



PERRIS UNION

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES February 21, 2024

ROLL CALL

Present

Trustee Edward Garcia, Jr., President
Trustee Steve Campos, Vice President
Trustee Anthony T. Stafford, Sr., Clerk
Trustee David Nelissen, Member
Trustee Elizabeth Vallejo, Member

Administrative Staff Present:

Grant Bennett, Superintendent; Candace Reines, Deputy Superintendent — Business Services; Kindy Mackamul, Interim Assistant Superintendent — Educational Services; Kirk Skorpanich, Assistant Superintendent — Human Resources; Joseph Williams, Executive Director — Technology; Dian Martin, Director — Learning Support Services; Maribel Escobar, Director — Human Resources; Amil Alzubaidi, Director — Special Education; Dr. Casaundra McNair, Director — Diversity, Equity & Inclusion; Marvin Atkins, Director — Pupil Services; Mimi Capistrano, Director — Fiscal Services; Sylvia Hinojosa, Director — Purchasing; Hector Gonzalez, Director — Facilities; Audrey Mitchell, Director — Nutrition Services; James Heckman, Assistant Director — Technology; Lindsay Chavez, Principal — Heritage High School; Juan Santos, Principal — Perris High School; and Julie Blied, Interim Principal — Paloma Valley High School

Others Attending:

Jason Miller, Pete Lopez, Natalie Parra-Henry, Marjorie Jones-Bias, Esperanza Solis, Alma Perez, Lucia Crouse, Alejandra Guzman, Xavier Padilla, Deanne M. Dean, Erick Parra-Henry, Eddie Jaime, Nanci Garcia, Porsche Calhoun, Paul Clay, Patricia Roberts, Heather Avila, Adam Cyhan, Jay Howard-Jackson, Rocco Neims, Melina Gonzalez, Betty Tran, Christopher Tinajero, Guadalupe Fierros, Joana Leal, Cheri Adame, Anna Fetzner, Sarah Rico, 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

1.2 PUBLIC NOTICE: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance, disability-related modifications, or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meetings of the District's governing board, please contact the office of the District Superintendent at (951) 943-6369, ext. 80102. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accommodation and accessibility to this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

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

The President called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS ONLY

3.1 INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Closed Session Items Only

There were no requests to address the Board of Trustees on Closed Session Items.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

4.1 ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION: The Board of Trustees Will Discuss Items Listed in this Section

- **4.2 PUPIL MATTERS - Pursuant to Education Code §48912 and §48918**
- **4.3 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EMPLOYMENT/APPOINTMENT – Pursuant to Government Code §54957**
- **4.4 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE - Pursuant to Government Code §54957**
- **4.5 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS - Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6**
 - **Employee Group: Perris Secondary Educators Association (PSEA), Agency Representative: Kirk Skorpanich, Assistant Superintendent - Human Resources;**
 - **Employee Group: California School Employees Association (CSEA), Agency Representative: Kirk Skorpanich, Assistant Superintendent – Human Resources**

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION (cont.)

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(David Nelissen)** moved, Member **(Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees adjourn into Closed Session to discuss the items listed in this section:

- 4.2 PUPIL MATTERS - Pursuant to Education Code §48912 and §48918
- 4.3 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EMPLOYMENT/APPOINTMENT – Pursuant to Government Code §54957
- 4.4 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE - Pursuant to Government Code §54957
- 4.5 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS - Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6
 - Employee Group: Perris Secondary Educators Association (PSEA), Agency Representative: Kirk Skorpanich, Assistant Superintendent - Human Resources;
 - Employee Group: California School Employees Association (CSEA), Agency Representative: Kirk Skorpanich, Assistant Superintendent – Human Resources.

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

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	Yes

RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5.1 RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Board Meeting Will Reconvene at Approximately 5:00 p.m.

The President reconvened the meeting at 5:11 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

6.1 INVOCATION: Trustee Campos

Trustee Campos requested a moment of silence.

RECESS

7.1 RECESS: The Board President Will Recess the Meeting to Conduct the Regular Board Meeting of the California Military Institute Charter School

RECESS (cont.)

The President of the Board of Trustees called for a recess of the meeting at 5:12 p.m. to conduct the regular Board Meeting of the California Military Institute charter school. The regular Board Meeting was reconvened at 5:23 p.m.

