, 2023, at Step 1 of the Management Team Salary Schedule.**

**On motion of Patty Holohan, second by Michele Rendler and unanimously carried (Ayes: Ayala-Quintero, Holohan, O'Neill, Rendler, Vara), the Board took action to:**

**Appoint Maria Fernanda Naves Arias to the position of Director I, Accounting & Payroll, effective November 15, 2023, at Step 1 of the Management Team Salary Schedule.**

- d. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE JUAN

*No Action* was taken.

- e. STUDENT MATTERS

*No Action* was taken.

- f. OTHER

*No Action* was taken.

V. ADJOURNMENT TO OPEN SESSION

- a. The Board adjourned to open session at 5:32 p.m.

VI. REGULAR MEETING – OPEN SESSION

- a. CALL TO ORDER – President Ayala-Quintero opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

- b. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Board Member Jim O'Neill

- c. MOMENT OF SILENCE

A Moment of Silence was held for the following individual:

Kathleen Womack, an RUSD Teacher who passed away on October 5, 2023.

- d. ROLL CALL – Melissa Ayala-Quintero, Patty Holohan, Jim O'Neill, Michele Rendler, Alex Vara

Staff Attending:

Juan Cabral, Superintendent

Ken Wagner, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

Sabine Robertson-Phillips, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

- e. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Patty Holohan, second by Alex Vara, and unanimously carried, the Board took action to:

1. Approve the minutes of the September 26, 2023, Board of Education Regular Meeting

## VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

### a. COMMUNITY INPUT

1. Paul Blatchley
  - Shared that he is a concerned high school parent that lives in Trustee Area 5.
  - Noted that the District should aim to shoot higher on CAASPP test scores than surrounding Districts.
  - Stated that the standards narrowly met are lumped into the performance area to pump the numbers up.

### b. PRESENTATION

1. 2023 CAASPP Summary – Jamie Cortz, Director, Innovation, Technology, and Accountability

Jamie Cortz, Director of Instructional IT and Accountability provided a PowerPoint presentation on Redlands Unified School District's CAASPP Scores.

Mr. Cortz shared that CAASPP is a combination of multiple assessments including SBAC, ELPAC and CAST. SBAC contains Common Core Standards for ELA and Mathematics and has two parts to the assessment including Computer Adaptive Questions and Performance Task. Participants include students grades 3-8 and 11. The overall performance for RUSD compared to the State, San Bernardino County, and Riverside County in ELA is 50.57% and Math at 39.91% which shows that RUSD has met or exceed standards which exceeds that of the State and San Bernardino and Riverside County.

ELPAC is aligned with the 2012 English Language Development Standards and the Domains are Oral, Listening, Speaking, Writing, and Reading. Participants include all students whose primary language is a language other than English. The Summative ELPAC percentage for RUSD is 56.48%.

CAST is aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards for California Public Schools. Participants include all students in grades 5, 8, and once in high school. RUSD's overall Summative percentage is 31.39%.

Mr. Cortz shared that RUSD has seen growth District-wide in Mathematics, ESP Mathematics-Schools at or above pre-covid rates: Kingsbury (ELA), Victoria (Math), Clement (Math), RHS (ELA) and the Areas of Focus include New Phonics Program, improved Mathematics Resources K-5, Full Inclusion Expansion, Full Inclusion & Accessibility Training, By-Name-By-Need Monthly Data Analysis.

2. REP Grants Awarded - Jennifer Moore, President, Redlands Educational Partnership

Jennifer Moore shared a PowerPoint presentation on REP Programs, fundraising activities and how REP supports school programs. Mrs. Moore distributed \$2,500 for qualifying grant programs for Bryn Mawr, Clement, RHS, Mentone, OHS, Kingsbury, Mission, Mariposa, and CVHS. Mrs. Moore further distributed \$86,000 of REP Funding for the Rescue the Instruments Program, Grants for Teachers and Grants for Principals (formerly TAGS).

Mrs. Moore thanked everyone for their support and encouraged everyone to visit the website.

