

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, February 15, 2023**  
**3:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

**Board President Tracey Cassidy called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.**

2. ROLL CALL

**All board members were present. There were approximately 50 people in attendance.**

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**Art Kaslow led the Pledge of Allegiance.**

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting – Wednesday January 18, 2023

**The regular meeting held on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, was approved on a motion by Art Kaslow, seconded by Sean Conroy and passed unanimously.**

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

**Board President, Tracey Cassidy, cited the Robert Rules of Order and reminded people of the 3 minutes time restriction for public comment.**

6. INFORMATION SECTION

**Pam Rennick provided information about upcoming events at Ballard School**

a. Calendar

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| • Tues. 2/14 – Fri. 2/17 | Camp Keep – 6 <sup>th</sup> graders               |
| • Wed. 2/15              | School Board Meeting @ 3:30pm                     |
| • Thurs. 2/16            | Regular Dismissal                                 |
| • Fri. 2/17              | Minimum Day (12:00 Dismissal)                     |
| • Mon. 2/20 – 2/24       | Mid-Winter Break                                  |
| • Mon. 2/27              | *County Superintendent's Meeting                  |
| • Tues. 2/28             | *SAC meeting                                      |
| • Fri. 3/3               | Michael Katz storytelling assemblies (all grades) |
| • Fri. 3/3               | Barn Bash   |
| • Fri. 3/10 – Sat. 3/11  | Astro Camp – 5 <sup>th</sup> graders              |
| • Mon. 3/13              | *County Superintendent's Meeting                  |
| • Tues. 3/14             | *Valley Superintendent's Meeting                  |
| • Wed. 3/15              | School Board Meeting @ 3:30pm                     |

Superintendent Off Campus is denoted by an \*

- b. Board Members' Comments & Correspondence: **None**
- c. PTA Report: **PTA President, Cailen Conroy said the PTA leadership focus is on the upcoming Barn Bash fundraiser. 41 tickets have been sold, so far, and they anticipate more tickets to be sold in the coming weeks. Parent flyers went home as well as postings on Parent Square. Cailen also talked about the recent teacher appreciation luncheon hosted by grades 5/1 in February and the upcoming luncheon spearheaded by grades 2/4 in March. The staff have expressed their sincere appreciation.**
- d. Superintendent's Report
  - Student Privacy matter
  - Schools for Sound Finance Reports
    - Week Ending: January 20, 2023
    - Week Ending: January 26, 2023
    - Week Ending: February 3, 2023

**Student Privacy Matter: Pam Rennick shared that according to the School's Legal Services, the school acted in accordance with the Student Privacy laws in how the school handled a student privacy matter. Public Comment was heard.**

- **Public Comment 1- Would like healthy conversation about having parents and grandparents volunteer in the classroom; recommends the topic be added to next month agenda.**
- **Public Comment 2- The best place to teach sex education is in the home. There should be a parent orientation where parents have the choice to opt out. Recommends an examination of Parent Right Policy.**
- **Public Comment 3- there are very specific anti-discrimination laws as well as specific privacy laws that protect students. The issue was handled correctly.**
- **Public Comment 4- setting the record straight; discussion was about child's use of pronouns and name change. Child felt safe in community of peers and while there has been a big weight off the child's shoulders, there have been unfounded rumors amongst the adults. There are laws protecting a child's privacy; encourage direct conversation to avoid false rumors.**
- **Public Comment 5- heard of events outside of school setting as gossip and felt dis-heartened; agree most topics such as these take place at home but recognized that the school is a public and not private entity.**
- **Public Comment 6- Thanked Pam Rennick for fearless leadership and encouraged the teaching of kindness.**
- **Public Comment 7- Commend Pam Rennick for following the law and expanding conversations of inclusion while defending student privacy**
- **Public Comment 8- Offers starkly different perspective, not as an issue of student privacy but of violation of parent rights. Cited an unacceptable and reckless use of power, broke the trust of teacher and urges the board to implement a Parent Rights Committee to examine current policies and specifically address parent notification protocol.**
- **Public Comment 9- Responsibility of school to provide community of acceptance; this was a case of hearing who the child is and commends student's courage. Embraces use of pronouns and thanked leadership for recognizing the magnitude of brave and authentic community.**

- **Public Comment 10-** Discussed the role and responsibility of school board members and cautioned that elected officials must move slowly, know expectations and listen to all stakeholders.
- **Public Comment 11-** Does not fully understand the problem; public school has the responsibility of welcoming diverse opinions and welcoming all students. The issue of a student saying this is who I am should not warrant a discussion.
- **Public Comment 12-** Goal is to educate the whole child; could not imagine a young student addressing a large subject without support of parents. To do so feels cruel and unrealistic. The name changes and use of pronouns did not come as a surprise to the peers.
- **Public Comment 13-** Living in a diverse world with cultural conflicts; reminded of song, we will know we are Christians by our love; encouraged kindness in and out of the classroom.
- **Public Comment 14-** Representing youth, these conversations are very normal, and the world is changing; encourages parents to not embrace fear but loving inclusion and acceptance of diversity.