REVISION/ADOPTION/ORDERING OF AGENDA

8.1 REVISION/ADOPTION/ORDERING OF AGENDA: February 21, 2024

AMENDED - Motion

Member **(David Nelissen)** moved, Member **(Steve Campos)** seconded to approve the **AMENDED** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve any revision/adoption/ordering of the Agenda of the Regular Meeting of the Perris Union High School District Board of Trustees for February 21, 2024, with the following revisions:

- Pulled from Agenda: 11.11 CURRICULUM: Memorandum of Understanding With Footsteps to Freedom Underground Railroad Experience 2024, to Travel Through Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, New York, and Ontario, Canada (funded through Ethnic Studies Funds in the amount of \$32,250, not the General Fund)
- Pulled from Agenda: 14.9 PERSONNEL: Revised Job Description: Assistant Superintendent, Innovation and Technology Services."

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

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	Yes

ORAL REPORTS

9.1 Report Out of Closed Session

There was no report out of Closed Session.

9.2 District Update by the Superintendent

The Superintendent made the following statement:

ORAL REPORTS (cont.)

"I know we have a larger than usual audience here for tonight's board meeting, and many of you may be here to speak on items 14.7 and 14.8. As Superintendent, I would like to take this opportunity to say that laying off any positions, even management and unrepresented positions, is difficult. I have worked in this district for over 30 years, and there have not been many times we've had to consider layoffs. However, we received a large amount of one-time COVID dollars to deal with learning loss and student social-emotional needs. These funds were one-time and are coming to an end. The loss of these funds, paired with the significant reduction to COLA next year, means that we are faced with eliminating these supplemental services. This was not an easy decision for me, the Cabinet, or this Board, but like many other districts, we are left with no other choice at this time. Please also know we are feverishly applying for grants and exploring other revenue sources with the hopes of being able to bring back many of these positions."

9.3 Student Representatives to the Board of Trustees

The student representatives from the school sites presented their video reports to the Board of Trustees on the events and activities for each respective school site: Heritage High School student representative(s) - Isabella Martin and Joshua Preciado; Liberty High School student representative(s) - Moses Madrigal, Noah Nuno, and Morgan Tamm; and Pinacate Middle School student representative(s) - Izabella Duarte and Deonni Mayfield.

9.4 CSEA President Nathaneal Nash

There was no report at this time.

9.5 PSEA President Jason Miller

PSEA President Jason Miller shared the following statement

"There was an idea floating around that Liberty was going to have all roving teachers next year. I have been assured that that is not the case. So thank you to the cabinet and the board for that. As we've stated, roving teachers are not good for staff or students. PSEA does not want to have any roving teachers anywhere at any time if possible, and it certainly should not be any part of an actual curriculum structure, which, again, we have been assured it will not be. So that's some pretty good news. But echoing Mr. Bennett's statement, there has been, at the state level, an end to certain COVID funding that has had, in turn, effects on personnel. As these changes occur, PSEA will work towards not having extra responsibilities placed on counselors or any other PSEA members above their regular job duties. I feel like there may be an opportunity with the community school model to address mental health for students. PSEA is requesting that the board or cabinet, or both, in conjunction with PSEA, explore how the community schools model may be able to work on possibly restoring mental health services for students. Thank you for the time to speak."

ORAL REPORTS (cont.)

9.6 Comments by the Board of Trustees

Trustee Vallejo shared the following statement.

