



# PERRIS UNION

## HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

### MINUTES

#### SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PERRIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES October 1, 2020

### ROLL CALL

#### **Present:**

Trustee Anthony T. Stafford, Sr., President  
Trustee Dr. Jose Luis Araux, Vice President  
Trustee Edward Garcia, Jr., Clerk  
Trustee David Nelissen, Member  
Trustee Dr. Randall Freeman, Member

#### **Administrative Staff Present:**

Grant Bennett, Superintendent; Candace Reines, Deputy Superintendent – Business Services; Dr. Charles Newman, Assistant Superintendent – Educational Services; Kirk Skorpanich, Assistant Superintendent – Human Resources; Joseph Williams, Executive Director – Technology; and James Heckman, Assistant Director – Technology

#### **Others Attending:**

Sarah Rico, Anna Fetzner, and others

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**1.1 PUBLIC NOTICE: The writings, documents, or public records described in SB No. 343 are available at the District Office, currently located at 155 East Fourth Street, Perris, CA 92570**

### CALL TO ORDER

**2.1 CALL TO ORDER: The President of the Board of Trustees Will Call the Perris Union High School District Special Meeting to Order**

**CALL TO ORDER** (cont.)

The President of the Board of Trustees called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The President of the Board of Trustees Will Lead the Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance**

The President of the Board of Trustees led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**REVISION/ADOPTION/ORDERING OF AGENDA**

**4.1 REVISION/ADOPTION/ORDERING OF AGENDA: October 1, 2020**

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(David Nelissen)** moved, Member **(Dr. Randall Freeman)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve any revision/adoption/ordering of the Agenda of the Special Board Meeting of the Perris Union High School District Board of Trustees for October 1, 2020."

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5**, Nay: **0**. The motion **PASSED 5 - 0**.

Dr. Jose Luis Araux	Yes
Dr. Randall Freeman	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes

**INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**5.1 INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Non-Agendized Items**

The following individual public comments were received and read by Joseph Williams, Executive Director of Technology.

**Adriana Ruiz, community member submitted the following written statement:**

Good Evening, my question is regarding if schools are planning to reopen soon? When? If so, will we Parents be given an option to continue to keep our children in distance learning the rest of the year? Thank you

**Laura Salcido, community member submitted the following written statement:**

**INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES** (cont.)

How would the district and individual schools process kids that show symptoms of the virus during school hours?

If parents already send out their choice of full virtual or hybrid; can they change their choice?

Would they be assigned specific teachers or would they keep all the classes as is, if they happen to go back to school?

**ACTION ITEMS**

**6.1 GENERAL FUNCTIONS: Plan for Return to Athletic Conditioning and Workouts**

Ryan Sharp, Athletic Director at Paloma Valley High School and Ken Cohen, Athletic Director at Perris High School, provided the Board of Trustees with an updated athletic plan and answered questions in regards to the plan.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(Dr. Jose Luis Araux)** moved, Member **(Edward Garcia, Jr.)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the plan to return to athletic conditioning and workouts and authorize to enter into Phase I with subsequent phases upon approval of the Riverside County Health Department."

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5**, Nay: **0**. The motion **PASSED 5 - 0**.

Dr. Jose Luis Araux	Yes
Dr. Randall Freeman	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes

The following individual public comments were received:

**Aaron Harrison, Paloma Valley High School parent submitted the following written statement:**

I ask you to vote Yes to let students at Paloma High School to begin workouts with their fellow students. These kids have been through enough, they need the outdoors and they need their friends. The obesity and depression is taking over for many of these kids, if you don't act now we will lose a generation of kids and they will lose their dreams. The county health department has allowed community teams to practice with equipment together, for 3 weeks now. Again I urge you to vote yes tonight to start a path to normalcy for your children.

