



BOARD BRIEF

Action Taken in Closed Session

Board President Susanna Ordway reported that the Board voted unanimously to direct staff to complete discussion and negotiations with all employee groups for one time compensation of \$2500.00 per full time employee in the 20-21 school year and directed staff to bring all written agreements to the Board for action at its regular meeting on May 18th with the funds coming from the District General Fund Unrestricted Reserves.

Over the past sixteen very challenging months, employees across all areas of our operation have dedicated countless hours to serve our students and families while navigating and adapting to the changing landscape. Through it all, our employees never lost sight of what was most important; they remained focused on our students. The Board acknowledges this work and is pleased to be able to provide this stipend.

The Board made two administrative appointments which become effective July 1, 2021:

Linda Rowley-Thom - Executive Director, SELPA (Special Education Local Plan Area)

Amy Capurro - Director of Special Education

Reports to the Board

Below are highlights from oral reports to the Board of Education intended to provide information and updates on work across the District.

Bright Lights Awards

Presented to the Board of Education by Christine Koehne, SRVUSD Special Needs Liaison

Recognizing service to students with special needs. Honorees are nominated by a colleague or student. This year's celebrated recipients are:

- Lori Balleza - Speech Language Pathologist, Live Oak Elementary School
- Vali Chockalingam - Classified Staff- Montair Elementary School
- Rhonda Taft - Special Day Class Teacher, California High School
- Mindy Castro Benevides - Resource Specialist, Dougherty Valley High School
- Meredith Bullock - Administrator, Principal, Golden View Elementary School
- Challan Abreu - Business and Community Partner, Manager, Pet Food Express, who reliably provides our students work experience
- Dr. Meg Richardson - Parent Volunteer, Transitions Program
- Sarah Wetherell - General Education Teacher, Neil Armstrong Elementary



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Classified School Employees Week

Presented to the Board of Education by Keith Rogenski, SRVUSD Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

May 16-22 we celebrate the many hard working employees in our classified unit. Established decades ago by then-Governor Ronald Reagan, this week provides an opportunity to recognize classified school employees in our public schools. Assistant Superintendent Rogenski thanked all classified employees across SRVUSD's 36 schools and at the District office acknowledging that their dedicated service is precisely what makes the SRVUSD a wonderful place to work and learn.

California Day of the Teacher

Presented to the Board of Education by Keith Rogenski, SRVUSD Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

On May 12th we will celebrate and recognize Day of the Teacher. Established in 1982, this annual event celebrates the professional excellence of our teachers from elementary through higher education. Educating students is the heart of our work and the best teachers understand and respond to the strengths and needs of their students. We are grateful for our education professionals for their day-in and day-out contributions to the students they teach.

Action Items

Below are highlights from presentations that require the Board of Education to take action or give direction.

Classified Positions, Resolution #67/20-21

Presented to the Board of Education by Keith Rogenski, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

In accordance with Education Code, the Board was asked to adopt a resolution approving the elimination or reduction of some classified positions for the 2021-22 school year that are either funded by external sources (e.g. donated by the education foundation, PTA, etc.) or that have been open and unfilled for an extended period of time. Such positions are being eliminated or reduced due to lack of work or lack of funds. The Board of Education is required by law to provide written notice to affected employees 60 days in advance of their position being eliminated or reduced.

The Board of Education approved Resolution No. 67/20-21 with a 5-0 vote.

Independent Financial Audit for the 2019-20 Fiscal Year

Presented to the Board of Education by Greg Medici, Chief Business Official.



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The Board of Education received a report from EideBailly LLP, an accountancy corporation licensed by the State Board of Accountancy, who conducted the annual audit of all funds of the District for the 2019-20 fiscal year. The report has been filed with the County Superintendent of Schools, the State Department of Education and the Office of the State Controller. Copies of the report are on the District's website under Business Services.

The Board of Education accepted the Annual Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2019-20 with a 5-0 vote.

Recommendation for One-Time Educational Programs

Presented to the Board of Education by Greg Medici, Chief Business Official.

[Link to Presentation](#)

To address the impact of COVID-19 in elementary and secondary schools/districts, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) provided special funding to districts through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER). The Board of Education received a report on the funding received and spent to-date, and gave direction on priority spending for the remainder of the anticipated funds.

To date, SRVUSD has received \$14.2 million and invested \$16.2 million. The \$2 million difference will be covered by the upcoming round of COVID relief funding. SRVUSD is anticipating receiving an additional \$31.4 million.