"I want to express that I do not want my words to get lost in translation. I am here today because more than ever, this district needs help. I am not advocating for division or chaos among the district. I am here to voice that there needs to be another way. This does not come from my thoughts alone, but rather an alarming amount of feedback from longtime dedicated staff who are claiming now more than ever, that employee morale is at an all-time low. We cannot be so dogmatic or one-dimensional regarding how we prioritize students and staff and their needs. We are so quick to dismiss one over the other out of convenience or fear of deep diving and putting in the necessary work to find a better solution. I have people here who claim they dedicate themselves to the people they represent. Yet all I see as of late is self-interest and no room for compromise. When it comes to cabinet. I am ashamed to hear that such significant and vital decisions that truly affect the lives of so many are belittled into another day's work or a box to check off. We should exhaust all of our options to find a solution that benefits everyone. But before we talk about solutions, it must be said I am even more ashamed of the lack of empathy. By this, I bring up the laying off of counselors on Counselors Week. Even during their potluck, when they were to be celebrated. That's just pure apathy. Come on. Now, teachers, I applaud every single one of you though. Through you all, we all have the guidance and support system that our students need. Yet sadly, I am begging you and the union to understand that the district, as I see it, has not been communicating everything as it is. If you knew the consequences of students losing vital services and staff being let go, you two, alongside me, would have been more than okay with the healthy compromise from last week's budget cuts. I really hope that will be the case. While I know that it is up to us and the cabinet to administer and communicate the health and status of our budget, I believe that it is only healthy that proposing a measure such as an independent audit can verify this. I bring it up not only to echo the cry for transparency from staff, parents, students, and teachers alike but also to learn what new actions must be made to properly assess and take steps toward change for the good of the district. I want everyone to know what is being administered and how it is being administered so that, as a collective unit, we can help breed innovation and maintain accountability as we strive to make this district a brighter community and more inclusive of everyone's voices in the future. As I make my closing remarks, I want to point out to the cabinet and my fellow board members that I did expect better. The last meeting we had was so important. Yet when I walked into that room, everyone's mind was already made up. How dare we, out of convenience, not do what was necessary to paint the picture and find a proper solution. This is children's and staff's lives that we are affecting. I love this district. I graduated from this district, and the people of this community chose me to represent them. So, as I do my best to do so, I feel it is my duty to mention that it is not the best time to consider more raises for some when we prepare to let go of so many others. I do not know why we are repeating ourselves. We repeatedly roll our eyes when attempting to create an ideal scenario that benefits everyone. While the evidence suggests that we favor the few over the many. In the end, my words are not intended to blame, but rather, they are a plea for change. I understand and take to heart the concept that if one falls, we all fall. I envision a scenario where this district can champion change regarding how healthy communication, transparency, and innovation can happen when the board, cabinet, teachers, staff, and students work together with trust and compassion. Although I know this may sound too idealistic, but I challenge you to know more about Satoru Iwata. He was a famous and well-respected CEO of a giant company

ORAL REPORTS (cont.)

called Nintendo. Iwata revolutionized the company into two amazing successes with his ideas and creation of the Wii console and even the Gameboy, which is pretty awesome. However, not everything was a winner, which cost the company millions. When that company was in dire need of cost-saving measures, he chose to take a 50% cut from his own salary as well as his top executives so as not to lay anyone off. I chose my closing remarks based on a quote from Iwata. If we reduce the number of employees for better short-term financial results, employee morale will decrease. So, I believe that laying off a group of employees will not help strengthen the company's business in the long run. So shortly after that, Nintendo bounced back without any layoffs and created the next big hit, which surpassed their previous accomplishments. So, if this kind of thinking can happen in the private sector, where profit is the priority, we as public administrators, should make it our duty to live by these ideals as true public servants. So, any staff member, student, or parent who desires to discuss my comments, thoughts, or even sentiments for the purpose of improvement. I look forward to meeting with you and chatting with you after this meeting. Thank you."

Trustee Campos shared the following statement.

"What Trustee Vallejo stated is obviously heartfelt. I don't think that anyone up here is comfortable with the decisions we have to make. When elected to these positions, you must make tough decisions. There are times when organizations are in financial trouble. Public education is different than private corporations. That's not to say that I've given up hope. I'm choosing to stay positive. There are many different things coming out—the May Revise and other things that we can do, eventually to move forward. The grant we've applied for is something that we're trying to bring in funds to the district to maintain some of these services. I hope you guys think, and understand, that we are trying our best with what's available. Looking at the information we get, you know that times ahead could look worse. I'm confident that things will work out. I'm going to stay positive. We're given numbers and projections, not just this year but three years out. Sometimes, our decisions today are based on the future and what's going on with those decisions now. We should have internal audits. That's something that we should do. I'm new to this, so I have yet to see it done. Prior to me being seated, there were jobs already created that I had no idea were under the terms of contracts. I didn't know these things. So, as I'm moving along, learning within a year, you learn new things every month, new stuff. It's a constant growing period. My heart feels for everybody who's affected by this. At the same time, I want to stay hopeful and positive and see that hopefully, there can be some solution. You might want to write the governor and let him know how this budget affects school districts. Maybe he gets enough traffic from people all over the state. I'm not just talking about Perris Union. And this is happening everywhere. And if it hasn't happened anywhere local, it's going to happen. You're going to start to see it. I read about it all the time in the CSBA updates. What's going on up north, Central Valley, down south. It's happening everywhere. With your voice, you can address the governor, the importance of public education, and how it affects the whole state. It's an election year. There's going to be a lot of things going on. I encourage you to exercise that right. As a citizen, that's one thing that you can exercise. I apologize for any grief and stress that's been out there. For those of you who are out there, that was never the intention. But things happen, and they happen fast. We're put in a position where we have to make decisions on a timely basis. It's not like we can let things go. If it were up to me, we'd let it go a little bit longer. But there are certain dates that we have to keep. Let's think positively. Let's make sure we help each other throughout this time, and whatever goes on, be there to support each other. Thank you, and I apologize for what is going to happen tonight."