### **ACTION ITEMS** (cont.)

#### **Christina Moore, Paloma Valley High School parent submitted the following written statement:**

I'm writing to ask you to please consider allowing the high school kids to go back to school to practice sports. In the last month or two many sports in the communities have started practicing again. My son is currently practicing volleyball indoors 2-3x a week. Parks are full of soccer and baseball practices. All of them are using special protocol to keep our kids safe. They sanitize upon entering, wear masks when able, limit their practicing to skills with less contact, and many take temperatures beforehand. This can be done safely with a small bit of planning. These kids have been through a lot and I can see it starting to affect many of them. Kids who love school normally are hating school and in tears. They need to get back to both interaction with others and physical activity. Please, when you vote or meet again on this matter, please consider allowing it in some capacity. Anything small is a step in the right direction for these kids. Thank you for your consideration.

#### **Teshia Shubert, community member submitted the following written statement:**

School Board Members and District Leadership:

As you are making very important decisions regarding the future of our kids, I would like to take a moment and remind you how important these decisions are. When considering the reopening of schools, sports, and clubs you need to take into account what negative affects the current situation is having on high school students, both mentally and physically. Online learning and asynchronous work is taking a huge toll on students. The number of hours spent in front of a screen is unacceptable. Yet, these students have no choice but to do it if they want to be successful in their classes, AKA maintaining their high GPA's.

Furthermore, student athletes want their sports back. We know that other districts are successfully bringing them back (and other states have never even stopped doing them). We, student athletes and parents, will sign the waivers necessary for our students to have sports back that are so vital to their mental and physical wellbeing!

We know that sports, clubs, and extracurricular activities keep many students interested in high school. It is the best part of high school! I plead with you to bring them back.

#### **Kelly Perez, Heritage High School parent submitted the following written statement:**

I am sending this message with high hopes you, the board, will make the right decision to let our kids back in school; and to allow them to begin conditioning for the upcoming sports season. My son is a senior, and varsity baseball player at Heritage. This is supposed to be HIS year, along with all of his fellow graduating classmates. These kids need to be back on campus, in the classroom, with real life, in person teaching, and yes, they need their school social lives back! At the very least you could approve a plan to get the athletes on campus to begin preparing for a sport they love. For a sport they have poured their hearts and souls into throughout the years so they COULD play at the high school level and beyond. My son made Varsity last season, but COVID stole that away. Do not let my child and every other child lose one more day of something that means so much to them because of this virus, and the unnecessary, damaging fear it has caused. Our kids deserve to have the best 4 years, don't you agree? Don't you want to bring them back joy, happiness, and

### **ACTION ITEMS** (cont.)

meaning? Sitting at home, staring at a screen all day, with no other outlet to look forward to (such as sports!) is not joy or happiness. It's a streamline to depression, anxiety, and a myriad of other health issues. I am begging you to make the "difficult" decision to do right by our children. Our kids are mature enough to handle social distancing, mask wearing when needed, and wiping down and sanitizing workout equipment. My son has been going to a private gym with me for the last several months, and he has done his part to thoroughly clean all equipment before another gym member uses it. It's not hard. Also, what does cleaning the restrooms have to do with anything? If they can use a public restroom and properly wash their hands outside of school, why wouldn't they be capable of doing this at school? We are not talking about kindergartners here. It seems as though some board members are reaching for reasons to not allow this plan to pass, when they should be advocating for the students best interests. The students are ready, the parents are ready...the board needs to hear us!

#### **Mark Nolan, community member submitted the following written statement:**

There is no good reason not to let these kids start to participate in workouts at their school. I never graduated from college. My lessons I learned about life were from my coaches and the effort I gave at practices and in games.

I have been very successful in business and raising my kids because of the competitive nature in sports working as a teammate, learning to succeed and the preparation to do your best. All this came from high school sports and the mentorship I received from my Coaches.

Without high school sports me nor my father would have been as successful. My father lived with his football coach for two years. My father became a millionaire in part because of the lessons in life he learned from participating in football, baseball and basketball.

My father recently told me he could not imagine sports being taken away from him.

All over the nation sports are being played and practiced. Please get these kids back practicing in the sports they love. Everyday they are not playing sports does destroy lives. The only reason not to allow athletes in this school district not to participate in their athletic activities is for the board to show their power and political ignorance.