VIII. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

1. None.

IX. ASSOCIATION REPORTS

- a. Redlands Teachers Association – Mrs. Abt shared that it is parent conference week for elementary schools and is a great chance to honor each child for their gifts and work with families on how to help them achieve their full potential. She further noted that secondary first semester grades are right after. Mrs. Abt extended compliments to the ELO Program Specialist and staff for the amazing afterschool programs and gave a shout out to the RHS Band Director for qualifying to compete in the state championships. Mrs. Abt recognized the school psychologists and paraprofessionals for their hard work. Mrs. Abt invited the Board of Education to participate on the bus or on the float for the Redlands Christmas parade.
- b. Redlands Education Support Professionals Association – Mrs. Huerta-Brewster shared appreciation for the hard work, commitment and passion the classified employees are doing. Mrs. Huerta-Brewster noted that November 15<sup>th</sup> is National Educational Support Professionals Day and would like to formally acknowledge and appreciate the contributions they have made to the educational system.
- c. Redlands Administrative Personnel Association – Dr. Acosta shared that this week is a big week on elementary campuses with parent conferences. Dr. Acosta thanked the teachers for all the hard work and dedication put into each report card/conference. Dr. Acosta noted that secondary sites are finishing up first semester and fall sports are over. Dr. Acosta encouraged everyone to show gratitude to each other and hoped that everyone will have time to relax, rest and recharge over Thanksgiving break.

X. BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Redlands COMPACT – No report.
- b. Redlands Educational Partnership Foundation [REP] – Mrs. Rendler shared that the AAA Academy will have a Fall minicamp on November 20 - 22, and anyone interested in attending should go to REP4schools.com to register, as space is limited! Mrs. Rendler further reminded everyone that the Turkey Trot is on Thanksgiving morning, November

23, 2023, and it is open to everyone. She further noted that this is the 10-year partnering with Phoenix Hope International and the goal this year is to collect 10,000 pounds of canned food to donate to Inland Harvest. Mrs. Rendler noted that anyone who would like to do some charitable giving before the end of the year can sign up for REP all money donated goes right back to our schools and the students, noting that all checks have been distributed to Teacher and Principal Grant recipients, totaling \$85,000.00 and the Rescue the Instruments Program gave out another \$1,000.

- c. City of Redlands Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission – Mrs. Rendler noted that all field allocations for AYSO, RBY and other teams are set for Spring. Commissioner Lessard proposed that a volunteer coordinator position be hired in the city. The Advisory Commission agreed. The recommendation will be taken to the City during the next budget talks.

#### XI. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- a. Superintendent Cabral noted the following:
  - 1. Thanked the REP Foundation for their partnership.
  - 2. Thanked Mr. Cortz for the CAASPP presentation and noted that we have to compare ourselves to surrounding Districts in order to compare similar Districts. He further thanked the teachers for the phenomenal data.
  - 3. Thanked the Optimist Club, the City of Redlands and the City of Highland for participating in Civics Day.
  - 4. Extended an invitation to everyone to attend the November 28<sup>th</sup> Superintendent Awards as the District is celebrating the Fall Athletes and perfect scores in CAASPP.

#### XII. SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS

#### XIII. BUSINESS SERVICES CONSENT ITEMS

On motion of Patty Holohan, second by Michele Rendler, and unanimously carried, the Board took action to:

- a. Approve all Consent Items as detailed in Items XIII.b. – XIII.p.
- b. Approve the Annual renewal of services with Super Co-Op Joint Powers Authority (JPA) to provide USDA Food, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.00, to be funded by Child Nutrition Services Funds (Appendix Item).
- c. Approve Agreement with ZSN System & Solutions LLC., to provide Paraprofessional support for classroom and student needs, effective November 15, 2023 through December 15, 2023, to be funded by Special Education Funds, SDC 1:1 Paras, to be billed at the included rate sheet (Appendix Item).
- d. Approve Amendment No. 2 with PCH Architects, for Architectural and Engineering Services for HVAC upgrades and improvements at the District Office at a cost of

\$10,787.50, to be funded by Covid Funds. Authorize Jason Hill, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, to sign on behalf of the Board (Appendix Item).

