



In accordance with Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, and as a response to mitigate the spread of Coronavirus known as COVID-19 by practicing social distancing, the Meeting of the Board of Education will be conducted virtually. There will be no public meeting space. To connect to the meeting electronically or telephonically, see information below:

<https://dusd-net.zoom.us/j/84281114319?pwd=Y2NyQitLQ0NSUWh5d3N3MndpTi81QT09>
Passcode: 529814

*To connect to the meeting by telephone, see information below:
(408) 638-0968 or (669) 900-6833
Webinar ID: 842 8111 4319 Passcode: 529814*

Persons who want to comment on agenda items only are invited to submit comments via email to publiccomment0126@dusd.net by Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. All public comments will be read into the record at the meeting. Please limit comments to 300 words or less (3 minutes).

In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, those requiring special assistance to access the Board Meeting room, written documents being discussed at the Board Meeting, or to otherwise participate in Board Meetings, please contact the Superintendent's Office at 562-469-6511 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to accommodate reasonable requests.

Attendees

Voting Members

- D. Mark Morris, Board President
- Martha Sodetani, Board Clerk
- Giovanna Perez-Saab, Board Member
- Jose Rodriguez, Board Member
- Linda Salomon Saldana, Board Member
- Nancy Swenson, Board Member

Non-Voting Members

- Dr. John Garcia, Jr., Superintendent

I. GENERAL BOARD FUNCTIONS

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was Called to Order by Mr. D. Mark Morris, President of the Board of Education, at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, in the Pace Training Center, 9625 Van Ruiten Street, Bellflower, California.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Renewal of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mr. Jose J. Rodriguez, Member of the Board of Education.

3. INVOCATION

Invocation was delivered by Mrs. Giovanna Perez-Saab, Member of the Board of Education.

4. ROLL CALL

Present

D. Mark Morris
Martha E. Sodetani
Giovanna Perez-Saab
Jose J. Rodriguez
Linda Salomon Saldaña
Nancy A. Swenson
John A. Garcia, Jr., Ph.D.

Absent

Barbara R. Samperi

Mrs. Sodetani moved, Mr. Rodriguez seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, that the Board of Education excuse Mrs. Samperi's absence due to illness.

5. ADOPT Agenda #14 for the Special Meeting of the Board of Education held on January 26, 2021.

Motion made by: Nancy Swenson

Motion seconded by: Martha Sodetani

Voting:

D. Mark Morris - Yes
Martha Sodetani - Yes
Giovanna Perez-Saab - Yes
Jose Rodriguez - Yes
Linda Salomon Saldana - Yes
Nancy Swenson - Yes

6. RECEIVE correspondence and refer it to the proper order of business or to the Superintendent for handling.

There was no correspondence to be received.

7. HEAR Public on items appearing on the Agenda.

Public comment was submitted via email by the following:

Melanie Pelayo urging the Board to open schools as soon as possible
Mary Johnson asking about seniors grades as well as a-g requirements
Lucy Reynoso-Jimenez regarding Distance Learning concerns
Karina Gonzalez stating Distance Learning concerns
Jennifer LaMar, high school teacher, sharing her concerns about returning to the classroom

Mr. Morris stated that the safety of students and staff is the Board of Education's number one priority and noted that Downey Unified schools will not open until it is safe for students, teachers and staff members. He added that the Board of Education takes this very seriously and shares your concerns. He reminded the public that we cannot open schools sooner than the Los Angeles County Public Health Department allows, despite what the Governor says.

Mr. Morris reiterated that we will open the schools as soon as it is legally and morally feasible.

II. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE

1. HEAR a Return to School update from Dr. Roger Brossmer and Dr. Wayne Shannon, Assistant Superintendents of Educational Services, and DISCUSS the Return to School Plan for the 2020-21 school year.
2. HEAR a presentation from John Harris, Director of College and Career Readiness, regarding Board of Education consideration of modifying graduation requirements for the Class of 2021.
3. APPROVE Service Agreement No. 202021-261 with Bayha Group to implement the MADE Ready Internship program, formally known as the MADE Work Experience program, to provide Downey Unified students with paid internships through the Spring and Summer of 2021 as written into Downey Unified's successful CTE Grant proposals.

Motion made by: Nancy Swenson

Motion seconded by: Giovanna Perez-Saab

Voting:

D. Mark Morris - Yes

Martha Sodetani - Yes

Giovanna Perez-Saab - Yes

Jose Rodriguez - Yes

Linda Salomon Saldana - Yes

Nancy Swenson - Yes

4. APPROVE Service Agreement No. 202021-262 with 2 Degree Shift for Advanced Manufacturing and Welding Pathways to develop Advanced Manufacturing and Welding Pathways that mentor teachers, assess and plan equipment needs, address industry opportunities, articulate with local community colleges, and support student attainment of certification to obtain livable wage jobs upon graduation for Downey Unified students.

Motion made by: Martha Sodetani

Motion seconded by: Nancy Swenson

Voting:

D. Mark Morris - Yes

Martha Sodetani - Yes

Giovanna Perez-Saab - Yes

Jose Rodriguez - Yes

Linda Salomon Saldana - Yes

Nancy Swenson - Yes

5. APPROVE Service Agreement No. 202021-263 with 2 Degree Shift for Open-Source Downey in order to implement as a regional lead and statewide contributor to Open Education Resources and Open Source CTE courses, teacher onboarding and support materials, and student learning materials.

Motion made by: Nancy Swenson

Motion seconded by: Giovanna Perez-Saab

Voting:

D. Mark Morris - Yes

Martha Sodetani - Yes

Giovanna Perez-Saab - Yes

Jose Rodriguez - Yes

Linda Salomon Saldana - Yes

Nancy Swenson - Yes

III. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

IV. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Education will be a Regular Meeting to be held on Wednesday, February 10, 2021, at 4:00 p.m., in the Pace Training Center, 9625 Van Ruiten Street, Bellflower, California.

The meeting was recessed at 6:05 p.m. and reconvened at 6:10 p.m.

V. CLOSED SESSION

The Board of Education retired into Closed Session at 6:11 p.m. to discuss Potential Litigation, Public Employment - Certificated Administration/Classified Management, Discipline/Dismissal/Release, Negotiations, and Threat to Public Services or Facilities (Government Code Section 54957), and reconvened to Open Session at 7:07 p.m.

During its recently concluded Closed Session, the Board of Education voted unanimously to approve a settlement agreement resolving the employment of a permanent certificated employee, Number Ha9877868. Under the terms of the agreement, the employee agrees to submit their irrevocable resignation from the District. In exchange, the District agrees to retain the employee on paid administrative leave until the date of resignation which is not later than the conclusion of the current school year. Employee also agrees to waive and release the District from any and all legal claims relating to or arising out of the employee's employment with the District.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. in memory of Felipe C. Aguilar, Doris Becker, Joan Rose Laurel van Barneveld Kaplanis, Arthur Lomeli, Jr., Serafin Martinez, Mamie Monger, Mike Park, Kevin Josiah Reyes, Allen Sussman and Francisco Valencia.

D. Mark Morris, President

Martha E. Sodetani, Clerk