Important to Note:

COVID relief funds are one-time monies; program and personnel investments are ongoing. **Sustaining investments may require securing ongoing funding sources.**

The District's general fund revenue is based on enrollment, which is declining in the SRVUSD. (Enrollment is declining in districts throughout the state.)

Pre-COVID, SRVUSD anticipated an annual enrollment decline of 275; due to COVID, enrollment was down 1,400 from last year, a difference of 1,125 students.

In 2021-22, the State will continue to fund districts based on the previous year's enrollment number as part of the state's COVID Relief plan. However, beginning in the 2022-23 school year, districts are expecting to receive funding based on the actual enrollment number. This represents a substantial decrease in the enrollment based dollars SRVUSD receives from the State. Until the District knows how many students return next fall, we must prepare for steep decreases in enrollment-based funding beginning in the 2022-23 school year.



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COVID Relief Received and Spent To Date

SRVUSD received \$14.2 million in Federal and State COVID relief. Investments thus far include (complete list is on the [website](#) as part of this agenda item):

Looking Forward, the Board discussed investing the anticipated additional funds with a focus on students and the District's strategic plan, which focuses on strategic areas of focus: Equity, Deep Learning and Innovation, and Social Emotional Well-Being. Priority investments discussed by the Board of Education (Please refer to [presentation](#) for details.)

- Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)
 - Staff intervention systems so students can achieve grade-level standards
- Elementary School Counselors
- Classified Personnel/Paraprofessionals
- Class Size and Staffing Ratios
- Summer School
- Summer Enrichment
- Curriculum and Technology
- Health and Safety

Dr. Malloy underscored this agenda item by emphasizing that it has been a challenging year for staff and students. He stressed that we all want to provide our students the high quality programs that they deserve, that support their learning and well-being, and we must invest these funds to help staff do their important work for our students.

We heard tonight from students, teachers and families about the programs that they need in order to address their social and emotional well-being and success in school for example, equitable access to the arts was discussed. We are in full agreement on what is needed to support staff and students, but we have to be honest --we know we need additional revenue to do what is needed and will need to engage all of our stakeholders as we pursue these important decisions.

We need to be honest about our resources and the steps that we will need to take to address long-term and ongoing revenue, so that we can create and maintain the exceptional programs that our students deserve. One-time funding is a great assist, but without continuous funding, we are challenged going forward.

We know enrollment has an impact on our funding and will watch closely what happens with enrollment.



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Staff addressed Board Members' questions about how these investments are aligned to the District's strategic plan, Equity, Deep Learning and Innovation and Social and Emotional Well-Being.

Dr. Malloy thanked the team for pulling together to thoughtfully address how best to invest these COVID funds and said we must include all stakeholders to join us in studying ongoing funding needs.

Board members echoed the importance of reaching out to and including the community as these strong supporters seek to understand their clear role in advancing the District's service to students and opportunities to enrich student learning. The Board and Superintendent also discussed the importance of advocating for increased general/enrollment funding.

Dr. Malloy shared that we must put aside anything that has caused division and focus on shared goals to support the achievement of all our students.

The Board of Education approved the One-Time Educational Programs recommendations with a vote of 5-0.

Projected Declining Enrollment Assumption

Presented to the Board of Education by Greg Medici, Chief Business Official.

The District's projected annual enrollment/demographic report anticipates declining enrollment continuing through next year (2021-22) and beyond. Enrollment declines are projected to be 275 per year. This is important data because the District is funded on a per pupil basis; when enrollment goes down, so too does revenue. In addition to the predicted decline, 1,125 students fewer enrolled in the District this year, predicted due to COVID. Because districts statewide saw enrollment declines during the pandemic, the State is holding funding steady, but this "hold harmless" funding expires in 2022-23, at which time districts are expected to be funded on the actual enrollment. The District is watching enrollment closely in general, and specifically watching to see if there is an enrollment rebound in the Fall 2021-22.

The Board of Education approved staff's recommendation of the 275 year-over-year enrollment decline with a 5-0 vote.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent clarified that \$2.75 million anticipated COVID relief funds will be invested in counseling services/ counselors. This point was inadvertently missing from the slide presentation. Item 10.3



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Cal High Incident

Superintendent Malloy addressed an incident that had occurred on the Cal High campus last month, and lessons learned and commitments moving forward. Key points below.

- Recent media attention regarding the racist and homophobic stickers that were found on the Cal High campus last month is generating questions from some community members and other media outlets.
- The stickers, which carried themes of racism and homophobia, were deeply offensive and unacceptable.
- They were found by staff and removed immediately, before the school day
- An investigation was conducted. Surveillance footage shows that two individuals were involved; however, due to the darkness of the late hour and the dark clothing worn by the individuals, they have not been identified
- We apologize that the situation was not promptly communicated to our school community. That was a mistake and we are very sorry. That has not been a standard across all schools, but we have changed that
- We do not tolerate these types of incidents.

Going forward, 3 things will happen:

1. We will communicate to the school community
2. We will be clear about how to provide support for those who are most impacted
3. We will outline education and engagement strategies for that community and beyond

We know that these are the things that build trust.

At the District level:

- As a District we are committed to the work of equity, inclusion and diversity. Per Board direction, Equity is one of the three main components of our long term strategic plan.
- We are working with all sites to develop a common definition of hate and calibrate our responses such that any incident is investigated fully and appropriate consequences are assigned.
- To ensure consistency, the District has created a *Responding to Discrimination and Hate Handbook* that will be used by all site and district staff when responding to incidents on campuses.
- All staff will be trained on the use of the handbook prior to the 2021-22 school year.
- The Handbook will be available to the public.
- We are conducting professional development focused on a culture of inclusion, and planning anti-racist and anti-biased lessons showcasing diverse backgrounds and experiences.
- We are working with local PTAs to encourage our community to engage in courageous conversations through parent education series
- Providing access to counseling support to help process these incidents for those most impacted.
- We continue to discuss with and train our administrative teams on how to identify and respond to racist, sexist, and homophobic incidents on campuses with clear, timely communication and consequences.

On Tuesday, May 3rd, Cal High Principal, Mrs. Megan Keefer invited students to a **forum to be held on Friday, May 7 from 2:30-4:30 p.m.** with her and the Cal High Admin team.



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Purpose is to provide all students with an opportunity to share the impact these events have had on them personally and provide feedback on how the administration can better meet student needs. Students who are not comfortable participating in the forum will be provided other ways to engage.

Graduation Ceremonies:

- We are excited to be able to offer in-person graduation ceremonies this year.
- We do not make these rules. We are strictly adhering to all county guidance in designing everything that we do.
- There are strict requirements that must be followed for holding outdoor events.
 - There are capacity limits
 - All attendees, including school staff, performers, students and families are counted toward any occupancy capacity limit.
 - Attendee groups are limited to a household unit.
 - People from the same household do not need to be six feet apart, but each household must be 6 feet apart from another household.
 - Audience seating must be fixed or marked, with readily identifiable signs to indicate by section, row, and seat. Marked seats should clearly define space for individuals with appropriate space per person (no blanket reservations or group areas).

Each high school will have two graduation ceremonies, adhering to public health requirements, and graduates will be given 4 tickets per family. We hear those asking for single ceremonies, more tickets and other specifics. I want everyone to know that we understand that some people would like more than we can offer, but we cannot ignore the public health requirements.

The principals and staff hear the requests and have studied, measured, collaborated and turned over every stone to find a way to offer a single event, but it is not possible given the health requirements that we are obligated to implement.

Cabinet made the decision that offering 2 ceremonies and 4 tickets, continuing to abide by the guiding principle that public health requirements will drive our work, was the best way to move forward as effectively as possible. Many discussions have happened and different scenarios were considered before finalizing this decision. Ultimately, these decisions needed to be made because people need time to plan. Principals are looking at additional ways to honor seniors together at their sites.

- Middle School Promotion
- Graduate and 4 tickets per family
- Number of ceremonies varies by site - dependent upon enrollment numbers and size of venue
- Elementary



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- For 5th grade
- Virtual video from each school
- Campuses are doing other activities - varies by site (yearbook signing, games, drive throughs, etc)
- Student focused
- Parents can reach out to principals directly

Last Day of School

The last day has always been a minimum day. For us, this year, that means a remote day.

- There was some discussion about whether the last day would be remote or in-person.
- To clarify, **the last day of school is Thursday, June 3rd and it is a remote day on a minimum day schedule.**
- This is the same schedule that has been posted since the beginning of the school year and families have planned accordingly.
- To alter the schedule now would cause great disruption.
- Many school sites have things planned for the last day.
- Sites will be communicating with their families
- Please watch for communication from your principal for specific information about what is happening on your campus.

Dr. Malloy's Closing Comments

I am deeply grateful that we could honor our “lunch heroes”, classified employees, certificated staff, assistant principals and principals. While we cannot celebrate the way we usually do, and would prefer to, it is important to take time to say thank you to those who serve our students so tirelessly and with great dedication. Like you, I look forward to shaking hands and celebrating in person in the future. But until then, while the sentiments are extended virtually, they are sincere and true: Thank you to everyone who supports our students every day.