- e. Approve Amendment No. 2 with Scoot Education, to extend the effective date to continue from December 16, 2023 through June 6, 2024, funded by Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds (Appendix Item).
- f. Approve Change Order No. 4 with WakeCo, Inc., HVAC Upgrades at the District Office, Bid 6-23, in the amount of \$62,257.20, to be funded by Covid and/or Redevelopment Agency Funds (Appendix Item).
- g. Award Bid 6-24 for a Walk-In Cooler Addition at Franklin Elementary to the lowest responsible/responsive bidder, Dalke & Sons Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$194,890.00, to be funded by Kitchen Infrastructure and Training Funds. Authorize Jason Hill, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, and Amy Drummond, Purchasing Director I, to sign related documents on behalf of the Board.
- h. Ratify/Approve Agreement with Kagan Cooperative Learning, to provide coaching services between Lugonia Elementary and Victoria Elementary, at a cost not to exceed \$15,055.00, effective November 1, 2023 through June 6, 2024, to be funded by School Site Plan Funds (Appendix Item).
- i. Ratify/Approve the use of Ken Grody Ford Redlands in the absence of a formal bid, to purchase new vehicles for Child Nutrition Services, not to exceed \$140,013.68, to be funded by Child Nutrition Services Funds. Authorize Juan Cabral, Superintendent, Jason Hill, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, and Amy Drummond, Purchasing Director I, to sign related documents on behalf of the Board.
- j. Ratify/Approve Amendment No. 1 with Every Special Child, LLC., Staffing Agency, to extend paraprofessional support for classroom and student needs, effective end date extended from December 15, 2023 to June 6, 2024, to be funded by Special Education Funds, SDC 1:1 Paras (Appendix Item).
- k. Ratify/Approve Amendment No. 1, to Subgrantee/Project Agreement with the San Bernardino Community College District for the California Adult Education Program (CAEP), for payment to Redlands Unified School District, not to exceed \$1,128,512.00, for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 (Appendix Item).
- l. Ratify/Approve Award Bid 22-23 for Charter Transportation Services to Avalon Transportation Services Inc., for increased rates, to be funded by Transportation Funds. Authorize Jason Hill, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, and Amy Drummond, Purchasing Director I, to sign related documents on behalf of the Board.
- m. Accept as complete and approve filing a Notice of Completion with the County Hall of Records for Bid/RFP 13-22 with Airwave Communications for Radio System Upgrade & Equipment Purchase. Authorize Jason Hill, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, to sign on behalf of the Board (Appendix Item).
- n. Approve Kirtan Shah, Director III, Fiscal Services, as an authorized agent for documents, contracts, revolving cash fund, computer consortium system and certification of Board action on behalf of the Governing Board, effective November 14, 2023, and terminate Brian Guggisberg, Director III, Fiscal Services as an authorized agent for documents, contracts, revolving cash fund, computer consortium system and certification of Board action on behalf of the Governing Board, ending November 30, 2023 (Appendix Item).

- o. Accept Donations. Instruct the secretary to write letters of appreciation on behalf of the Board (Appendix Item).
- p. Approve Payment Transmittal Numbers 24000556 through 24000690 for November 14, 2023, in the amount of \$10,726,358.01. Authorize Jason Hill, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, to sign on behalf of the Board (Appendix Item).

#### XIV. BUSINESS SERVICES ACTION ITEMS

On motion of Alex Vara, second by Michele Rendler, and unanimously carried, the Board took action to:

- a. Designate Tuesday, December 12, 2023, 6:00 p.m., as Redlands Unified School District's Board of Education Organizational Meeting per Education Code Sections 5017, 35143 and 72000(c)(2)(A) (Appendix Item).

On motion of Patty Holohan, second by Jim O'Neill, and unanimously carried, the Board took action to:

- b. Adopt Resolution No. 14, 2023-2024, Emergency Resolution to Award Contracts Without Bids, Pursuant to Public Contract Code 20113 (Appendix Item).