#### **Jason Miller, PSEA President submitted the following written statement:**

PSEA supports the return of sports for students for conditioning, practice, and play adhering to the least stringent guidelines at the county, state, and federal levels. The bottom line is that we want kids back in classrooms and in their sport when it is safe to do so. To some extent it is safe to do some of that now. We recognize that the school board did not kill a motion for returning of sports at the last board meeting but simply tabled it for more information. On a side note and an unrelated matter, let's talk about Dr. Thomasian. I would be remiss in not letting the board know of a great thing she has done for the staff at Paloma Valley. Dr. Thomasian has been visiting employees houses with signs for them that say something like Awesome educators live here. That is paraphrased. She even drove out to Orange county for this. Who does that? Dr.

### **ACTION ITEMS** (cont.)

Thomasian does that. What a great example of lifting other people up. Thank you Dr. Thomasian. Thank you, school board, for this time to speak.

#### **Jeneva Fraud, parent submitted the following written statement:**

I'm asking PUHSD to treat our children fairly. Plain and simple! Give them the same school privileges that every other district around us is giving their children. You are completely alienating the kids in your district, treating them differently than other districts treat their kids. I am pleading with you to consider our children's mental and physical wellbeing. We are simply asking that you allow them to use the high school's outside facilities to condition. We are not asking for them to use weight rooms or anything else (even though gyms in the area are officially open.) Give kids a choice! If they do not want to attend, fine, but as a mom that has two student athletes in sports, I've gone from seeing my kids strive to be competitive to win, to losing their ambition and drive to succeed. I'm a heartbroken parent that wants the best for my kids and that is to see them out around others that drive them to succeed and push the limits to be better.

#### **Blake Hauser, Paloma Valley High School student submitted the following written statement:**

I am a senior and play varsity football at Paloma Valley High School. I have played football since I was 5 years old and that's what I love to do. I had the opportunity to start at Quarterback last year and at the end of the year wasn't happy with how I as an athlete had played. So ever since the end of the season I have been training, working out and doing everything I can do to prepare for my final High School football season. The only thing that has been missing from this whole experience so far is being able to be with my teammates, talk to them, get to know them better, and make stronger connections. I miss being able to play football, and as most former players, including my older brother say, that some of their greatest memories come from high school and playing football with all their friends. These are years of my life that I will never be able to get back and I don't want to miss out on any of it.

#### **Joe Ellett, Paloma Valley High School coach submitted the following written statement:**

Dear School Board,

As you consider the return to sports through a phased in process, I would like to ask that you include an athletic trainer from the very beginning. Our athletic trainer performs important functions of injury prevention, recovery, monitoring hydration, taping athletes, providing ice when minor injuries occur, etc. They are invaluable to the process.

Alyssa Maurer has been the trainer at Paloma for a couple of years now and I have seen her help countless athletes.

In this time of transitioning from very limited activity and soon beginning the return to play, please provide our trainers.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

**Jason and Amy Frahn, parents submitted the following written statement:**

Attention School Board Members, This is in reference to the student athletes returning to practice and conditioning. As parents, we feel that all students who are ready to go back to their respective sports to begin conditioning with their teams, should be allowed. It is highly important for these athletes to physically be back in shape before the actual seasons begin, doing so will minimize the number of injuries these athletes could face. The state has already authorized our county to begin, and other districts surrounding ours have been doing so for 3 weeks now. These students have suffered enough with not being able to go to school in a normal setting, allowing them to get some sort of normalization with their teammates and coaches is the only right thing to do. If a parent is not comfortable with their child participating, then they can choose to stay home, however, don't make that choice for the ones who want to go back, the concerns for some should not be the decision for all. Everyone should be given the choice. We know and trust that the Athletic Directors at the high schools have put together a plan where everyone will be safe, and follow the state guidelines that have been implemented. These kids have lost 6 months of their childhood, let them get back to doing what they love, let them get back to conditioning.

**Erica Rumsey, community member submitted the following written statement:**

As a parent I know we are all doing our best to make decisions for the health of our community and our children both academically and mentally. Not only do we need to have the conversations about what our own children need, but we need to discuss the greater good of what will benefit most, if not all, of the children. I don't think there's any one answer as to what will benefit each and every child BUT we can do what we can for the majority and keep a watchful eye on the rest.

