

EMPIRE SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

27740 JEFFERSON AVE • TEMECULA, CA 92590

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2023

9:00 a.m.

27740 Jefferson Ave. Temecula, CA
Rancho Cucamonga Student Center
8969 Archibald Ave.
Rancho Cucamonga, CA

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:

Stephanie Vargas, Vice Chair Ivo Caouette, Chair Michelle Nagelvoort, Treasurer Tracey Vela, Secretary	Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent Amy Podratz, Asst. Superintendent, Admin Ops Vivian Price, Asst. Superintendent, Education Tanya Rogers, Asst. Superintendent, Business Debbie Daniel, Asst. Superintendent, Pupil Services Natali South, Senior Director of Charter Relations Dave Black, Senior Director of Facilities Trevor Johnson, Senior Director of Business Katherine VanLeeuwen, Senior Director of Admin. Ops. Leanne Windmiller, Director of Student Services
---	--

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

- Mr. Caouette called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Ms. Vargas moved to approve the agenda.
- Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.
- Vote: 4 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Vargas, Vela; 3 Absent: Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

3. **Action: Approval of December 8, 2022**
 - Ms. Nagelvoort moved to approve the Minutes from December 6, 2022.
 - Ms. Vargas seconded.
 - Vote: 4 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Vargas, Vela; 3 Absent: Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

4. **Action: Approval of Consent Agenda**
 - Ms. Vela moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of Warrants, Personnel Action Report, Annual Signers with Bank, and School Accountability Report Card.
 - Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.
 - Vote: 4 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Vargas, Vela; 3 Absent: Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

5. **Public Comments**
 - None

6. **Information: Superintendent's Report**
 - Dr. Hermsmeyer reviewed the Superintendent's report and let the Board know about recent events throughout the network. She announced that (River) Springs was named a Top Workplace for the sixth consecutive year.

7. **Information: First Reading of Addition to Board Policy 5018.1 - Graduation Requirements**
 - Debbie Daniel reviewed the revised Graduation Requirements board policy and explained schools are now required to provide a diploma pathway for all students regardless of disability or other circumstances. As a result of this, language is being added to our policy to outline additional options for students who would not be eligible to earn a diploma through the traditional pathway. This policy will return at a future meeting for second reading and approval.

8. **Information: Educator Effectiveness Grant**
 - Tanya Rogers explained that some adjustments have been made to the allocations of the Educator Effectiveness Grant as disclosed in the agenda item.

9. **Action: Approval of 2023-24 Attendance and 185 Credentialed Staff Calendars**
 - Ms. Nagelvoort moved to approve the 2023-24 Attendance and 185 Credentialed Staff Calendars.
 - Ms. Vela seconded.
 - Discussion: Amy Podratz presented two separate calendars; one has 185 work days for teachers and the other has 187. The difference between the two calendars is dependent upon the budget being able to support the additional 2

days of staff development for TK-8 teachers (not just the high school teachers as it is now). After the budget is approved, the board will receive an update regarding which calendar was selected.

- Vote: 4 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Vargas, Vela; 3 Absent: Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

10. Action: Approval of Second Reading and Approval of Board Policy 5032.1 - Residency Investigation

- Ms. Vela moved to approve the Second Reading and Approval of Board Policy 5032.1 - Residency Investigation.
- Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.
- Discussion: Katherine Van Leeuwen reminded the board that this policy codifies the process for ensuring that our students live in the county indicated on their application. This policy was presented at the previous meeting and no changes were required.
- Vote: 4 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Vargas, Vela; 3 Absent: Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

11. Action: Approval of Auditor Selection for the 2022-23 School Year

- Ms. Nagelvoort moved to approve the Auditor Selection for the 2022-23 School Year.
- Ms. Vela seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that staff is happy with our current auditor and would like to engage with them again for this year.
- Vote: 4 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Vargas, Vela; 3 Absent: Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

12. Action: Approval of Stripe Credit Card Processing Agreement

- Ms. Vargas moved to approve the Stripe Credit Card Processing Agreement.
- Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that partnering with Stripe will allow our individual schools and charters to accept credit card payments for various things such as field trips and other expenses.
- Vote: 4 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Vargas, Vela; 3 Absent: Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

13. Action: Approval of Shared Services MOU

- Ms. Nagelvoort moved to approve the Shared Services MOU.
- Ms. Vela seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that employees may need to access information for students who are enrolled in a Springs' charter other than the charter the employee works for. This MOU provides the opportunity to share

services among our Springs' employees regardless of which charter they are employed by.

- Vote: 4 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Vargas, Vela; 3 Absent: Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

14. Action: Approval of Lease Amendment with JC Williams LLC760 West Acacia Avenue, Suite 106/Hemet


- Ms. Vela moved to approve the Lease Amendment with JC Williams LLC760 West Acacia Avenue, Suite 106/Hemet.
- Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.
- Discussion: Dave Black explained that this lease amendment will allow us to expand our square footage at our Acacia B site which is held in Empire's name.
- Vote: 4 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Vargas, Vela; 3 Absent: Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

15. Board Comments

- Mr. Caouette: There will be a Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) event held in my son, Garrett's name on April 1. We'd like to get support from Springs.
 - Tanya Rogers will coordinate a Springs' team.

16. Action: Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

- Ms. Vargas moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 a.m.
- Ms. Vela seconded.
- Vote: 4 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Vargas, Vela; 3 Absent: Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted



Tracey Vela, Secretary

March 9, 2023

Date