

BEAR VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING
HELD ON DECEMBER 07, 2020 VIA THE ZOOM WEBINAR PLATFORM
PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20
DATED MARCH 17, 2020

Present: Dr. Stephen Foulkes
Mrs. Cathy Herrick
Ms. Sudie Smartt
Mr. Paul Zamoyta

Absent: Mr. John Goepf

Also Present: Dr. Mary Suzuki
Dr. Lisa Waner
Mrs. Linda Rosado
Ms. Lucinda Newton

President Herrick noted this meeting is being recorded.

President Herrick called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

President Herrick called for a motion to adopt the agenda for the meeting.

Motion by Mr. Zamoyta to adopt the agenda.

Second by Dr. Foulkes. President Herrick called for the vote.

Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foulkes/Herrick/Smartt/Zamoyta

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Goepf

Adoption of
Agenda
M20-21-053

All present participated in a Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Herrick opened the Hearing Section at 4:32 p.m. President

Herrick read the following statement submitted by Robin Green:

Dear BVUSD,

My name is Robin Green. I would like to share my thoughts about this school closure. I have 12 grandkids in this school district, ranging in age from 4 years to 16 years old. My own children went through BVUSD. I think this District is one of the best in the state. However, my grandchildren and all of the other children are being discarded as collateral damage to a virus that they aren't even prone to catch. They have lost so much...from graduating 8th grade, being freshmen in high school, the 1st day of junior year, the transition from 6th grade to 7th, prom, Winterfest, football games and so on. The 6 at Northshore have missed tons too...5th grade "rule the school", school play, running the halls, and simply playing with their friends. They have been good sports about it but their childhood is being highjacked by a political need for power. This is not okay. How dare these children be made to pay the price for a man-made virus that is over 99% survivable. In regard to distance learning...the damage being done

Hearing
Section

on a daily basis is absolutely unacceptable. My daughters do their best to keep their kids on task but 3 of them are not teachers and the 1 that is, isn't at home to oversee her kids' progress. It creates so much more stress on my daughters and their families. It makes me so sad they have to go through this. Please reopen the schools! The damage already done is irreversible. These kids need each other. They need normalcy. The families are suffering. The kids are the most important in this craziness!! Please reopen!

Thank you,
Robin Green

President Herrick read the following statement submitted by Jodi Bidwell:

Dear Dr. Suzuki and Bear Valley Board Members,

Good evening, my name is Jodie Bidwell. I have three children in our system; a freshman at BBHS and a 5th and 2nd grader at NSES. Let me start out by saying I fully understand the situation we are in. I know our schools have guidelines in which they must follow. I know our district is under government control. The teachers and staff have been amazing throughout all of this and are GREATLY appreciated. This hasn't been easy on anyone. I know this virus is real. I, along with many other family members have contracted it. I know many people in our community who have had Covid-19. They all have made a full recovery within days and describe the virus as being very similar to that of a common cold. Amongst those families, the children have had little or NO symptoms. All studies prove the virus is NOT a threat to children and they cannot spread it. School is safer than grocery stores! Experts are admitting they were wrong about closing the schools from the beginning, yet here we are with another school closure. We are all very well aware of Governor Newsom's most recent statewide lockdown. He was very specific on the outline and the new mandates. So specific, that he even commented that the schools who have been granted waivers and are currently in session remain operating. So, why did our district close our schools? Who made this decision? Several surveys have been sent out throughout the year requesting feedback from the parents in our district. Majority of those families chose the option to go back to school full time. Some of those parents who chose to keep their children on distance learning chose that option only because of scheduling difficulties within their family or simply because the guidelines we would have to follow somewhat resemble that of prison life. We, as parents, feel like we are not being heard. We have had enough. Our children are suffering. They have been expected to give the biggest sacrifices of any of us and they have complied. Depression, loneliness, and increased drug use in now a reality for many of the youth in our valley. Grades are dropping more and more every day. HOW IS THIS OKAY?? We are failing them. They are our future. They should be our top priority and they have been the last. I refuse to allow this any longer. Please, listen to our parents. Listen to our teachers. Listen to our children. The mental health and general wellbeing of each of them greatly outweighs the risks from Covid-19. It is time we fight back. Open up our schools!

Thank you,
Jodie Bidwell

Parents is normally presented in June with the LCAP and the budget. This June we did not have an LCAP so it was presented in September for the Learning Continuity Plan. Mrs. Rosado continued with the First Interim presentation. Mrs. Rosado is pleased to present to the Governing Board that we have a positive certification for our First Interim 2020/2021. Mrs. Rosado reviewed the Multi-year Assumptions as well as the Multi-year Expenditures.

Next Governing Board Meetings:

December 9, 2020 5:30 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting

December 11, 2020 9:00 a.m.

Governing Board Organizational Meeting

President Herrick adjourned the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

Secretary

President of the Governing Board