Getting our kids back to school is a big priority. As we are slowly moving in that direction, I do not feel the need to address that at the moment. However, we do have an opportunity to help a portion of our school's population: the student athletes.

For some of these kids, the only thing getting them through their day and getting them to attend the online classes is the possibility that they may get back to playing sports. Sports aren't just about kids hanging out together or practicing physical conditioning together. It's working as a team. It's having a sense of belonging to something bigger than oneself. It's the ability to put aside issues that may be plaguing them at home and just be kids. It's not just about physical health either. The mental boost these kids get by participating in a group is almost immeasurable.

Mr. Garcia had plenty of doubts that he expressed at the meeting last week. I believe some of them were put to rest by emails that were sent last week (ie the CDC recommendations that COVID-19 was shown to NOT spread in chlorinated water so water sports should not present a "red flag" to him.) I know there are other parents that will present answers to some of his concerns, as well as myself, so I don't feel the need to go too deeply into each of his points but I would like to address some of them as he said he is open to listening.

Mr. Garcia mentioned he had emails from coaches saying they are not comfortable getting back to practice with the kids. Obviously, the fears these coaches have should be validated but all sports across the entire district should not be held back due to the concerns of the few. If a certain sport at a specific school needs to

### **ACTION ITEMS** (cont.)

wait to begin practice, then each campus can defer to their director to have those concerns handled. He also mentioned (and I'm paraphrasing) "Letting athletes back makes the statement that sports are more important than academics and if we can have athletes back to train why can't we have students back in school?" The short answer to that, as I see it, is that the athletes are not indoors, in groups of 35-40, using recirculated air, in an environment that doesn't allow for distancing. These proposed conditioning groups are smaller groups of kids, as not all students participate in sports, and per the original proposal, and the original amendment as proposed by Dr Freeman, was groups of 10 kids per coach, outdoors, with social distancing.

Academics are immensely important and allowing students to gather outside and work on their physical conditioning and social skills is not taking the place of studying. Academics are having to be performed in this distance learning until we can make the teachers feel safe enough to return to the classroom so that's still happening. We have made adjustments so our children are still learning. However we have canceled ALL their sports, ALL their gatherings, ALL their mental health coping tools that we had previously at our disposal and our high school board has not put forth anything that gives these kids hope.

Mr. Garcia wanted to know if there was to be a nurse on hand or custodians present. Board President Stafford also had concerns regarding the custodians and the cleaning of the restrooms. I believe the Directors have already addressed these concerns and related they had spoken with the janitorial staff and the restroom situation was already handled. Currently there are no nurses at each of the practices for the kids. However, in each group there are trained coaches, there are kids that are trained in health, or lifeguarding skills so that portion would not be too different to that of Pre-Covid.

Finally both Mr. Garcia and Mr. Nelissen made comments to the effect that these kids can do just "running and pushups at home." The only team that is simply running would be cross county and I guarantee even those kids need a mentor to spur them on, to correct posture to help avoid sprains or ligament damage. I don't know of any sport that relies on basic PE premises to condition. Each sport has its own specific muscle groups, muscle usage, and physical aspects that need to be addressed to avoid more serious damage done during sporting play. Parents can only do so much.

As to the waiver at the back of the proposal, it was asked what parent would sign that? Let me tell you: The parents of all these athletes who are suffering, parents who have watched their kids cry actual tears because their reasons for pushing through this pandemic have been callously pushed aside by those in power, parents who know their kids need something more than staying home locked in a house staring at a computer screen for up to 10 hours a day to fight through this distance learning.

Our kids deserve better. They need to be allowed to begin to play sports. They need this time. They need this camaraderie. You have the ability to make this happen.

