

**CHATOM UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
ROOM #32 with Social Distancing and Virtual Zoom Platform
DECEMBER 15, 2020**

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Closed Session: 6:00

Open Session: 6:10

Any writings or documents that are public records and are provided to the Governing Board regarding an open session item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the District Office located at 7201 Clayton Road, Turlock, CA, during normal business hours.

The Chatom Union School Board of Trustees welcomes you to its meetings which are regularly scheduled on the second Tuesday of each month. Your interest is encouraged and appreciated. There are two procedures for public comment. They are;

Commenting on Items Not on the Agenda

California law prohibits the Board from taking action on any matter which is not on the posted agenda unless it is determined to be an emergency by the Board of Trustees.

The audience may comment on items that are not on the agenda during the Public Comments section, only. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes maximum

Commenting on Agenda Items

Procedures

1. Prior to the meeting, fill out a 3x5 agenda comment card. Wait for the Item to be announced.
2. Item Announced
3. Board Motion/Second
4. Public Comment (3 minute maximum)
5. Close of Public Comments
6. Board Discussion
7. Board Vote

Consent Calendar

Items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and are acted on by the Board of Trustees in one motion. There is no discussion of these items before the vote unless a Board member, staff or public requests specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar. It is understood that the administration recommends approval on all Consent Items. Each item approved by the Board shall be deemed to have been considered in full and adopted as recommended.

The District welcomes Spanish and other language speakers to Board meetings. Anyone planning to attend and needing an interpreter should call (209) 664-8505, 24 hours in advance of the meeting, so arrangements can be made for an interpreter. El Distrito da la bienvenida a las personas que hablan español a las juntas de la Mesa Directiva. Si planea asistir y necesita interpretación llame al (209) 664-8505, 24 horas antes de la junta, para poder hacer arreglos de interpretación.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Time: 6:13p.m.

- 1.1 Roll Call
Steve Soderstrom X, Karen Macedo X,
Anthony Avila X, Ryan Blount X, Rob Santos X

The Board requested that a closed session agenda item be added to the agenda. Conference with legal counsel will be added to closed session

APPROVED

Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Karen Macedo

Vote: Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

1.2 Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda Items

1.3 Adjourn to Closed Session

APPROVED

Motion: Karen Macedo Second: Rob Santos

Vote: Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

2. CLOSED SESSION

Disclosure of Items Discussed in Closed Session (Gov. Code 54947.7)

2.1 Public Employee Appointment

(Gov. Code 54957 and 54954.5 (e))

2.2 Public Employees Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Non-re-election/Leaves of Absence/Resignation/Job Share

(Gov. Code 54954.5 (e) and Gov. Code 54957)

2.3 Adjournment Back to Public Session

3. OPEN SESSION: CALL TO ORDER

Time: 6:55p.m.

3.1 Roll Call

Steve Soderstrom _X_, Karen Macedo _X_,
Anthony Avila _X_, Ryan Blount _X_, Rob Santos _X_

3.2 Flag Salute

The flag salute was led by Board President, Steve Soderstrom.

3.3 Report from Closed Session

No action was taken in closed session.

3.4 Approval of Agenda

APPROVED

Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Karen Macedo

Vote: Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

4. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

4.1 Election of Officers

4.1.1 Oath of Office for Newly Elected Board Members

The elected Board Members, Steve Soderstrom and Karen Macedo recited the Oath of Office presented by the Board Secretary, Cherise Olvera.

4.1.2 Board President

The President of the Board shall be nominated by

any Board Member present.

The Board renominated Steve Soderstrom for Board President.

APPROVED

Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Karen Macedo

Vote: Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

4.1.3 Board Clerk

The new President of the Board shall call for nominations for Clerk of the Board.

The Board renominated Karen Macedo for Board Clerk.

APPROVED

Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Ryan Blount

Vote: Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

4.1.4 Trustee Representative

The new President of the Board shall call for the nominations for Trustee Representative.

The Board nominated Rob Santos as Trustee Representative.

APPROVED

Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Karen Macedo

Vote: Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

4.1.5 Secretary to the Board

The Superintendent will serve as Secretary to the Board.

Chatom Superintendent will continue to serve as Secretary to the Board.

APPROVED

Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Karen Macedo

Vote: Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

4.1.6 Verification of Signatures

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

A group of community parents attended the Board Meeting to voice their concern and opinion on information item 6.1 regarding the reopening plan of the District. The parents made statements requesting that the Board withstand the current State Executive Order that does not allow expansion of in-person instruction without approval from the Local Health Officer. Currently, the District holds a waiver that was approved for the Hybrid model allowing cohorts to receive in-person instruction two days a week

which continues to be valid during the Stay-at-Home Order put in place by the Governor on December 3rd. The parents present, shared their individual concerns regarding their children. Parents shared that their children are suffering, academically, emotionally and socially.

Parents also referred to the struggles of not having any transportation for students and the hardship many are facing. Transportation is a need for many community members. A Board Member stated that buses are not being used at this time because it mixes students. The Board Member also shared how some parents are offering to give rides.

A comment was made that students who are currently enrolled to attend in-person are not coming to school. An example was given that in an 8th grade cohort class there were only 2 students present in one cohort and 6 students present in the other cohort. An example was also given by a teacher for a 6th grade cohort.

A parent shared that they were disappointed because they felt the District is not doing enough to open the school fully. The parents urged the District to do everything possible to re-open school five full days. Some parents stated that if the District is unable to open school in a timely manner, they would take their children out of the District and go where schools are currently open.

A parent questioned why the Board needed to vote again to open fully and why it couldn't be done at this meeting. The Board President explained that the original vote on November 10, 2020 was prior to the Governor's Order and that the item was listed on the agenda for discussion only and needed to be listed as an action item.

Some staff members and parents shared concern for reopening the school upon returning from Winter break. The parents and staff members concern was focused on the health and well-being of students and the risk to their families. It was shared that many parents have students suffering academically but they also have family members or friends who have tested positive for COVID and are under care.

A parent suggested to the Board that they stay aware that there is still anxiety and panic amongst the community who take the severity of COVID serious.

A parent shared that the current two day in-person instruction is keeping many parents comfortable and allows parents to feel safe knowing there is a decrease of mixing students and increase of sanitizing between activities.

A parent also spoke on her personal experience when she became ill with COVID and urged the community to do their part because their actions impact the student cohorts. The parent also shared her support for the return of students to school.

6. INFORMATION

6.1 Discussion on Reopening Plan

The Board recognizes the current California Stay-at-Home Order that is in place. The Board will gather again via Zoom at another Special Board Meeting on December 28, 2020 to review the status of the Stay-at-Home Order and to make a public vote to affirm the reopening of Chatom Elementary on January 4, 2021 and Mountain View Middle School on January 19, 2021.

7. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

A Special Board Meeting will be held on December 28, 2020. Closed session will begin at 6:00 p.m. and open session will begin at 7:00 p.m. The agenda and zoom link information will be made available on the District website.

8. ADJOURNMENT

APPROVED

Motion: Karen Macedo Second: Rob Santos

Vote: Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0