

EMPIRE SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
27740 JEFFERSON AVE • TEMECULA, CA 92590

***REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES***

December 12, 2019

9:00 a.m.

Our mission is to empower students by fostering their innate curiosity, engaging their parents, and promoting optimum learning by collaboratively developing a personalized learning program for each student.

Present:

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| Craig Schneider, Board Chair Michelle Nagelvoort, Vice Chair Jessica Large, Secretary Jason Rodriguez, Treasurer Tracey Vela, Board Director Ivo Cauoette, Board Director Dianne Mendez-Cantu, Board Director | Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent Amy Podratz, Asst. Superintendent of Operations Tanya Rogers, Asst. Superintendent of Business Robert Hennings, Asst. Superintendent Pupil Services Vivian Price, Asst. Superintendent, Education Doug House, Interim Asst. Superintendent, Personnel Kim Bagby, Director of Assessment Natali South, Director of Executive Support |
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- Action: Call to Order**
 - Mr. Schneider called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Activity: CAASPP Perfect-Scoring**
 - Students with perfect scores on the CAASPP test were recognized and given a certificate and a plaque in recognition of their accomplishment.
- Action: Approval of Agenda**
 - Ms. Vela moved to approve the agenda.
 - Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Large, Rodriguez, Nagelvoort, Vela, Cauoette, Mendez-Cantu, Schneider;
0 Noes, Motion Adopted
- Action: Approval of Minutes from September 12, 2019**
 - Ms. Nagelvoort moved to approve the Minutes from the September 12, 2019 meeting.
 - Ms. Mendez-Cantu seconded.
 - Discussion: None

- Vote: 7 Ayes: Large, Rodriguez, Nagelvoort, Vela, Cauoette, Mendez-Cantu, Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

5. **Action: Approval of Consent Agenda**

- Ms. Nagelvoort moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of Warrants and PAR.
- Ms. Mendez-Cantu seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Large, Rodriguez, Nagelvoort, Vela, Cauoette, Mendez-Cantu, Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

6. **Information: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- None

7. **Information: Superintendent's Report**

- Dr. Hermsmeyer reviewed the Superintendent's report and provided updates on network-wide activities. She indicated that we recently earned second place in the Top Workplace for the Inland Empire. Additionally, Dr. Hermsmeyer informed the Board that our authorizer, Helendale Elementary School District, renewed our petition for an additional five years.

8. **Information: Board Policy 4015.1**

- Tanya Rogers reviewed the Board Policy which outlines the parameters for providing benefits to certain individuals upon retirement. The Board did not request any changes to the policy, and therefore, it will be presented for second reading and approval at the next meeting.

9. **Information: ESCS CAASPP Achievement 2018-2019**

- Kim Bagby reviewed the CAASPP Achievement data for 2018-19. Our achievement scores were affected in two ways in 2018-19, as opposed to previous years; 11th grade students, as well as students who took the California Alternative Assessment (typically Special Ed), were factored into the overall achievement scores. As a result, the overall scores were lower than previous years. The Board and staff engaged in a conversation regarding the measures that are being taken to address the decline in the test scores.

10. **Information: ESCS Guidance Department Update**

- Kristin Turner provided an update of year-to-date activities in the Guidance Department.

11. **Action: Approval of Long Distance Travel - Venture Staff Development**

- Ms. Mendez-Cantu moved to approve the Long Distance Travel for Venture Staff Development.
- Mr. Cauoette seconded.
- Discussion: Andrea Leib explained that the purpose of the travel request is to allow four out-of-state teachers to travel in order to attend Venture's mid-year staff development training.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Large, Rodriguez, Nagelvoort, Vela, Cauoette, Mendez-Cantu, Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

12. **Action: Approval of Empire Springs Charter Petition with Helendale Elementary School District**
 - Ms. Mendez-Cantu moved to approve the Empire Springs Charter Petition with Helendale Elementary School District.
 - Ms. Vela seconded.
 - Discussion: Amy Podratz explained that we submitted the Empire Springs Charter Petition to the Helendale Elementary School District for renewal. Helendale approved the petition for a new five-year term.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Large, Rodriguez, Nagelvoort, Vela, Cauoette, Mendez-Cantu, Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted
13. **Action: Approval of MOU between ESCS and Springs Inc.**
 - Ms. Large moved to approve of MOU between ESCS and Springs Inc.
 - Ms. Mendez-Cantu seconded.
 - Discussion: Amy Podratz provided a history of Springs Inc. and the services they provide specifically to Empire Springs, such as Staff Development, and explained why the per-student rate has increased.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Large, Rodriguez, Nagelvoort, Vela, Cauoette, Mendez-Cantu, Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted
14. **Action: Approval of Dashboard Indicators**
 - Ms. Large moved to approve the Dashboard Indicators.
 - Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.
 - Discussion: Amy Podratz reviewed the Dashboard Indicators and explained that the data must be reported to the State.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Large, Rodriguez, Nagelvoort, Vela, Cauoette, Mendez-Cantu, Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted
15. **Action: Acceptance of Independent Audit Report**
 - Ms. Mendez-Cantu moved to accept the Independent Audit Report.
 - Ms. Large seconded.
 - Discussion: Tanya Rogers reviewed the audit report and indicated that it was a clean audit with zero findings.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Large, Rodriguez, Nagelvoort, Vela, Cauoette, Mendez-Cantu, Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted
16. **Action: Approval of 1st Interim Budget**
 - Ms. Vela moved to accept the 1st Interim Budget.
 - Mr. Caouette seconded.
 - Discussion: Tanya Rogers reviewed the 1st Interim Budget report and answered Board members' questions.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Large, Rodriguez, Nagelvoort, Vela, Cauoette, Mendez-Cantu, Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

17. **Action: Approval of Annual Signers with Bank**

- Ms. Nagelvoort moved to approve the Annual Signers with Bank.
- Ms. Mendez-Cantu seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers indicated that this is a routine approval; no changes have been made since it was last presented.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Large, Rodriguez, Nagelvoort, Vela, Cauoette, Mendez-Cantu, Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

18. **Action: Approval of Sherman Oaks Lease**

- Mr. Caouette moved to approve the Sherman Oaks Lease.
- Ms. Mendez-Cantu seconded.
- Discussion: Dr. Hermsmeyer explained that recent changes in the law have impacted another charter's ability to continue serving a group of students at a center in Sherman Oaks. Our recently approved petition includes the ability to serve students in this area. The other charter has a facility where the students have been meeting. It would be beneficial for us to assume the lease for the remainder of the year in order to serve these students. Facilities may look for another location for the future.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Large, Rodriguez, Nagelvoort, Vela, Cauoette, Mendez-Cantu, Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

19. **Board Comments**

- Mr. Rodriguez: I would like to know if any of the Boards do not approve the MOU with Springs Inc.
- Mr. Schneider: My grandsons attend Venture. They are both doing very well, and excited to work on school. I love that the school allows them to work at their potential which is above grade level.
- Ms. Nagelvoort: Merry Christmas everyone!

20. **Closed Session - Entered into at 11:00 a.m.**

- Employee Performance Review - Superintendent

21. **Open Session - Entered into at 11:22 a.m.**

- Public Report of Action Taken in Closed Session in accordance with Gov Code Section
 - The Board reviewed the Subcommittee's Evaluation Report and indicated that they are very pleased with her performance.

22. **Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

- Mr. Schneider adjourned the meeting at 11:23 a.m.



Jessica Large, Secretary

2/13/2020

Date