#### **Kori Anderson, community member submitted the following written statement:**

Good evening, as we are slowly opening things up with safety, I would like you all to understand how crucial it is for you and your fellow board members to allow these High School athletes to start conditioning as a team, so that they can prepare for an upcoming season of sports. These kids need sports back for their mental state



### **ACTION ITEMS** (cont.)

as well. They're dealing with loneliness and depression being stuck in front of a Chromebook all day, and they need this socialization with their teammates and coaches. It's a stress reliever for them, and for some, this is their only interaction with people, and for those without siblings at home and who have working parents, it is an outlet for them. Sports provides them a fulfillment of joy and happiness. I know with certainty, that these athletes will sign a waiver, do temperature checks daily, and do whatever it takes to safely get back with their teammates, even if it's only for conditioning. Thank you for your time. Please keep this in mind when voting.

#### **Shira Smith, community member submitted the following written statement:**

Good Afternoon Members of the School Board, Superintendent Bennett, and others:

After watching the previous school board meeting on September 23, 2020, I would like to express my concerns regarding Action Item 6.1 General Functions: Plan for Return to Athletic Conditioning and Workouts.

A plan was presented to the PUHSD school board at the meeting on September 23, however the questions that the board was wanting answers to were quite petty in my opinion and were not asked in the best interest of our students. Just a reminder in case you have forgotten, these are the students that you as a board should always have their best interest in mind. The questions truly just appeared to be a way to delay the vote for a future meeting date. You as a board, were not even prepared with any facts such as what sports start in December as posted by CIF months ago.

Let us all remember that on August 3, 2020, The California Department of Public Health published guidelines for sports and extra-curricular activities to resume. The student athletes in the PUHSD are currently 3 to 4 weeks behind other student athletes in our immediate area when it comes to conditioning and preparing together as a team. Yes, I understand they will need to be placed in pods of 20 or less per the direction of the health department. However, let us be reminded, just to see your coach and teammates on the same field can do so much for the mental health of our students. The CIF has scheduled a shorter season to begin in December and with the procrastination of this board, our athletes may risk the chance of more injuries as they are not being prepared for the participation in their specific sport.

I ask, why did our board not have any discussions regarding the return to athletic conditioning at the 3 meetings that followed the August 3 announcement? Why were the athletic directors within our district not asked to prepare a presentation prior to September 23? While other districts had a plan in place and ready to roll out for their student community on September 1, 2020, the PUHSD board on October 1 is still discussing and working out the smallest factors to allow our student athletes to return to the field. Our coaches and students want to return to the field and be prepared for the upcoming season.

Everyone is aware that our state and county guidelines for our schools are changing every day and it is the responsibility of the PUHSD board of trustees to keep up on the changes that are occurring so rapidly. While other school districts are currently laying out the plans for the safe return to school in the coming months, we are still discussing the how and when we return our students safely to the athletic playing field outside. The procrastination of the board is not acceptable, and I ask that you start moving in a more efficient and timely manner, especially when it comes to the decisions that we have entrusted you with through the election

### **ACTION ITEMS** (cont.)

process. You ran on the basis of having the "Best interest of our students always in mind" and your latest actions have not portrayed this.

Are you aware of the statistics that more and more young teens are committing suicide and suffering from mental health during the past 6 months? Our students are suffering, and we must start doing what is in the best interest for them, as the guidelines allow us too. Our athletic programs and the opportunities they provide for our high school students are so important. School connectedness through athletics provides our students with lifelong friendships and dynamic opportunities to thrive in our school cultures. For our seniors, the opportunity for them to make memories is quickly fading away. With all of this in mind, I ask that you please remember these concerns and facts when making your decisions today.

#### **Jennifer Hauser, Paloma Valley High School parent submitted the following written statement:**

My name is Jennifer Hauser and I am a parent of a Paloma Valley High School student-athlete. Unfortunately, this is my son Blake's Senior year and so many things have been affected by Covid. He is a good student, takes AP classes, gets good grades, and is the starting Quarterback. His dream has been to earn a scholarship to go on to play at the college level. We are praying that CIF's plan to start in December works out and the season is not changed or worse yet, canceled. Besides the scholarship opportunities that he may be missing out on, he is missing the opportunity to play this last year with his friends. He has been playing football with many of them since he was 5 years old, and they have been looking forward to this time... their Senior year, the Varsity level, Homecoming, Senior Night, and winning league. This is just one story of the thousands of kids in our district. I am writing to ask that you consider how each of these players are affected and that something as simple as allowing them to start conditioning, will make such a huge impact on them, physically, mentally, and socially.

