



Happy Valley Elementary School District
Board of Trustees

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2023

Happy Valley Elementary Conference Room – Closed Session – 5:00 p.m.

Happy Valley Elementary School Cafeteria – Open Session - 6:00 p.m.

17480 Palm Avenue, Anderson, CA 96007

OPEN SESSION – 5:00 PM Elementary Conference Room

1.0 Call to Order @ 5:00 p.m.

2.0 Roll Call – Nate Echols, Jodi Shearman, Carla Perry, Cheryl Best, Billy Soksoda – Present

3.0 Public Comment on Closed Session

The public is invited to address the Board regarding items that are listed under the closed session agenda. Speakers are limited to three minutes each. The Board is not allowed under law to act on matters that are not on the Agenda.

3.1 Public Comment Session Opened @ 5:01 p.m.

3.2 Person wishing to address the Board – Items in Closed Session –

Steve Westaby addressed the Board with concerns about the number of staff who have left/resigned from the District in the last two school years. He stated he has heard that many people were/are dissatisfied with the way things are going in the District. He urged the Board and Shelly Craig to investigate why there is such a large turnover in employees. He stated it is important for the District to retain good people.

Parents Candace Goldsberry and Jennifer Campbell spoke regarding the need for a separate Superintendent and Principal position. Reasons for their argument included conflict of interest when the Superintendent and Principal are covered by the same person and the combination of the jobs are too much for one person.

On a motion by Carla Perry, seconded by Nate Echols, the board voted 5-0 to adjourn Open Session and convene Closed Session at 5:12 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION - 5:05 PM Elementary Conference Room

4.0 Closed Session

4.1 Public Employee Performance Evaluation (§54957) Title: Superintendent/Principal

4.2 Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal Release (§54957)

4.3 Conference Regarding Labor Negotiations (GC §54957.6) Certificated & Classified

5.0 Adjourn Closed Session and Convene Open Session

On a motion by Jodi Shearman, seconded by Carla Perry, the board voted 5-0 to adjourn Closed Session and convene Open Session at 5:59 p.m.

OPEN SESSION – 6:00 PM Elementary Cafeteria

6.0 **Call to Order** at 6:02 p.m.

7.0 **Pledge of Allegiance** – Led by Nate Echols

8.0 **Report from Closed Session**

Nate Echols reported the board approved the Superintendent/Principal's goals for the 2023/24 school year.

9.0 **Approval of Agenda** –

Shelly Craig reported to the Board the Kya Group was not available to present this evening and asked the Board to approve the agenda with the removal of the Kya Group presentation.

On a motion by Carla Perry, seconded by Cheryl Best, the board voted 5-0 to approve the amended agenda.

10.0 **Presentation** – Staff recognition for Emergency Operations; Kya - Regarding the Shade Structure

Nate Echols read a letter of appreciation for the administration and staff members at the Elementary school for their response in getting the children gathered for evacuation in a quick and efficient manner when a fire broke out near the school site. Fortunately, by the quick reaction of the fire department and other agencies, the fire was extinguished and the staff and students did not have to evacuate.

11.0 **Communications to the Board** – Letter from Parent (Tentative) – No letter had been received by the time of the board meeting.

12.0 **Public Comment** – Public Session Items not on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of this body, may be addressed at this time or be submitted to the Superintendent in writing for Board consideration as an agenda item. Items not on the agenda are restricted in response and action by the Board and its members. A three-minute limit is set for each speaker on all items. The total time for public input on each item is limited to 20 minutes (Government Code 54952). In order to protect the rights of all involved, complaints about employees should be addressed through the District complaint process. Speaking about a personnel issue at a Board meeting may prevent the Board from being able to act on it. Please see an administrator to initiate the complaint process.

12.1 Public Comment Session Opened @ 6:07 p.m.

12.2 Items on the Agenda – None

12.3 Items not on the Agenda – None

12.4 Public Comment Session Closed @ 6:08 p.m.

13.0 Consent Agenda - Consent Agenda items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. They will be acted upon by the Board at one time without discussion. **Board Members may request that an item be removed from the Consent Agenda for later discussion.**

13.1 Approval of Minutes for Regular Board Meeting August 2, 2023

13.2 Approval of Warrants July 29 – Aug. 25, 2023

On a motion by Cheryl Best, seconded by Carla Perry, the board voted 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda.

14.0 Personnel:

14.1 Approve Personnel Action Report

On a motion by Jodi Shearman, seconded by Cheryl Best, the board voted 5-0 to approve the the Personnel Action Report.

15.0 PUBLIC HEARING:

Public Hearing Regarding Sufficiency of Instructional Materials

Comments from the Community – Any persons wishing to address the board on the Sufficiency of Instructional Materials, may do so at this time. The Board limits the time allotted to each speaker to three (3) minutes.

