

EMPIRE SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

27740 JEFFERSON AVE • TEMECULA, CA 92590

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 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:

Diane Mendez Cantu, Board Chair Stephanie Vargas, Vice Chair Michelle Nagelvoort, Treasurer Tracey Vela, Secretary Jason Rodriguez, Board Director Ivo Caouette, Board Director	Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent Tanya Rogers, Assist. Supt. of Business Natali South, Senior Director of Charter Relations Trevor Johnson, Senior Director of Business Courtney Cook, Senior Director of Special Education Heather Ferenc, Senior Director of Education Katherine VanLeeuwen, Senior Director of Adm. Ops. Beverly Voechting, Director of High School Programs Monica Lopez, Principal Tammy Slaten, Principal Jackie Dee, Principal Erin Chafin, Credential Analyst
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1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

- Ms. Mendez-Cantu called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Ms. Vela moved to approve the agenda.
- Mr. Caouette seconded.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Vargas, Vela;
1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

3. **Action: Approval of March 9, 2023 Minutes**
 - Ms. Navelvoort moved to approve the Minutes from March 9, 2023.
 - Ms. Vela seconded.
 - Vote: 4 Ayes: Nagelvoort, Rodriguez, Vargas, Vela; 1 Absent: Schneider; 2 Abstentions: Mendez-Cantu, 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, and Instructure Retainer Contract Ratification.
 - Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.
 - Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Vargas, Vela; 1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

5. **Public Comments**
 - None

6. **Information: Presentation: Barstow Community College and Recognition**
 - Beverly Voechting introduced Dr. Crystal Nasio with Barstow Community College, with whom we partner to provide dual enrollment courses for students to earn both high school and college credit. Dr. Nasio presented Kathy Crudo with an award of recognition for her efforts in growing this program. ESCS had a 100% pass rate for students who participated this year, and the program is growing.

7. **Information: Superintendent's Report**
 - Dr. Hermsmeyer reviewed her report and provided network updates, including plans for our upcoming Ignite! event. Additionally, she updated the board on the status of our county-wide benefit petition San Bernardino County.

8. **Information: Financial Update 2022-23**
 - Trevor Johnson reviewed the mid-year financial update. This report reviews the current status of the budget and provides projected information for next year's budget based on expected enrollment and funding. The numbers will be finalized after information is received from the State, and will be brought back at the June meeting for budget approval.

9. **Information: Public Comment - Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)**
 - The Public Comment window to discuss the LCAP was opened at 9:52 a.m. Amy Podratz reviewed the plan. The board reviewed the scores and discussed i-Ready, specifically. No public comments were made and the window was closed at 9:56 a.m. The full stakeholder LCAP will return for approval at the June meeting.

- 10. Action: Approval of Bank Accounts with JP Morgan Chase**
 - Ms. Vela moved to approve the Bank Accounts with JP Morgan Chase.
 - Ms. Vargas seconded.
 - Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that due to recent banking issues, it is considered wise to move funds to larger banks at this time. Additionally, JP Morgan Chase offers interest-bearing accounts.
 - Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Vargas, Vela;
1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

- 11. Action: Approval of 2023-24 Consolidated Application for Funding**
 - Mr. Caouette moved to approve the 2023-24 Consolidated Application for Funding.
 - Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.
 - Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that this application allows the school to apply for multiple federal grants and funding opportunities with a single application.
 - Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Vargas, Vela;
1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

- 12. Action: Approval of 2023-24 CIF Application for New Multi-school Agreement**
 - Ms. Vela moved to approve the CIF Application for New Multi-school Agreement.
 - Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.
 - Discussion: Amy Podratz explained that this agreement will allow Empire Springs' students to participate in CIF sports through River Springs' CIF program at Magnolia Student Center.
 - Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Vargas, Vela;
1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

- 13. Action: Approval of Long-Distance travel for our Ignite! Conference**
 - Ms. Varga moved to approve the Long-distance travel for our Ignite! Conference.
 - Ms. Vela seconded.
 - Discussion: Jackie Dee explained that some of our Venture staff live out of state, and need to travel in order to attend Ignite! and other staff development.
 - Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Vargas, Vela;
1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

- 14. Action: Approval of Declaration of Need For Fully Qualified Educators**
 - Ms. Vargas moved to approve the Need for Fully Qualified Educators.
 - Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.

- Discussion: Erin Chaffin explained the Declaration of Need which allows us to hire teachers with emergency permits in the event that we cannot fill a vacancy with a fully credentialed teacher.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Vargas, Vela;
1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

15. Action: Second Reading and Approval of Video Recording Policy 5033.1

- Ms. Vela moved to approve the Second Reading and Approval of Video Recording Policy 5033.1.
- Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.
- Discussion: Heather Ferenc explained that the policy was previously presented for First Reading. Minor edits since that time have been made, and Heather identified and explained those. The policy will be posted as revised.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Vargas, Vela;
1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

16. Action: Second Reading and Approval of Graduation Requirements Policy 5018.1

- Ms. Vargas moved to approve the Second Reading and Approval of Graduation Requirements Policy 5018.1.
- Mr. Caouette seconded.
- Discussion: Debbie Daniel reminded the board that this policy was previously presented for First Reading with no requested changes.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Vargas, Vela;
1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

17. Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation GOV Code 54954.5/54956.9 - Entered into at 10:19 a.m.

- Settlement Re Student ID #9045071100

18. Open Session: Report of Action Taken in Closed Session - Entered into at 10:30 a.m.

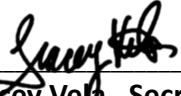
- Settlement Re Student ID #9045071100
 - The board approved the settlement agreement.

19. Board Comments

- Ms. Vargas: I am excited about the Barstow Community College program. Great job!
- Ms. Mendez-Cantu: Yes, the dual enrollment with Barstow Community College. is so fantastic. My daughter benefited greatly from Springs' CTE programs.

20. Action: Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

- Ms. Vela moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m.
- Mr. Caouette seconded.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Nagelvoort, Mendez-Cantu, Rodriguez, Vargas, Vela;
1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted



Tracey Vela, Secretary

June 8, 2023

Date