With no further comments, the board closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Board President, Tracey Cassidy said she was proud of the school staff and how they handled the student privacy matter under California law that protects children, both mentally and physically. As a response, Art Kaslow asked to put an agenda item under Administration Matters to consider establishing a committee to review the Ballard School Parent Rights handbook. He said it was not necessary at this preliminary discussion to seek legal counsel but sought information whether there has been other precedence set in the valley.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

The superintendent may share pertinent correspondence at this time.

Analysis of Public Disclosure of Proposed Collective Bargaining Agreements

Positive Certification of First Interim Financial Report Analysis

**Pam Rennick shared the two letters addressed to the board regarding the analysis of public disclosure of proposed collective bargaining agreements and the positive certification of first interim financial report analysis.**

8. CONSENT AGENDA

The board will be asked to approve all the following items by a single vote unless any member of the board or public requests an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered and discussed separately.

a. Approval of Warrants

724379 – 724383 (1/17/2023)

724862 – 724876 (1/20/2023)

726063 – 726070 (1/27/2023)

726882 – 726890 (2/3/2023)

**Pam Rennick commented on the following warrants:**

Number	Amount	Payee	Description
Page 1	\$540	Astro Camp	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science camp

724379			
724380	\$600	Brynn Albanese	Violinist concert (will be reimbursed)
724381	\$245	Kelsey Electric	Electrical repairs to Red School House
724382	\$871.04	Pam Rennick	Computer sleeves, staff luncheon
724383	\$2,400	Renaissance Learning	Freckle (on-line math and ELA subscription)
Page 2 725862	\$800	Arts Outreach	Art instruction (low this month but will go back up next)
724863	\$926.25	CompuVision	Technology Services
724864	\$111.51	Gina Floyd	Admin supplies/school lunch snacks
724865	\$574.81	Heidi Nedegaard	Classroom Reimbursement
724866	\$446.74	Jenny Gamboa	Health Reimbursement
724868	\$1,045.16	Pam Rennick	Piano purchase (old one had become a safety hazard)
724870	\$62	Joan Romero-Garcia	Live-Scan for chaperone at Camp Keep (gr 6 science)
Page 3 726063	\$855.13	Allan Pelletier	Health Reimbursement (as in contract)
726064	\$773.72	Frontier Communications	Phone/Internet connection
726065	\$62.37	Kim Bramsen	Health Reimbursement
726066	\$32.32	Mandy Young	Health Reimbursement
726067	\$3,110	Moss Levy & Hartzheim	2022 Audit Services
726068	\$208.65	Pam Rennick	Math Superbowl/ office chair

b. Approval of Certificated and Classified Payroll: 1/31/2022

The consent agenda was approved on a motion by Art Kaslow, seconded by Sean Conroy and passed unanimously.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. COVID 19

*Pam Rennick will update the board on district issues related to COVID-19.*

**We currently have zero cases of COVID but have had 3 in the past week. There are a lot of other illnesses still going around. However, on Valentines Day, the school had a 100% student attendance!**

b. 2021-2022 School Accountability Report Card Approval

Background: *The annual School Accountability Report Card is complete and ready for approval.*

Recommendation: *Board members approve the 2021-2022 School Accountability Report Card*

**Axiom completes our School Report Card (SARC) and pulls data from the state program of Cal-pads and P1 attendance information through the CDC. Not all of the information is available from the state yet, but the SARC examines student test scores and Chronic Absentee rates across the state. Pam Rennick indicated that our school is inching toward a chronic absentee problem. Part of this was due to illness and quarantine of Covid but others are a climate of frequent family vacations during the academic school year. This will be a continuing conversation as more information becomes available.**

**The annual School Accountability Report Card was approved on a motion by Art Kaslow, seconded by Sean Conroy and passed unanimously.**

c. Discussion regarding Board Policy Updates

The board held a discussion regarding the board policy updates. The current policies are out of date and not currently posted to the website. There are logistic problems posting them – the board briefly discussed the next steps of considering going through a company or utilizing Ballard staff to assemble, website options for hosting and the time it will take for board members to review the policies. At present, four full binders representing Board Policies: 0000, 1000, 2000, 3000, 4000, 5000, 6000, 7000, 9000 are available in the front office for public review. Board President, Tracey Cassidy, asked that the board policy conversation be added to the next board meeting. In addition, she would like to see the board policies updated by the fall of the 2023-24 academic year.

10. BUSINESS MATTERS

- a. Review Current Board Report: Funds 01, 14, 17 & 25

**The Board Report Funds were reviewed. Pam Rennick said the district received \$49,000 in REAP funds; the next board meeting will address second interim financials and will show a comprehensive review of the budget.**

11. FACILITIES None

12. PERSONNEL MATTERS

- a. Approval of a temporary aid position to replace the vacancy in kindergarten to the end of the school year.

*Background: There is currently a vacancy in the kindergarten classroom for aid to the end of the year.*

*Recommendation: Approve a temporary aid hire for the remainder of the school year.*

**The board discussed and reviewed the approval of a temporary aid position. The position was approved on a motion by Art Kaslow, seconded by Sean Conroy and passed unanimously.**

13. NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Unless otherwise announced, the next regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at 3:30 PM.

14. ADJOURNMENT Time: 4:41 pm.

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Art Kaslow, Clerk of the board

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Date