

# VISTA SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

27740 JEFFERSON AVE • TEMECULA, CA 92590

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

September 12, 2024

**4:30 p.m.**

**700 E. Bobier Ave. Vista, CA 92084**

*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.*

Barbara BJ Heath, Chair Collin Harrison, Vice Chair Reginald Wadlington, Secretary Lauren Rugge, Treasurer Debbie Daniel, Director Jennifer Mejares-Pham, Director Justin Moldenhauer, Director	Dr. Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent Virginia Smith, Asst. Superintendent, Human Resources Tanya Rogers, Asst. Superintendent, Business Amy Podratz, Asst. Superintendent, Admin. Operations Natali South, Senior Director of Charter Relations Trevor Johnson, Senior Director of Business Denise Smith, Senior Director of Human Resources Ruth Newsome, Senior Director of Human Resources Courtney Cook, Senior Director of Special Education Dave Black, Senior Director of Facilities Kimberly Bagby Principal Brynne Dukes, Principal Renee Albright, Charter Relations Coordinator
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- 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**
  - Natali South called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2. Oath of Office: Lauren Rugge and Reginald Wadlington**
  - Natali South presented the Oath of Office to Lauren Rugge and Reginald Wadlington. These members' first, renewable term will expire June 30, 2027.
- 3. Action: Election of Officers & Appointment of Subcommittees**
  - Mr. Harrison moved to elect as BJ Heath as Board Chair.
  - Mr. Moldenhauer seconded.

- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Ruge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
- Mr. Moldenhauer moved to elect as Collin Harrison as Vice Chair.
- Ms. Mejares-Pham seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Ruge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
- Ms. Mejares-Pham moved to elect Reginald Wadlington as Board Secretary.
- Mr. Harrison seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Ruge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
- Mr. Harrison moved to elect Lauren Ruge as Board Treasurer.
- Ms. Mejares-Pham seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Ruge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
- Ms. Mejares-Pham moved to appoint Lauren Ruge and Debbie Daniel as representatives on the Superintendent's Evaluation Subcommittee.
- Mr. Moldenhauer seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Ruge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
- Ms. Daniel moved to appoint Collin Harrison as Harbor Springs' representative on the Succession Plan Subcommittee.
- Ms. Mejares-Pham seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Ruge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

**4. Action: Approval of Agenda**

- Mr. Harrison moved to approve the agenda.
- Mr. Wadlington seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Ruge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

**5. Action: Approval of Minutes from June 6, 2024**

- Mr. Harrison moved to approve the Minutes from June 6, 2024.
- Mr. Moldenhauer seconded.
- Vote: 5 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; 2 Absentation: Ruge, Wadlington; Motion Adopted

6. **Action: Approval of Minutes from August 6, 2024**
  - Ms. Mejares-Pham moved to approve the Minutes from June 6, 2024.
  - Mr. Harrison seconded.
  - Vote: 5 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; 2 Absentation: Rugge, Wadlington; Motion Adopted
  
7. **Action: Approval of Consent Agenda**
  - Mr. Moldenhauer moved to approve the Warrants, Personnel Action Report, Delayed State Data: CA School Dashboard Priority 1, Approval of California Department of Education Compliance Requirements for Vista Springs, and Contract Ratification: Ross Fence Inc.at the Vista Student Center.
  - Ms. Rugge seconded.
  - Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Rugge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
  
8. **Public Comment**
  - None
  
9. **Information: Student Spotlight - 8th Grade Summer Camp Video Presentation**
  - The board enjoyed a video created by our Education Department. Staff members from our Education Department took 8th-grade students to a week-long summer camp to bond with their peers and learn about their inner emotions.
  
10. **Information: Staff Spotlight - Board Appreciation Dinner 2024 Ignite! Video Presentation**
  - The board enjoyed a video created by Parrell 40 Productions of our Board Appreciation Dinner 2024. Our Board Appreciation Dinner was held on August 6th, 2024, at Pechanga Resort and Casino in the Grand Ballroom.
  
11. **Information: Staff Spotlight - 25th Ignite! 2024 Video Presentation**
  - The board enjoyed a video created by Parrell 40 Productions of our Staff Development 2024 (IGNITE!). Our Staff Development 2024 (IGNITE!) was held on August 7th, 2024, at Pechanga Resort and Casino in the Summit Ballroom.
  