As parents, we want what is best for our kids, and I would like to thank you for keeping the safety of our students/athletes as a top priority. If it weren't for Covid, our kids would have been playing/conditioning all spring, summer, and fall, except for the dead period. Some of these athletes, due to being locked down, have not been doing conditioning on their own. Some due to lack of motivation, others lack equipment or space, and some just do not know how to do it properly without the guidance of a trained coach. Another issue is that our kids need time to prepare. As we have seen in the NFL many players have become injured due to the lack of regular conditioning and a pre-season. We need to learn from this and allow our kids the opportunity to condition and begin preparing their bodies for the season which is only 2 months away. Finally, I think it would be wise to have an Athletic Trainer available during all conditioning practices. As I mentioned before there may be some athletes that have not done any training during these past 6 months and with that comes the potential for injuries and dehydration. Having a trained professional to deal with these possibilities will allow coaches time to focus on the physical training and safety of their cohort.

I understand that this is a big decision for the board. But please have faith in our Athletic Directors and Coaches, they are the professionals and I truly believe that they want what is best for our athletes. Also, I ask that you listen to parents and athletes. They are living this firsthand. I ask that you please vote yes, and let our kids get back with their teams and start conditioning.

## **ACTION ITEMS** (cont.)

### **Renee Bush, community member submitted the following written statement:**

Once again, I am asking that the district reopen sports/clubs for our students. Medical officials both state and county gave permission for youth sports to resume in Aug.—now we have hit October. I spoke last week and emailed—I am here again because I feel that our children need school activities for their mental and physical well being. Our county is now in the red—masks and social distancing have worked. These precautions can be adhered to while allowing your students to get back to some of the activities that give them a sense of community. They need to be outside doing things that they love. Depression, loneliness, and isolation are just as detrimental to their health as the virus—if not more. We have been asking these young people to sit and stare at a screen for months now. They need something to look forward to at the end of the school day. These children miss school. They miss teachers, coaches, staff, and their mentors. We need to let them have some sense of normalcy. Parents will still make the final decision to allow or not allow their child to participate. Give us that.

### **Kelley Connell, community member submitted the following written statement:**

I'd like to start by asking that the board meeting agendas, and link the to comment submission form be put in a more prominent place on the district website. I should not have to go clicking through pages to find it.

Now, for the topic at hand.

Let me just start with the fact that the County and State started allowing youth sports a month ago. While I respect that you have concerns about the risks and protecting the interests of the district, I think you are being excessively overprotective.

The benefits of allowing athletes to start conditioning and preparing for their upcoming sports seasons far outweigh the risks you are concerned about.

Mental and physical health are equally important, especially in children. The risk to our athletes physical health is not as great as the detrimental effects the continued closure is having on their mental health. Getting them back on the fields and in the pools will boost their mental health. The gains in strength and agility will also make their physical health better, especially when competition begins. The sooner they can prepare, the lesser the possibility of suffering a major injury will be. Both of these benefits outweigh the risk of Covid in respect to starting conditioning.

Another thing you are not considering is how many other districts and schools are already allowing this with little to no problems. Schools in districts just down the road, Murrieta and Temecula, have been working out for weeks now and are even beginning to move to phase 2 of their plans that includes use of equipment. Schools in neighboring Orange County have been at it for over a month. There have not been negative effects from these activities. It is time to allow our athletes the same opportunities.

We hear so much of the socioeconomic disparities within our school system and the disadvantages to low socioeconomic students yet you don't seem to realize that you are adding to this problem. There are families

### **ACTION ITEMS** (cont.)

in our district who can afford gym memberships, private trainers, and travel teams for their children, these are not the students most negatively affected by continuing to prevent the athletes from starting to condition for their sports seasons. The ones who are most negatively affected are the ones who can't afford the private lessons, travel teams and gym memberships. All you are doing by delaying the start of sports is widening the gap within our district.

