



HOLTVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Governing Board of Trustees

Special Board Meeting

August 4, 2020

Board of Trustees

Jared Garewal, President

Ben Abatti, Jr., Clerk

Matt Hester, Member

Robin Cartee, Member

Kevin Grizzle, Member

Superintendent

Celso Ruiz

Assistant Superintendent

John Paul Wells



NOTICE OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

of the

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

HOLTVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Tuesday, August 4, 2020

CLOSED SESSION 5:00 AM, OPEN SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

Holtville Unified School District, Board Room, 621 East Sixth Street, Holtville, CA. 92250

Members of the public who require disability accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact the Superintendent at (760)356-2974, or in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. (Government Code section 54954.2).

1. PRELIMINARY

Call to Order

Flag Salute

Roll Call

Present Absent

Jared Garewal, President

Ben Abatti, Jr, Clerk

Matt Hester, Member

Robin Cartee, Member

Kevin Grizzle, Member

2. MODIFICATIONS OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA, IF ANY.

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Ayes: ___ Nays: ___ Vote: ___ - ___

3. STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING ITEMS ON THE CLOSED SESSION AGENDA.

At this time, members of the public may address the Board only as to items on the closed session agenda. If you wish to address the Board, please stand, give your name and address and proceed to the podium from which you will speak. Individual presentations shall not be for more than three (3) minutes and the total time for this purpose shall not exceed twenty minutes

4. CLOSED SESSION

A) Closed Session in accordance with Government Code section 54957: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

B) Negotiations with the Holtville Teachers Association – Pursuant to Government Code Section 3549.1

5. REPORTABLE CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

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6. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS ON THE OPEN SESSION AGENDA AND ON NON AGENDA ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE PUBLIC THAT ARE WITHIN THE SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD.

At this time, members of the public may address the Board only as to items on the open session agenda or items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Public comment will not be taken during the Board's consideration of an item on the open session agenda. If you wish to address the Board, please stand, give your name and address and proceed to the podium from which you will speak. Individual presentations shall not be for more than three (3) minutes and the total time for this purpose shall not exceed twenty minutes. In accordance with the Brown Act, unless an item has been placed on the published agenda, there shall be no action taken. The Board may 1) acknowledge receipt of the information, 2) refer to staff for further study, or 3) refer the matter to the next agenda.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters on the Consent Agenda are considered by the Board to be routine and will be enacted by the Board in one motion in the form listed below. The Superintendent and staff recommend approval of all Consent Agenda items.

A) PERSONNEL SERVICES

1) Certificated Employment

8. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

The Board is asked to discuss the following item:

A) Approve Approval for Jennifer Sutter to teach Agriculture Science, grades 9th – 12th at Holtville High School with an English Language Variable Term Waiver for the 2020-21 school year. (Mr. Ruiz)

*Motion: _____ Second: _____
Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Vote: ____ - ____*

B) Approve 2019-20 Measure G Citizen's Oversight Committee Report. (Mr. Wells) Pg. 2

*Motion: _____ Second: _____
Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Vote: ____ - ____*

C) Approve Board Resolution 2020/21-002 Authorizing the Superintendent of the Holtville Unified School District to Seek a Waiver from the Local Health Officer/Authority to Open Elementary Schooling (Grades TK-5) for In-Person Instruction Beginning August 17, 2020. (Mr. Wells) Pgs. 3-4

*Motion: _____ Second: _____
Roll Call Vote: Garewal: _____ Abatti: _____ Hester: _____ Cartee: _____ Grizzle: _____
Aye: _____ Nays: _____ Vote: ____ - ____*

9. ADJOURNMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Holtville Unified School District is to ensure a standards-based curriculum that promotes excellence in academic, social and emotional growth for every student through the establishment of strong parent/school/community partnerships in a stable and safe learning environment.

HOLTVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Board Meeting Agenda

ACTION/DISCUSSION

HOLTVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR MEASURE G
Annual Report to the Board

July 29th, 2020

Members of the Board of Trustees,

On November 6, 2018, Holtville Unified School District Voters approved "Measure G," authorizing the district to issue up to \$10 million in general obligation bonds with the stated goals to "To improve the quality of education; modernize outdated classrooms, restrooms and school facilities; and construct a new gymnasium/multipurpose room for school and community use." As required by California Education Code Section 15278 for bonds issued under Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) of the California Constitution, the Holtville Unified School District Board of Trustees adopted the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Bylaws for Measure G on December 10, 2018; it is under these bylaws that this committee has been formed.

