



MINUTES
Meeting of the Board of Directors
University High School Meeting
Thursday, November 2, 2023

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OPEN SESSION 3:00PM
Room 108

MEMBERS PRESENT: Xuanning Fu, Dominic Dizon, Rajee Amarasinghe (left at 3:45), Brent Woodward and Nichole Walsh.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nancy Akhavan (chair), Saul Jimenez-Sandoval.

1. Call to Order/Recognize Visitors

Meeting was called to order at 3:10pm.

Recognized Visitor: Felicia Olais, Fresno Unified

2. Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was voted as **APPROVED** as submitted by a majority vote
(4 yes/ 1 abstention)

Dizon - motion / Amarasinghe - second

3. Public Comment

Public comment on any item of interest to the public that is within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard. At this time, anyone present may speak for up to three minutes. Those who wish to speak may **voluntarily** sign in on the Sign-In sheet.

There was no public comment.

4. Executive Reports

a. Student Representative (Riser): ASB president Sophia Riser started her presentation by reporting on past activities and events such as Student College Trip lead by UHS Counselor Geni Bird, different lunch time activities, Senior Events (graduation orders, Grad Bash class ring orders, etc.), and Speech & Debate events that occurred during September and October. Ms. Riser concluded her report with current or upcoming activities such as Field Trip to Scout Island, Spirit Week activities (Ropes Course, Culture Expo, etc.), Fresno Fair 4.0 Night, and Magic of the Arts (MOTA).

b. Superintendent/Principal (Hickman): Superintendent Hickman reported current student enrollment counts of 9th - 126; 10th - 124; 11th - 123; 12th - 110.

Superintendent Hickman provided a brief review of different activities (College Trip, Scout Island, Fresno Fair 4.0, Basketball Championships, Flag Football, etc.) and events (UHS Inaugural Golf Tournament, Wind Ensemble performance, etc.) that occurred during September and October.

Superintendent Hickman provided a brief review of the different community outreach efforts such as Information Days, Clovis Farmers Market, Rotary's 5000th Meeting and Fresno State's Super Saturday. Superintendent Hickman spoke highly of the Magic of the Arts performance event and shared upcoming music concert dates.

Superintendent Hickman concluded the report by sharing information regarding the current curriculum for each department, and the latest report rankings from Niche.com.

- c. **Budget (Bryson):** CFO, Janelle Bryson, reported that there hasn't been much change to the budget since the previous meeting. Bryson reported the possibility of adjusting the projected COLA in the out years, this decision is pending further guidance from the State. Bryson reported that overall the budget is in good shape.

5. Consent Agenda

All consent agenda items are considered routine by the Board of Governors and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of items unless a Board member or citizen so requests, in which event, the item(s) will be considered following approval of the Consent Agenda.

- a. Approval of the September 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of Total Payments Report
- c. 2021-22 Tax Returns

The Consent Agenda was voted as **APPROVED** as submitted by a majority vote
(4 yes/ 1 abstention)

Dizon - motion / Amarasinghe - second

6. Discussion Items (Including Potential Action Items)

- a. **First Interim Report & MYP (Voting item):** CFO Bryson reported on the First Interim and Multi-Year Projection reports. Bryson reviewed the different document components and the reasoning for the different reports.

The First Interim Report and Multi Year Projection Report was voted as **APPROVED**
as submitted by a majority vote (4 yes/ 1 abstention)

Dizon - motion / Amarasinghe - second

- b. **Retiree Benefit Policy (Discussion/voting item):** Superintendent Hickman reviewed and discussed the adjustments that have been made to the policy.

The Retiree Benefit Policy was voted as **APPROVED** as submitted by a
majority vote (4 yes/ 1 abstention)

Woodward - motion / Dizon - second

- c. **Intersession Trip (Discussion/voting item):** Superintendent Hickman presented a request for a spring Intersession Trip to Costa Rica. To attend the

trip each student would have to pay a fee to participate. The trip would include 28 UHS students and 3 staff members.

The 23/24 SY Spring Intersession Trip to Costa Rica was voted as **APPROVED** as submitted by a majority vote (4 yes/ 1 abstention)
Amarasinghe - motion / Dizon - second

Discussion Items #d & #e order was switched during the meeting

- d. **New Board Member & roles (Discussion/voting item):** After interviewing and discussion, the Board nominated Dr. Nichole Walsh to join the UHS Board of Directors as a Fresno State Kremen Education member, replacing Michael Stain.

After discussion, the Board revised the current members roles as follows:

- Dr. Nancy Akhavan - represents Community Member; Position remains Chair.
- Dr. Xuanning Fu - represents Community Member; Position new to Vice-Chair.
- Dr. Dominic Dizon - represents Parent Member; Position remains Secretary.
- Dr. Rajee Amarasinghe - represents FS College of Science & Math Member; Position changing from member to Treasurer.
- Mr. Brent Woodward - represents Parent Member; Position is member.
- Dr. Nichole Walsh - represents FS Kremen School of Education Member; Position is member.

The nomination of Dr. Nichole Walsh to join the UHS Board of Directors as the Fresno State Kremen Education member and the revision of the members' roles was unanimously **APPROVED** by a majority vote
(4 - yes / 0 - no).

Amarasinghe - motion / Dizon - second

- e. **New Structure Proposal (Discussion/voting item):** Superintendent Hickman reviewed the latest bid for the outdoor structure. The Board discussed where the funding source for the structure to be used from the reserve funds.

The New Structure Bid Proposal and UHS Reserve Funding source was unanimously **APPROVED** by a majority vote (4 - yes / 0 - no).
Dizon - motion / Walsh - second

- f. **Calendar for 2024-25 (Discussion/voting item):** Superintendent Hickman reviewed the 24/25 SY calendar with the Board.

The 24/25 SY Calendar was unanimously **APPROVED** by a majority vote
(4 - yes / 0 - no)
Dizon - motion / Woodward - second

- g. **Raise Discussion for 2023-24 (Discussion/voting item):** Superintendent Hickman presented information regarding different salary increases that are projected throughout the local education community. After lengthy discussion, the

Board agreed to give a 6.5% salary increase retroactive to the start of the 23/24 SY to all employees of UHS.

A salary increase of 6.5% retroactive to the start of the 23/24 SY for all UHS employees was unanimously APPROVED by a majority vote (4 - yes / 0 - no)
Dizon - motion / Walsh - second

7. Future Meetings: Dec 7th, No Jan. meeting

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Dizon - motion / Woodward - second

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm.