



**Durham Unified School District
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Wednesday, January 20, 2021**



6:00 pm Closed Session – 6:30 pm Open Session

District Board Room

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://durhamunified.zoom.us/j/87487591634?pwd=WFhDdXlDdjIwZ3VPWnZWUHJaeCtoZz09>

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Minutes

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Durham Unified School District was held in the Durham Unified School District Board Room on Wednesday, November 18, 2020.

Trustees Present: Jennie DuBose, David Loudermilk, Ed McLaughlin, Lance Smith and Matthew Thorpe

Administration Present: Superintendent John Bohannon, Assistant Superintendent to Business and Operations Aimee Belev, District Secretary Tina Blenn and District Office Clerk Heather McCune

A. Call to Order

President, Ed McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Durham Unified School District Board Room.

B. Moved to Closed Session: 6:01 p.m.

C. Closed Session

1. Conference with Labor Negotiators Agency designated representatives: Board President Alex DuBose, Unrepresented Employee(s): Superintendent (Government Code 54957.6)
2. Conference with Labor Negotiators Agency designated representatives: Superintendent, Employee Organizations: Administrative, CTA, CSEA, and Classified Confidential (Government Code 54957.6)
3. Public Employee Discipline / Dismissal / Release / Complaint (Government Code 54957)
4. Public Employee Performance Evaluation: Superintendent (Government Code 54957)
5. Public employee appointment/employment: Superintendent (Government Code 54957)

D. Return to Open Session: 6:30 p.m.

E. Pledge of Allegiance:

Trustee Loudermilk led the Pledge of Allegiance.

F. Report of Action Taken in Closed Session: No action taken in closed session.

G. Items from the Public:

The Board took public comment from those addressing concerns or comments regarding items not on the agenda. Parent Kevin Phillips requested that the Board Zoom meeting open 5/10 minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting. This would allow time for login and other technicalities. No other public comments at this time.

H. District Reports:

1. DUTA – Jona O’Shea, Durham Unified Teachers Association President waited until Discussion/Action Item # 2 for comment regarding the Durham Unified School District Reopening Plan.
2. MOT – Eric Kolstad, Manager of Operations and Transportation report addressed MOT staff busy preparing for the return of more students, moving furniture and continuing to sanitize and deep clean all the facilities. The grounds men are also continually busy keeping our campus maintained and groomed.
3. Principals
DES: Lisa Atlas – Enrollment: 441- In Person Learning: 377, Distance Learning: 64
Principal Atlas had special shout outs to Cassie Halley, Jona O’Shea, Heather McCune and Samantha Brown for always being ready to do whatever is necessary to make sure a class has a teacher. DES paras work continually to make sure our students are supervised and safe. The food service staff is always working diligently and giving our kids their meals in a timely manner. The staff has been discussing and presenting ideas for the possible return to full instructional days.

DIS: Lora Fox – Enrollment: 242 In Person: 186 Distance Learning: 56
Big shout out to all the DIS teachers for navigating the Hybrid teaching model. Amy Jensen has intervention groups set on Fridays. Kristen Cargile and Ms. Kelly are supporting our resource students as well. Staff meetings are the first Friday of each month. Brainstorming with staff regarding reopening plan for a possible 5-day week.

DHS: Robbin Pedrett – Enrollment: 298 In Person: 243 Distance Learning: 55
Wrapping up the first semester. DHS WASC sub committee met and worked on Mission/Vision statements. Will be working with Anna Johnson, new ASB leader, coordinating activities as they become available. Clubs have completed constitutions and bylaws and are ready to move forward with budgeting and membership. CIF listed first group of approved sports that could be: cross country, swimming, golf, track and field, and ski and snowboarding. Ski team and cross-country are actively practicing. After we plan and implement the plans for the next semester, we will refocus our plans for graduation and other typical school spring activities as the CA Dept. of Health approves. FFA/Ag projects are busy with planting and moving forward with the Butte College donation of the hydroponics system. Hoping for a Silver Dollar Fair opportunities, as FFA students are purchasing livestock projects. Looking ahead Trojans returning to campus and assist, these students to the completion of 20-21 school year.
4. SPECIAL EDUCATION:
Director Marilyn Bertolucci –In person assessments continue. Services are provided on in person and virtual on off days. Students choosing Distance Learning are provided services via online platform and telehealth. Discussing planning for return to an eventual 5-day week. Focus is on transition for students, staffing increase needs, and transportation. A big thank you to DUSD transportation team who get our students safely to school in a timely manner as well as the other campuses served. Planning for the next school year: 21-22: IEP teams are discussing transitions from Regional programs to DUSD such as moving from specialized preschool program to DES kindergarten. Other District

transition in consideration are moving from DES to DIS and DIS to DHS and DHS into the work world or secondary education.

Thank you to all educational service providers; paras, education specialists, teachers, speech language pathologists, occupational therapists and adapted PE specialists, both DUSD and BCOE, who creatively and with joy are meeting the needs of families and students.

5. Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations:

Deferrals will continue in 2021 through 2022 reported Mrs. Belev. More Funding is expected in School Services, the COLA: 2022 3.84%; 2023 1.28% and 2024 1.61%. The new ESSER allocations are \$321,131(SSC Estimate), and additional Special Education funding. There will be Extended Learning Time and Academic Intervention Grants as well, through LCFF, proposed at \$4.6 billion statewide. There will be a One Time Funding In Person Grant proposed at \$450/student (state) based on start dates and strings are attached regarding: Covid testing, Mental Health support, Ventilation and Devices and Instruction.