#### XV. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CONSENT ITEMS

On motion of Michele Rendler, second by Alex Vara, and unanimously carried, the Board took action to:

- a. Approve Consent Item as detailed in Items XV.b. – XV.e.
- b. Approve 66 5th grade students from Highland Grove Elementary School to travel by charter bus and ferry, to Catalina Island, to attend Catalina Island Marine Institute (CIMI) for a hands-on learning experience of marine life and ecosystems, effective April 10, 2024 through April 12, 2024.
- c. Approve revision of the English Learner Master Plan (Appendix Item).
- d. Approve 2023-2024 Comprehensive School Safety Plans (CSSP) for the following school sites: Arroyo Verde Elementary; Mentone Elementary; Mission Elementary; Beattie Middle School; Moore Middle School; Citrus Valley High School; Redlands Senior High School; and eAcademy (Appendix Item).
- e. Approve the following Redlands Unified School District parents to serve a two- year term for the East Valley Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Community Advisory Committee (CAC): Kate Castruita and Arrissia Owen. Term begins November 15, 2023 through November 15, 2025 (Appendix Item).

#### XVI. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES ACTION ITEMS

On motion of Patty Holohan, second by Alex Vara, and unanimously carried, the Board took action to:

- a. Approve the Stipulated Expulsion regarding student 2023-2024-008, expulsion through the remainder of the first semester for the 2023-2024 school year with the second semester for the 2023-2024 school year suspended.
- b. Approve the Stipulated Expulsion regarding student 2023-2024-009, expulsion through the remainder of the first semester for the 2023-2024 school year with the second semester for the 2023-2024 school year suspended.

## XVII. HUMAN RESOURCES CONSENT ITEMS

On motion of Alex Vara, second by Jim O'Neill, and unanimously carried, the Board took action to:

- a. Approve all Consent Items as detailed in Items XVII.b. – XVII.ai.
- b. Certificated - Ratify/Approve new certificated bargaining unit personnel (Appendix Item).
- c. Certificated - Ratify/Approve employment of hourly/daily certificated personnel (Appendix Item).
- d. Certificated - Ratify/Approve revised salary placements/assignments for certificated bargaining unit personnel (Appendix Item).
- e. Certificated - Ratify/Approve extra assignments for certificated personnel (Appendix Item).
- f. Certificated - Ratify/Approve certificated requests for leaves of absence (Appendix Item).
- g. Certificated - Ratify/Accept resignations/separations for certificated bargaining unit personnel (Appendix Item).
- h. Certificated - Ratify/Accept resignations/separations from hourly certificated personnel (Appendix Item).
- i. Certificated - Ratify/Accept resignations/separations from certificated hourly/daily personnel (Appendix Item).
- j. Classified - Ratify/Approve new classified contract personnel (Appendix Item).
- k. Classified - Ratify/Approve new classified contract Instructional Paraprofessional - Special Education personnel (Appendix Item).
- l. Classified - Ratify/Approve employment of classified substitute/short-term personnel (Appendix Item).
- m. Classified - Ratify/Approve anniversary step and longevity increments of classified contract personnel, effective October 1, 2023 (Appendix Item).
- n. Classified - Ratify/Approve anniversary step and longevity increments of classified contract personnel, effective November 1, 2023 (Appendix Item).



- o. Classified - Ratify/Approve anniversary step and longevity increments of classified contract Instructional Paraprofessional - Special Education personnel, effective November 1, 2023 (Appendix Item).
- p. Classified - Ratify/Approve revised salary placement/assignments for classified contract personnel (Appendix Item).
- q. Classified - Ratify/Approve revised salary placements/assignments for classified contract Instructional Paraprofessional - Special Education personnel (Appendix Item).
- r. Classified - Ratify/Approve extra assignments for classified contract personnel (Appendix Item).
- s. Classified - Ratify/Approve extra assignments for classified contract Instructional Paraprofessional - Special Education personnel (Appendix Item).
- t. Classified - Ratify/Approve classified requests for leaves of absence (Appendix Item).
- u. Classified - Ratify/Accept resignations/separations from classified contract personnel (Appendix Item).
- v. Classified - Ratify/Accept resignations/separations from classified contract Instructional Paraprofessional - Special Education personnel (Appendix Item).
- w. Classified - Ratify/Accept resignations of classified substitute/short-term personnel (Appendix Item).
- x. Management - Accept resignations/separations for management team personnel (Appendix Item).
- y. Other - Ratify/Approve employment of temporary athletic team coaches/extended day/Beattie Middle School (Appendix Item).
- z. Other - Ratify/Approve employment of temporary athletic team coaches/extended day/Cope Middle School (Appendix Item).
- aa. Other - Ratify/Approve employment of temporary athletic team coaches/extended day/Citrus Valley High School (Appendix Item).
- ab. Other - Ratify/Approve employment of temporary athletic team coaches/extended day/Redlands East Valley High School (Appendix Item).
- ac. Other - Ratify/Approve employment of temporary athletic team coaches/extended day/Redlands High School (Appendix Item).
- ad. Other - Ratify/Approve employment of volunteer athletic team coaches (Appendix Item).
- ae. Other - Approve volunteers and fingerprint clearance for the 2023-2024 school year (Appendix Item).
- af. Other - Ratify/Approve Paid Internship Credential Program Memorandum of Understanding between the Redlands Unified School District and National University, effective August 3, 2023. Authorize Sabine Robertson-Phillips, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, to sign on behalf of the Board (Appendix Item).