ORAL REPORTS (cont.)

Trustee Garcia shared the following statement.

"My heart hurts. We always talk about being a family and supporting one another. We're doing our best right now, and it's not easy. My colleagues have expressed what we're all thinking. Why is this happening? What can we do to fix this? When we make decisions, we understand it impacts everyone in this district. It impacts everyone in some way, not just one person or group. Trustee Campos said it best. We're all sorry. I don't want to be up here making these decisions. I didn't come and run for the school board to lay people off. To tell you your contract's up. You're not coming back; I didn't. I came here to make a difference for our kids, and we can only do this if you guys are here. So, I understand people are working on grants to bring more income to the district. My heart hurts, and I'm sorry from the bottom of my heart."

INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

Rocco Neims shared the following statement.

"Good afternoon, school board members. I stand here today representing Perris High School as a student. My name is Rocco Neims, and I come to you all to express a matter that's very important to me. It has come to our attention, and the attention of many other students, that the wellness center and mental health budget for all across the district is being cut. As a student who struggles with their mental health, I find this to be extremely concerning. Mental health should not be taken lightly and needs to be supported and funded. Mental illness among students has increased to 66% in the past five years. Suicide rates have increased in students up to 44% since returning to school after COVID. I am a foster child, and the services I have been provided through the Wellness Center have helped me immensely in regards to what I deal with at home. And to have that taken away from me, I feel, is unfair. I am pleading with you to consider the importance of mental health in our district and take action to keep those centers across the district running. On top of that, without proper support, students with mental health issues may be more likely to struggle in school and develop further mental health issues. Many of my friends and peers also struggle with their mental health. The Wellness Center is where they can find comfort and solace when feeling stressed. We can propose creative funding solutions by selling chocolate sales partnerships or community fundraising initiatives. We need to find out how to create alternative budgeting solutions—point blank, period. The outcomes we have seen from this cut are absolutely devastating. We have seen it time and time again in California, and that change starts here with all of us and all these advocates in this room, including myself. Thank you very much."

Erick Parra-Henry shared the following statement.

"Good evening, members of the board, faculty, and guests. Tonight I stand before you, not just a proud parent, science teacher, but an advocate for our students' mental and emotional well-being. My name is Eric Henry and every day, I witness the profound impact that our wellness center and support staff have on our students'

INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES (cont.)

lives. They serve a beacon of hope and healing in the world that all too often overwhelms the most at risk among us. It's come to my attention now. Proposals are being considered to span the one center and eliminate critical support roles within our district. Including drug and alcohol counselors, behavior specialists, and program specialists. This decision, I fear, could unravel the very fabric of support we fought so hard to weave into the lives of our students. We find ourselves in the middle of a mental health crisis, a crisis that has silently crept into the lives of countless teenagers across the nation. The CDC reports a staggering increase of over 25% in anxiety and depression among our youth since 2019. Suicide and homicide are two of the top three causes of death for young, young adults ages between 15 and 19. A wellness center and the professionals who give that life stand in the frontlines, offering sanctuary and guidance for those caught in an unseen storm. I have seen firsthand the transformational powers of these services. The students who once walked our halls, burdened by unseen struggles, have found solace and strength within the walls of our wellness center. The removal of these services doesn't just erase the land, erase a line item on a budget. It erases hope, hope for many of our students. Investing in mental health and specialized support staff is not an expense. It's an investment in our future, this country's future. Research constantly shows that early intervention and support can significantly decrease the need for more intensive and costly interventions later. These services improve students' academics, prevent suicides, and provide resources to reduce dangerous and destructive behaviors on our campuses and in our communities. Overall, it fosters an environment where every student has the opportunity to thrive both academically and personally. I urge you, with the deepest sincerity and urgency, to reconsider this proposal. Let us offer every possible avenue if alternative funding, partnerships, or reallocation of funds to ensure that our students do not lose these indispensable resources. The cost of removing these services far outweighs the financial savings. As we ponder this decision. Remember that at the heart of our decision tonight are our children. Every single one of us has that responsibility. The decisions we make will ripple through their lives for years to come. I implore you to stand with me in affirming that their mental health, their well-being, and their futures are worth every effort and every resource that we can muster. Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to the well-being of our students."

CONSENT CALENDAR

11.1 CONSENT CALENDAR: Approval of Consent Calendar Items

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.)** moved, Member **(David Nelissen)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the items listed under the Consent Calendar categories of General Functions, Personnel, Curriculum, Business, and Technology with the following revision:

- Moved to Action Items: Item 11.36 BUSINESS: Multi-Year Agreement With Eide Bailly LLP for Audit Services (funded through the General Fund in an estimated amount of \$180,000 for a three year period)."

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

CONSENT CALENDAR (cont.)

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	Yes

11.2 GENERAL FUNCTIONS: Minutes of the Special Board Meeting for January 4, 2024

The Board of Trustees approved the Special Board Meeting minutes of January 4, 2024.

11.3 GENERAL FUNCTIONS: Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting for January 17, 2024

The Board of Trustees approved the Regular Board Meeting minutes of January 17, 2024.

11.4 GENERAL FUNCTIONS: Minutes of the Special Board Meeting for January 24, 2024

The Board of Trustees approved the Special Board Meeting minutes of January 24, 2024.

11.5 GENERAL FUNCTIONS: Out-of-State Conference Request for Elizabeth Vallejo, Board of Trustee Member, to Attend the National School Boards Association Annual Education Annual Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, April 5-8, 2024 (funded through the General Fund at a total cost not to exceed \$4,800)

The Board of Trustees approved the out-of-state conference request for Elizabeth Vallejo, Board of Trustee member, to attend the National School Boards Association Annual Education Annual Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, April 5-8, 2024.

11.6 PERSONNEL: Affiliation Agreement With Grand Canyon University for the School Counseling Practicum/Internships (no fiscal impact)

The Board of Trustees approved the Affiliation Agreement with Grand Canyon University for the School Counseling Practicum/Internships.

11.7 CURRICULUM: Amendment No. 1 to Agreement CEDSV327 for Student Transportation With Dennis Meneses (funded through Special Education at a total cost not to exceed \$23,270, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees approved Amendment No. 1 to Agreement CEDSV327 for Student Transportation with Dennis Meneses.

11.8 CURRICULUM: Increase to Agreement With Graduation Alliance, Incorporated for Credit Recovery (funded through Local Control Accountability Plan Supplemental and Concentration Funds at a total cost not to exceed \$15,000, not the General Fund)

CONSENT CALENDAR (cont.)

The Board of Trustees approved the increase to Agreement with Graduation Alliance, Incorporated for credit recovery.

11.9 CURRICULUM: Agreement With AVID Center for Advancement Via Individual Determination College Readiness System Services and Products (funded through Local Control Accountability Plan Supplemental and Concentration Funds in the amount of \$26,334, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees approved the Agreement with AVID Center for Advancement Via Individual Determination college readiness system services and products.

11.10 CURRICULUM: Multi-Year Agreement IN10008 With Riverside County Superintendent of Schools for Career Technical Education Services (funded through Local Control Accountability Plan Supplemental and Concentration Funds, AMS Funding Guarantee and Accountability Act (Prop 28) Funds, and the General Fund in the total amount of \$3,296,895.40 annually)

The Board of Trustees approved the Multi-Year Agreement IN10008 with Riverside County Superintendent of Schools for Career Technical Education Services.

11.11 CURRICULUM: Multi-Year Memorandum of Understanding With the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools for Career Technical Education/Regional Occupational Program Affiliation Agreement (no fiscal impact)

The Board of Trustees approved the Multi-Year Memorandum of Understanding with the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools for the Career Technical Education/Regional Occupational Program affiliation agreement.