The primary responsibilities of the committee are:

- Inform the public of the District's expenditure of bond proceeds.
- Review expenditures to ensure that bond proceeds are used only for those purposes laid out in Measure G and that no bond proceeds have been used for teacher or administrative salaries or other operating expenses.
- Provide an annual report to the Board:
 - Indicating whether the district is in compliance with Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) of the California Constitution and;
 - Summarizing the Committee's proceedings and activities for the preceding year.

The Measure G Citizens' Oversight Committee has met twice to date. An initial meeting was held May 22, 2019. At this meeting, Christopher Stergios was elected as Committee Chair and Lucy Hendry was elected as Vice-Chair. There was also review of the Committee's bylaws. Assistant Superintendent Wells laid out the District's project priorities and provided an overview of the process of bond issuance. The committee was also provided with a report of expenditures which indicated, as of that date, no Measure G bond proceeds had been spent. Additionally, the committee was provided with details of the proposed HMS gym/multipurpose room.

The Committee's second meeting was held June 24, 2020. This meeting was held virtually in an attempt to accommodate restrictions on gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic. At this meeting, Assistant Superintendent Wells once again provided the Committee with a report of bond proceeds and expenditures to that date. The Committee was also provided with an update on the construction of the HMS gym/multipurpose room.

After reviewing the reports of expenditures provided by Assistant Superintendent Wells, the Committee determines that the District is in compliance with the requirements of Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) of the California Constitution and certifies that to date, Measure G bond proceeds have only been spent on allowable construction expenses and not for any teacher or administrative salaries nor other operating expenses of the District.

Sincerely,



Christopher Stergios

Chair

Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee

RESOLUTION #2020/21-002
**AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE HOLTVILLE
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TO SEEK A WAIVER FROM THE LOCAL
HEALTH OFFICER/AUTHORITY TO OPEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLING
(GRADES TK-5) FOR IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION BEGINNING AUGUST
17, 2020**

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of California announced on July 17, 2020 that the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued new mandatory requirements regarding the opening of schools for in-person instruction; and

WHEREAS, CDPH is generally requiring the closure of all in-person activities at public and private K-12 schools, including classroom instruction, in more than thirty (30) counties across the State of California that have been designated to the State's "watch list"; and

WHEREAS, K-12 schools within these counties will be required to close for a minimum of fourteen (14) days and only reopen if and when the county in which they reside has been removed from the "watch list" for a minimum of fourteen (14) days; and

WHEREAS, the Holtville Unified School District is located in Imperial County, a California county currently designated to the State's "watch list"; and

WHEREAS, the CDPH guidelines have also provided elementary schools a pathway for in-person instruction through a waiver of this criteria; and

WHEREAS, said waiver may be granted by the local health officer if one is requested by the school district superintendent, in consultation with labor, parent community organizations; and

WHEREAS, local health officers must review local community epidemiological data, consider other public health interventions, and consult with CDPH; and

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics, an organization "dedicated to preserving and cataloguing materials representing the history of pediatrics and children's health care" recently released guidelines regarding the reopening of schools; and

WHEREAS, the Academy guidelines strongly recommend that students be "physically present in school" as much as possible, explaining that "the preponderance of evidence indicates that children and adolescents are less likely to be symptomatic and less likely to have severe disease resulting from SARS-CoV-2 infection" and that "children may be less likely to become infected and to spread infection"; and

WHEREAS, the Academy further recommends that "policies to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 within schools must be balanced with the known harms

to children, adolescents, families, and the community by keeping children at home. to the serious social, emotional, and educational risks of closing schools”; and

WHEREAS, the Academy guidelines further state that “policy makers should acknowledge that COVID-19 policies are intended to mitigate, not eliminate, risk”, and that “no single action or set of actions will completely eliminate the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission, but implementation of several coordinated interventions can greatly reduce that risk”; and

WHEREAS, the Holtville Unified School District has developed a safe schools re-opening plan with the aim to minimize the risks of SARS-CoV-2 transmission; and

WHEREAS, the Holtville Unified School District will seek input from staff, parents/guardians, and community organizations to open elementary grade levels TK-5 in a manner consistent with the recommendations of health organizations and authorities; and

WHEREAS, the Holtville Unified School District will provide in-person instruction only if sufficient staff and parents volunteer to participate, while maintaining a distance learning program for those parents/guardians who do not wish to elect in-person instruction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Holtville Unified School District in legal session convened, that it does hereby authorize and support the submission of a waiver to the local health officer/authority to open elementary schooling for Grades TK-5 for in-person instruction beginning August 17, 2020 by the Superintendent of the Holtville Unified School District.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 4th day of August 2020 by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

I declare that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Holtville Unified School District Board of Trustees at a special meeting held on August 4, 2020.

Celso Ruiz, Authorized Agent
Holtville Unified School District Board of Trustees