- ag. Other - Approve Professional School Psychology Fieldwork Agreement between the Redlands Unified School District and California State University, Northridge, effective November 15, 2023. Authorize Lisa Bruich, Director III, Human Resources, to sign on behalf of the Board (Appendix Item).
- ah. Other - Approve Pupil Services Credential Program in School Psychology between the Redlands Unified School District and Alliant International University, California School of Education, effective November 15, 2023. Authorize Lisa Bruich, Director III, Human Resources, to sign on behalf of the Board (Appendix Item).
- ai. Other - Ratify/Approve Student Teaching Agreement between the Redlands Unified School District and California State University, Fresno, CHHS/School of Nursing, effective October 23, 2023. Authorize Lisa Bruich, Director III, Human Resources, to sign on behalf of the Board (Appendix Item).

#### XVIII. HUMAN RESOURCES ACTION ITEMS

None.

**President Ayala-Quintero reported the following from Closed Session:**

**In regard to the Public Employee Appointment part of the Agenda, she reported the following:**

**During Closed Session, the Board took action to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint Maria Fernanda Naves Arias to the position of Director I, Accounting & Payroll, effective November 15, 2023, at Step 1 of the Management Team Salary Schedule with the following vote: Ayala-Quintero, Holohan, O'Neill, Rendler, Vara voting Aye.**

#### XIX. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

#### XX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

##### a. COMMUNITY INPUT

##### 1. Belinda Sunny

- Shared that she has two children in the District and is disgusted by the books allowed in the schools, adding that the current policy in place is not functional and allows for filth to continue to spread.
- Expressed that it is the District's responsibility to be transparent and inquired how the District is being transparent.
- Shared excerpts from "Beyond Magenta" and stated that these books should not be in the schools.

## 2. Candy Olson

- Discussed a comment Mrs. Ayala-Quintero made at the last meeting regarding avoiding someone if you don't like their flag and noted that the children cannot do that in a classroom.
- Noted that the Board bows to the state regardless of the heavy tax on young souls.
- Noted that Pride flags should not be displayed in the classroom and that young minds should be protected from pornography.
- Shared that she is running to unseat Jim O'Neill in 2024.

## 3. Val Zavis

- Shared frustration that the new book review policy is not on the Board Agenda as the eight-step process is outdated and useless.
- Noted that several books' complaints filed in March are still in process and inquired why the book was not pulled during the process.
- Shared that "Push" is now available at Crafton Elementary and refused to read excerpts as it is not appropriate.
- Stated that parents are merely requesting a new policy to review workbooks as content matters.

## 4. Lawrence Hebron

- Shared that he lives in Trustee Area 3 and would like to address the pornography problem in school libraries.
- Noted that he will not read the vile content as it is pornographic and disgusting.
- Inquired who authorized these types of books to be in the library and for what purpose.
- Urged the Board to take the lead in removing pornographic material from schools.

## 5. Rachel Eugley

- Shared that she is upset over the graphic language and excerpts from the inappropriate books.
- Read an excerpt from "Lucky".
- Noted that she knows that a parent can request that a child not have the ability to check out a book.

## 6. Jonathan Marcus

- Thanked the Board for waking up parents and inviting them to be more involved in decisions regarding their children with regard to publicly run schools and dangerous curriculum as the topics have no place in young children's lives.
- Read an excerpt from "Tricks" and wondered if the Board felt it was appropriate.

