
BOARD NOTES

Board of Education Regular Meeting – Thurs., December 16, 2021

Board Notes is provided as a public information service from the Office of the Superintendent and is intended to provide an immediate summary of the Board of Education's action and discussion on significant projects and services from the most recent board meeting. Not all items that were listed on the board agenda are included in this report. Please contact the Superintendent's Office (310.450.8338 x70229) with questions about this summary.

Upcoming board meetings in January 2022:

- Thurs., Jan. 13, 2022, 5:30 p.m. (regular meeting at the DO for board members and executive staff and via Zoom for all other staff and members of the public)

The board took action on the following:

- As it does every December as part of its organizational meeting, the Board of Education elected a new President and Vice President. Congratulations to s. Leon-Vazquez, who was elected to serve as Board President, and Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein, who was elected to serve as Board Vice President, until December 2022!
- The board approved the schedule of Board of Education meetings for 2022-23.
- The board approved the School Plans for Student Achievement (SPSAs) for 2021-22.

The board discussed the following:

- The board discussed proposed changes in language to policies and regulations related to a move towards universal TK in SMMUSD. These changes will return for action at the next regular board meeting.
- Legal counsel answered board members questions regarding Senate Bill 442, which modifies the procedures for processing a petition to move a school district from at-large school board member voting to voting by district. A petition was filed by an outside group, and the LA County Committee on School District Organization denied it, but it could be filed again. During the discussion item, a majority of the board gave legal counsel direction to draft a resolution for the board to consider submitting that would allow the voters to determine if elections for SMMUSD school board members should remain at-large or move to district voting.
- Following the completion of the Superintendent's annual evaluation for 2020-21, the board approved to extend Dr. Drati's employment agreement, which was set to expire June 2022, through June 30, 2025.

Special note:

- The board thanked outgoing Board President Kean and Vice President Lieberman for their strong leadership during a very difficult pandemic year. They praised them for their wisdom, grace, for always keeping the safety of our students and staff at the forefront when making decisions, and for working with Dr. Drati to keep our district on the right path forward.
- Staff and students from the Project-Based Learning Pathway shared updates on the curriculum, students' daily schedules at the Obama Center and Samohi campus, upcoming units of study, and the weekly Learning through Internship/Interest class. Students shared their recent projects, including a hypothetical model for an equestrian center for SMDP horses and a script writing internship with Lionsgate.

Upcoming board items (schedule subject to change):

- Adopt Resolutions Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Fred Korematsu – *action on 1/13/22*