12. **Information: Superintendent's Report**
  - Kathleen Hermsmeyer reviewed the Superintendent's Report and provided updates about the start of the school year.

13. **Information: Board Conference Options 2024-25**
- Natali South explained that one member per charter may attend a conference this year.
14. **Action: Approval of the Booking Agreement with Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center for Otay Ranch Academy for the Performing Arts**
- Ms. Mejares-Pham moved to approve the Booking Agreement with Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center for Otay Ranch Academy for the Performing Arts.
  - Mr. Wadlington seconded.
  - Discussion: Dave Black explained the Pacific's ORAA students are meeting in this location until the new site is completed, which is expected to be around Thanksgiving.
  - Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Rugge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
15. **Action: Approval of Approval Unaudited Actuals**
- Mr. Moldenhauer moved to approve the Unaudited Actuals.
  - Ms. Rugge seconded.
  - Discussion: Trevor Johnson reviewed the Unaudited Actuals for 2023-24. These will be reviewed during the upcoming audit. Trevor explained the sources of funding and reviewed expenditures.
  - Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Rugge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
16. **Action: Waive the First Reading and Approval of Board Policy 5036.1 - Student Parking**
- Ms. Rugge moved to waive the First Reading and approve Board Policy 5036.1 - Student Parking.
  - Mr. Moldenhauer seconded.
  - Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that some of the sites in the network have grown to the size that we need to implement a parking policy. While Citrus Springs is not facing this issue, we try to have consistent policies across all our charters so that the policy is in place if needed.
  - Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Rugge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
17. **Action: Approval of Stipend Agreement Form (SAF) Schedule for 2024-25**
- Ms. Rugge moved to approve the Stipend Agreement Form (SAF) Schedule for 2024-25.
  - Mr. Moldenhauer seconded.

- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that we have always offered stipends, which have been approved through the general budget process. CalSTRS has requested a separate approval for clarity regarding retirement credit reporting.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Rugge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

**18. Action: Approval of Longevity Bonuses presented at Ignite**

- Ms. Rugge moved to approve the Longevity Bonuses presented at Ignite.
- Mr. Wadlington seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that we have always offered stipends, which have been approved through the general budget process. CalSTRS has requested a separate approval regarding clarity for retirement credit reporting.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Rugge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

**19. Action: Approval of Longevity Payments to 15, 20, and 25-year Employees**

- Mr. Moldenhauer moved to approve the Longevity Payments to 15, 20, and 25-year Employees.
- Mr. Wadlington seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson indicated that we've paid longevity awards for years, and they've been adopted previously through the budget process. This individual approval allows additional transparency.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Rugge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

**20. Action: Approval of Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Plan**

- Mr. Harrison moved to approve the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Plan.
- Ms. Rugge seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that this plan is for the services that we provide outside the general school day including camps and afterschool programs. The plan must be approved in order to obtain ELOP funding.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Rugge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

**21. Action: Waive the First Reading and Approval of Updated Board Policy 7003.1 - Conflict of Interest Code**

- Ms. Rugge moved to waive the First Reading and approve Updated Board Policy 7003.1 - Conflict of Interest Code.
- Ms. Daniel seconded.

- Discussion: Ruth Newsome explained that minor edits have been made to the COI. The approved policy will be forwarded to the County Board of Supervisors for approval.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Rugge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

**22. Action: Approval of Superintendent's Goals 2024-25**

- Ms. Rugge moved to approve the Superintendent's Goals 2024-25.
- Mr. Harrison seconded.
- Discussion: Kathleen Hermsmeyer reviewed her proposed goals for the upcoming year.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Rugge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

**23. Closed Session - in Accordance with Gov Code Section 54954.5/54956.9:  
Entered into at 6:19 p.m.**

- 54956.9: Special Education Settlement Agreement re: Student ID: 6007 & 6593

**24. Open Session - Entered into Open Session at 6:34 p.m.**

- The board approved the settlement agreement.

**25. Board Comments**

- Ms. Mejares-Pham asked of any Springs campuses closed due to the fires. Dr. Hermsmeyer explained that we followed the local school districts, and yes, some campuses closed for a day or two.

**26. Action: Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

- Mr. Moldenhauer moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m.
- Mr. Harrison seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Daniel, Harrison, Heath, Mejares-Pham, Moldenhauer, Rugge, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted



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**Reginald Wadlington, Secretary**

12/12/24

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**Date**