## 7. Dale Broome

- Noted that he has submitted nine formal complaints about sexually graphic books and the committees have found the books to be acceptable. Further noting that they have a list of books that needs to be reviewed but they have not submitted complaints for them yet.
- Shared that three of the books have been removed and there is another one in the elementary school that needs to be removed.
- Inquired if there was a legal loophole that is being built to not allow the books to be removed but AB1078 does not preclude a school district from removing sexually graphic books from the library.
- Brought attention to one book titled “Gender Queer” recommended by the NEA which is not in our libraries.
- Urged the school board to take these books out of the school libraries and involve parents in the decision-making process.

## 8. Jeanette Wilson

- Stated that any of the complaints filed have been filed due to age inappropriateness and not asking that books be banned.
- Requested that a complaint policy be put on the agenda to hear ideas that may improve the process.
- Shared that one of the problems in the complaint process start with the principal having to read the book which is a waste of the community members time since the principal has not read it.
- Hopes that the District will investigate the process for putting the books in the library.
- Inquired why the books are not temporarily pulled while the investigation is going on.

## 9. Joshua Hall

- Noted graphic passages from the book, “The Bluest Eye” by Toni Morrison.
- Questioned why the book is in elementary and middle schools to begin with.

## 10. Paul Blatchley

- Noted that Dodge Stadium is poorly lit on the visiting side and would appreciate the District looking into that.
- Shared that he appreciated the survey on ThoughtExchange for VAPA but noted that the surveys mention a visual and performing arts coordinator and he guesses that not many parents are asking for it. Further recommended that the District does not spend money on a high paying job that is going to do nothing but requested the money be sent to the program.
- Stated that he made a Williams complaint about maintaining the restrooms and has seen no follow up on it from students and was wondering what the status is.

- Noted with regard to testing, 37% is not good and the Math book is a terrible book that is not usable, and the District could be doing better.

11. Lawrence Hebron

- Shared that he would like to correct the mistaken information shared at the October 24<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting where his name was mentioned during Community Input as it was hostile and inaccurate information regarding his book.

12. Dorothy Lohman

- Referenced the 45 Communist Goals by Carl Marx, stating that item 17 references getting control of schools and use them to soften the curriculum and confuse children with gender ideology.
- Concerned that not only does the District allow inappropriate books, but the District promotes them during Banned Book Week.
- Shared that students are being raised away from the negative influence of parents and inquired if the Board was going to aid and abet or stand in the way and fight for the children.

13. Daniel Tinajero

- Asked the Board to replace the book policy since the current one does not protect kids at all.
- Urged the Board to not turn a blind eye and please help him to understand why there are books in the library with heavy sexual behavior.
- Stated that it is difficult to find the titles of the books in the libraries.

14. Michael Paisner

- Shared that he was outraged by continued lies and misinformation and thanked the Board for resisting the calls for book bans and flag policies.
- Thanked the Superintendent for pointing out the policy that people have the ability to restrict what books their kids check out.
- Shared that he protects his kids by preparing them and letting them face challenges as reading hard books help to produce empathy.
- Noted that if others don't want their kids to read certain books, which is fine, but does not want his kids' choices to be restricted.

15. Susan McCarley

- Appreciates that the Board allows them to come voice their opinions.
- Shared that the sexually graphic books are not healthy for children to read and is asking the Board to reconsider the book policy and remove the books that are extremely sexually graphic.

16. Valerie Taber

- Shared that she lives in Trustee Area 5 and has a child attending Kingsbury.
- Thanked Board Member Vara for pointing out the technological foundation that the

kids need as there is a huge gap that they have to bridge before getting to the content.

- Noted that it is interesting that a lot of parents don't have time to review the books and that it is not realistic for principals to read every book in library. Further sharing that it is known that these policies are in place for a reason which is to be sure that books are not unfairly pulled.
- Urged the Board to focus on not only academics but on ways to keep students safe.