Bottom line, the people you represent want their student athletes back on the fields, the tracks, the courts and in the pools. You were elected to represent your constituents and we are saying let the kids condition!

#### **Brent Peterson, parent submitted the following written statement:**

Dear PUHSD Board Members,

Our kids need to get back to some form of workout with their teams. Other school districts are already moving forward, why can't PUHSD? It does not matter which sports come up first on the CIF calendar, all the teams should have the ability workout. The comments made during the Board meeting last week were very frustrating. A quote was used and comments were made that our kids should workout at home on their own if they want to be great. The Board does not understand or seem to consider the mental and social well-being of our student athletes working out with their teams even if it's 6 feet apart.

There are bonds that these teammates have and they push one another to higher levels when doing activities together. Beyond the physical training aspect, the value of human interaction on the mind is invaluable. If we are all in this together, then let them be together and support each other during these extremely difficult times.

They also need the guidance of their coaches to engage in sport specific exercises which would also help to avoid injuries. There is a reason we have coaches and their expertise, guidance, and mentorship. They are not just there to babysit, let them be coaches. There are workouts that every sport can do together that does not need to take place in their particular field, court, or mat. This should also extend to Athletic Trainers. They should also be on site, no question. Some kids have medical conditions that may need to be addressed. There may be some minor injuries, especially if some kids haven't trained for months, and having an Athletic Trainer there on-site may prevent these from becoming major injuries.

Both of my kids have experienced different levels of depression and both of them are student athletes. They both have expressed an odd feeling of loneliness and a disconnected feeling. Distance learning is difficult enough as it is and they are doing the best they can with the student portion. They now desperately need the athlete portion of their lives back in some fashion. The longer they go without, the more damage is being done to their physical, mental, and social well-being. Even if the sports seasons do not resume next year, we have to give them some HOPE!

#### **Dylan Brandenburg, student submitted the following written statement:**

As a student athlete I feel it is my place to say that football is more than just a game. It is a reason that some kids stay eligible and keep their grades up during the school year, which leads to later success. Also it is a safe

### **ACTION ITEMS** (cont.)

place for kids that don't have a great life at home, their sport/craft is their escape from reality. I say this because I know what it feels like for the game to be an escape from reality, and I can't imagine what someone must feel like to have that taken away from them. It's not all about being under the lights on a Friday night ,or being on the bus before and after games, it's about the relationships that help kids get through the day,week,month,year, and their whole high school experience. On a side note I feel that it is important to have an athletic trainer back on campus with us if we go back in October , as well as the other athletes thinking the same. For people who haven't worked out in 7 months we will be tired and in need of professional help. Even though it will only be phase one, there will be pulled muscles, twisted ankles, and freak accidents, which all need to be taken care of by our trainer. I ask that when you vote, you take this all into consideration and rethink your answers. Thank you for your time.

#### **6.2 CURRICULUM: Cost Analysis and Funding Options for Advanced Placement Testing**

The Board of Trustees approved to pay for all Advanced Placement testing

##### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(Dr. Jose Luis Araux)** moved, Member **(David Nelissen)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees select and approve an option for funding Advanced Placement testing for the 2020-21 school year."

##### **AMENDED - Motion**

Member **(Dr. Jose Luis Araux)** moved, Member **(Dr. Randall Freeman)** seconded to approve the **AMENDED** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve to pay for all Advanced Placement testing for the 2020-21 school year."

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5**, Nay: **0**. The motion **PASSED 5 - 0**.

Dr. Jose Luis Araux	Yes
Dr. Randall Freeman	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes

### **ADJOURNMENT**

#### **9.1 ADJOURNMENT: Special Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees for October 1, 2020**

##### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(David Nelissen)** moved, Member **(Dr. Jose Luis Araux)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees adjourn the October 1, 2020, Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees" at 6:07 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT** (cont.)

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5**, Nay: **0**. The motion **PASSED 5 - 0**.

Dr. Jose Luis Araux	Yes
Dr. Randall Freeman	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes

---

Grant Bennett, Superintendent

---

Anthony T. Stafford, Sr., President

---

Edward Garcia, Jr., Clerk