15.1 Public Comment Session Opened @ 6:09 p.m.

15.2 Persons Wishing to Address the Board - None

15.3 Public Comment Session Closed @ 6:09 p.m.

16.0 Discussion/Action Items

16.1 Discussion/Action: Approve Resolution #24-04 – Approve Resolution Regarding Sufficiency of Instructional Materials for Fiscal Year 2023-24

On a motion by Jodi Shearman, seconded by Cheryl Best, the board voted 5-0 to approve Resolution #24-04.

16.2 Discussion/Action: Approve 2023/2024 Teacher Consent

On a motion by Carla Perry, seconded by Cheryl Best, the board voted 5-0 to approve the 2023/2024 Teacher Consent.

16.3 Discussion: 23-24 45-Day Budget Revision

Roxanne Voorhees gave an overview of the changes to the State Budget.

16.4 Discussion: 22-23 Education Protection Act Expenditures

Roxanne Voorhees reminded the board this is a yearly requirement to account for how we spent the funds. She reported the funds went to teachers' salaries.

16.5 Discussion: Reorganization of Agenda

The board discussed and agreed to move Item 17.1 (a-f) to the beginning of the board meeting and place it after Item 10.0 – Presentation, therefore becoming Item 11.0 (a-f). By moving this item, it will allow the parents/community members to hear what is happening in the District without having to stay for the majority of the board meeting. There was also a suggestion that Item 11.0 (g) should be added for Student Reports.

17.0 Information/Discussion Items

17.1 Community/Staff/District (suggested 2 minutes maximum per presenter)

- a) Community – None
- b) Certificated Staff – None
- c) Classified Staff – None
- d) Board Members – Cheryl Frazer reported 4-H will hold their first meeting on 9/11 at the Community Center.

Billy Soksoda mentioned (in regards to the parent letter mentioned above) that a parent spoke to him about her student that attends the middle school. She said that due to struggles at a previous school they transferred her to Happy Valley. She wanted us to know that the teachers were doing a great job of helping her daughter and brining her into the fold.

- e) Primary Site Update – Gina Murphy reported the following: Cross Country has 39 students; TK is settling into the school routines and has begun using the curriculum this week! Our students have been practicing finding pictures, words, and letters in a text. We've been practicing our rote counting skills to see how high we can count. We've explored characteristics of objects; soft, hard, heavy, light, their color/shape; Students are learning their daily routines and both K classes are using "Bucket Fillers" as an incentive to follow their class Social Contract. On Friday's students use their math skills to redeem earned pom-poms throughout the week (their bucket "fillers") for prizes. Some use their self-control/patience skills and roll-over their earned pom-poms to the following week to "buy" a larger prize worth more pom-poms. Both classes have completed or are close to completing their Beginning of Year Assessments. Mrs. Russell and Mrs. Stotka are both excited to teach the new UFLI, math, history/SS, and SEL curriculum this year. Lots of fun things in store for our Kinders this year; 3rd grade is lucky enough to have 3 teachers in our grade, Mrs. Salcido and Mrs. Sanders and Mrs. Spencer has 2nd & 3rd graders this year. She is super happy to have 2nd graders that will also be her 3rd graders the following year. We've been working on assessing our kids to get ready for reading groups and what interventions might be needed. We've all worked on creating class rules or social contracts and lots of team-building activities. This Friday, September 8th, we'll be doing a tie dye project with lots of parent support for our Tie Dye Friday shirts! In the next few weeks we will start reading buddies! 3rd grade will be buddying up with 1st and TK this year and 2nd will be with kindergarten.

- f) Elementary Site Update – Tim Drury commented on the following: Ice Cream Social; Opening of School; Back to School Night Success; Sports Have Begun, VB, XC, Soccer; Student Council Elections; Learning all about who we are, where we are headed; Lots of people doing a great job planning for an amazing year.
- 17.2 Superintendent Update – Mrs. Craig commented on the following: Opening of school; Community School Coordinator; Back to School Nights; PSPS Closures; Emergency Operations and emergency communication systems; Engagement Team Leaders; Community Engagement Initiative Team has grown from 4 to 15; Management Team has met and is working on District Operations and Process Slides for each department; Restorative Practices and relationship building; Teachers are getting to know students
- 17.3 Business Manager Update – Roxanne Voorhees reported the following: Kim Smith, our new Business Services Clerk, has been working for a couple of weeks now and is catching on quickly. She will be attending a three-day payroll training at SCOE later this month; the energy project is continuing with the following completions and starts: lighting (completed), thermostats (starting), HVAC Installation (starting over Thanksgiving Break).
- 17.4 Enrollment Update as of September 1, 2023 – 501 Students including Community Day School and Independent Study

18.0 Next Meetings

October 4, 2023
November 1, 2023
December 13, 2023

Board Meeting Times:

5:00 p.m. – 5:05 p.m. – Open Session – Community Comments on Closed Session – Elem. Conf. Room
5:05 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Closed Session – Elementary School Conference Room
6:00 p.m. – Open Session – Regular Board Meeting – Elementary Cafeteria

19.0 Adjourn Open Session

On a motion by Carla Perry, seconded by Cheryl Best, the board voted 5-0 to adjourn open session @ 6:48 p.m.

Approved October 4, 2023

Clerk of the Board