Good News! The second round Bond Sale has been approved. Our first interest rate in 2018 was 3.575%; our new interest rate for 2021 is 2.773%.

6. Superintendent: John Bohannon gave the Board an update on the process of demolition to the Midway House. Permit, checklist are in order. Waiting for the removal of vinyl flooring and then it is ready for the fire department to use as a hands on learning fire experience to burn. Afterwards, past trustee, Alex DuBose, has volunteered to clear the debris.

The Superintendent stated that there were currently two committees for Board members to join; Facilities and Reopening. Matthew Thorpe will be on both, with David Loudermilk serving on Facilities and Lance Smith on the Reopening committee.

Vaccination update: DUSD employees were given the opportunity for voluntary Covid 19 vaccinations using the Moderna vaccine on January 16 and 17th at the DHS cafeteria. The follow up second dose tentatively scheduled for February 19 and 20th, likely at DHS.

The continued support of Durham Rotary, which donated 45 Chromebooks to the High School. Thank you for all you do for Durham! Superintendent Bohannon asked Tony Longueria, Co-Athletic Director to give a report on CIF and Durham Sports.

Tony: CIF did send out a warning to Districts regarding playing outside the guidance and if found would be dropped from CIF. Sports that are looking to open are Cross-Country, Golf, Swim, Track and Field and Snow Ski and Snowboarding. The sport seasons are jumbled and it has been a scramble to stay on top of the proceedings. It was also stated that Club sports are not under CIF jurisdiction and that CA Public Health Department and Butte County Public Health Department are setting the standards and guidelines. Durham is following these mandated protocols.

I. Items from the Board:

- Trustee Loudermilk: I read over the survey and it shows needs that vary between staff, students and parents. They all have the same goal, getting back to school 5 days a week. How we do that and the timeline is the question. This is off the subject, but I wanted to mention that I looked at the SARC (School Accountability Report Card) reports regarding our curriculum and books. We clearly need to address this, some are 20 years old. BCOE had a Board Trustee training last week and a representative of Lozano Smith, the attorney firm for Butte County schools, gave a presentation regarding liability of reopening schools. There is no pandemic insurance. On another note, I have heard through the grapevine that there are parents in our community worried about forms of retaliation if they speak out at Board Meetings from “stronger parents”. We need all families input. He stated how honored he is to be a Durham community member and member of the Board.
- Trustee Thorpe: Expressed the need for Board member representation and a diverse group from the community to be represented on all school committees.
- Trustee DuBose: Thanked parents for taking the time to voice their opinions at Board meetings.

- Trustee Smith: Concur with what the other Trustees have said; the Trustees are here to represent the community. Aske the community to continue giving input.
- President McLaughlin: Would like to see a list of committees for the Board to be a part of. Would like to see the Board more involved and informed with the District.

J. Consent Agenda:

The Consent Agenda was approved as read with the correction of Item #5 a \$150 donation from Gorrill Ranch to be split between the DHS athletic program and Sober Graduation. The Board approves \$75 donation to DHS athletics and submits \$75 to ASB for their accountability.

Motion: David Loudermilk Second: Lance Smith Vote: 5-0

K. Information Item:

1. Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints; Education Code 35186(d). No complaints filed.

K. Discussion/Action:

1. **Discussion/Action:** Approval to increase the Developer Fees for Durham Unified School District. Resolution # 20-20. After a presentation by Elona Cunningham from Jack Schrader & Associates, Inc., the Board approved the increase of Developer Fees.

Motion: Matthew Thorpe Second: Lance Smith Vote: 5-0

2. **Discussion/Action:** Discussion and consideration of the Durham Unified School District Reopening Plan. Superintendent John Bohannon explained 5 options that were developed by the Durham Unified School Reopening committee. Much discussion and question/answers pursued. At the conclusion of all public comment, the Board voted with a motion by Lance Smith to adopt the 4-day plan, followed by a second from David Loudermilk. This motion failed with a vote of 2-3. No votes included Ed McLaughlin, Matthew Thorpe and Jennie DuBose. More discussion followed. Jennie DuBose made the motion to reopen schools in the 5-day/minimum day option. The Board voted to adopt the Minimum Day Option beginning March 1, 2021 dependent on CDPH guidelines.

Motion: Jennie DuBose Second: Matthew Thorpe Vote: 4-1
David Loudermilk was the no vote.

3. **Discussion/Action:** Approval of the MOU between Durham Unified School District and CSEA.

Motion: Lance Smith Second: Jennie DuBose Vote: 4-1
Matthew Thorpe was the no vote.

4. **Discussion/Action:** Approval of the MOU between Durham Unified School District and DUTA.

Motion: Lance Smith Second: Jennie DuBose Vote: 4-1
Matthew Thorpe was the no vote.

5. **Discussion/Action:** Discussion and consideration to adopt the Aeries Software Program for Durham Unified School District.

Motion: Lance Smith Second: David Loudermilk Vote: 5-0

Trustee Thorpe requested to return to Closed Session.

L. Return to Closed Session: 9:50 pm

M. Return from Closed Session: 9:56 pm

N. Action Taken in Closed Session: No action taken in Closed Session

O. Next Board Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 9, 2021.

P. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.