The following comments were emailed prior to the November 14, 2023 meeting, and was distributed to the Board of Education and is summarized as follows:

1. Crystalina Prado

- Noted that she would like to address what President Ayala-Quintero said about the subject of the flags, sharing that she is concerned having these flags represented school-wide and the impact that it would create.
- Stated that we are at an ever-changing time, and it is imperative that any topic pertaining to the LGBTQ, or any controversial topic must follow up with parents to discuss in their own way however, that culture is fostered.
- Shared that RUSD has always created a bridge between parental and teacher support, and she urges the Board to continue to do so.

## XXI. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

1. Superintendent Cabral thanked the last speaker for talking about student safety and thanked the safety officers working at the Board Meeting noting that they are appreciated.
2. Stated that the District appreciates it when people come to speak as they are passionate about their topic.
3. He further shared that the District does have policies in place for addressing book concerns even if the outcome is not what is anticipated.
4. Shared that kids do not read enough, and the kids are reading more because the books are controversial.
5. Thanked the Board for allowing him the opportunity to be Superintendent at Redlands Unified noting that it is a wonderful community, and he loves it here. He further added that his family also took the position with him and thanked them publicly.

## XXII. BOARD COMMENTS/REPORTS

a. Michele Rendler:

1. Noted that she attended Fall Festivals at E-Academy, Mission and Mentone and that they were all a lot of fun and each unique.

2. Shared that she saw character parades at Franklin and J&B, and that the students are all so creative! Her two favorites were The Secret Garden and Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs.
3. Noted that she was a judge at Smiley's Western Day Chili Cook-off.
4. Shared that Civics Day a few weeks ago was great and that she is always so impressed by the students and their abilities.
5. Mentioned that she had the privilege of seeing a Native American presentation at Mentone by Assemblyman James Ramos, his son James Jr. and Trevor. They sang songs and taught students a song and dance.
6. Noted that she watched the girls' softball game between Cope and Clement. Good job to all the players.
7. Shared that she attended the CSBA Fall Meeting where a new member was voted onto the committee.
8. Wished everyone a happy National Support Professionals Day tomorrow.
9. Congratulated Fernanda on her new position.
10. Congratulations to all the principals and teachers who received grants.
11. Thanked Jamie Cortz and the whole IT department as the data they compiled is so important to the success of the District.
12. Thanked everyone who spoke during public comment and noted that she truly appreciates their passion and dedication to the educational journey of all RUSD students.

b. Jim O'Neill:

1. Thanked Board Member Rendler for attending all of the events that she goes to and noted that she should do a podcast with Jamie's group.
2. Thanked Jamie Cortz for the data.
3. Shared that CV and RHS made CIF playoffs which reminds him of the amazing visual and performing art people working at schools, further noting that he loves attending those performances and encourages everyone to attend.
4. Noted that the REP Foundation provides amazing support and every administrator in the District looks forward to their donations.
5. Thanked Superintendent Cabral for the Superintendent Awards as it is great way to recognize students.
6. Requested an update from Jason on the RHS crosswalk signage enhancement as it is nice to see some of the enhancements District wide. Noting that if anyone sees dangerous crosswalks to please let him or Mr. Hill know.

7. Wished everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

c. Patty Holohan:

1. Attended the Optimist Meeting with Superintendent Cabral and he did a great job speaking. She further noted that she also enjoyed Civics Day and requested that a thank you letter be sent to the Optimist Club.
2. Congratulated the REP Grant winners.
3. Congrats to RHS and CVHS for making the CIF playoffs.
4. Noted that National Professional Support Day is tomorrow and thanked everyone for the hard work.
5. Thanked Jamie for the presentation and we will keep shooting for the star and have had lots of great improvements.
6. Thanked RTA for allowing her to ride on the float for the parade.
7. Wished everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving and is so grateful for the hardworking staff at RUSD.

d. Melissa Ayala-Quintero:

1. Congratulated RHS and CV football teams and RHS band.
2. Shared that Civics Day was wonderful, and she appreciates all the hard work involved in putting it together. She further thanked CNS for the tour.
3. Loved the Book Character parade at Judson and Brown and she had so much fun.
4. Wished everyone a happy turkey day and encouraged everyone to exercise kindness.
5. Noted that we all love and care for each other and the students.

### XXIII. CLOSED SESSION

a. None.

### XXIV. ADJOURNMENT

a. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Adopted:



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Clerk, Board of Education

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Date