11.12 CURRICULUM: Ratification of Overnight Field Trip Request for Paloma Valley High School Wrestling Team Members to Attend the 2024 California Interscholastic Federation Wrestling Championships, at Adelanto High School in Adelanto, California, February 8-10, 2024 (funded through Paloma Valley High School CIF Championship Competition Funds at a total cost not to exceed \$4,250, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees ratified the overnight field trip request for Paloma Valley High School wrestling team members to attend the 2024 California Interscholastic Federation Wrestling Championships at Adelanto High School in Adelanto, California, February 8-10, 2024.

11.13 CURRICULUM: Ratification of Overnight Field Trip Request for Paloma Valley High School Wrestling Team Members to Attend the 2024 California Interscholastic Federation Wrestling Masters Championship Tournament, at Palm Springs High School in Palm Springs, California, February 15-17, 2024 (funded through Paloma Valley High School CIF Championship Competition Funds at a total cost not to exceed \$5,000, not the General Fund)

CONSENT CALENDAR (cont.)

The Board of Trustees ratified the overnight field trip request for Paloma Valley High School wrestling team members to attend the 2024 California Interscholastic Federation Wrestling Masters Championship Tournament at Palm Springs High School in Palm Springs, California, February 15-17, 2024.

11.14 CURRICULUM: Ratification of Overnight Field Trip Request for Perris High School Future Farmers of America Students to Attend the Alan Hancock Field Day at Alan Hancock College, Santa Maria, CA, February 16-17, 2024 (funded through Perris High School Future Farmers of America Associated Student Body Funds and the Carl D. Perkins Grant at a total cost not to exceed \$2,000, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees ratified the overnight field trip request for Perris High School Future Farmers of America students to attend the Alan Hancock Field Day at Alan Hancock College, Santa Maria, CA, February 16-17, 2024.

11.15 CURRICULUM: Ratification of Overnight Field Trip Request for Liberty High School Wrestling Team Members to Attend the 2024 California Interscholastic Federation State Wrestling Championships at Mechanics Bank Arena in Bakersfield, California, February 21-25, 2024 (funded through Liberty High School Discretionary Funds at a total cost not to exceed \$4,000, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees ratified the overnight field trip request for Liberty High School wrestling team members to attend the 2024 California Interscholastic Federation State Wrestling Championships at Mechanics Bank Arena in Bakersfield, California, February 21-25, 2024.

11.16 CURRICULUM: Ratification of Overnight Field Trip Request for Paloma Valley High School Wrestling Team Members to Attend the 2024 California Interscholastic Federation State Wrestling Championships, at Mechanics Bank Arena in Bakersfield, California, February 21-25, 2024 (funded through Paloma Valley High School CIF Championship Competition Funds at a total cost not to exceed \$9,100, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees ratified the overnight field trip request for Paloma Valley High School wrestling team members to attend the 2024 California Interscholastic Federation State Wrestling Championships at Mechanics Bank Arena in Bakersfield, California, February 21-25, 2024.

11.17 CURRICULUM: Overnight Field Trip Request for Perris High School Advancement Via Individual Determination Students to Visit Northern California College Campuses, February 26, 2024 - March 1, 2024 (funded through Perris High School Local Control Accountability Plan Supplemental and Concentration Funds at a total cost not to exceed \$25,000, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees approved the overnight field trip request for Perris High School Advancement Via Individual Determination students to visit Northern California college campuses on February 26, 2024 - March 1, 2024.

CONSENT CALENDAR (cont.)

11.18 CURRICULUM: Overnight Field Trip Request for Liberty High School Business Pathway Students to Attend the 2024 California DECA State Conference and Business Plan Competition at the Marriott Hotel in Anaheim, California, March 7-10, 2024 (funded through Liberty High School Carl D. Perkins Grant in the amount of \$8,800, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees approved the overnight field trip request for Liberty High School Business Pathway students to attend the 2024 California DECA State Conference and Business Plan Competition at the Marriott Hotel in Anaheim, California, March 7-10, 2024.

11.19 CURRICULUM: Overnight Field Trip Request for Heritage High School Future Farmers of America Students to Attend the Modesto Junior College Field Day in Modesto, California, March 15-16, 2024 (funded through Heritage High School Future Farmers of America Associated Student Body Funds and the Carl D. Perkins Grant in the amount of \$1,676.71, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees approved the overnight field trip request for Heritage High School Future Farmers of America students to attend the Modesto Junior College Field Day in Modesto, California, March 15-16, 2024.

11.20 CURRICULUM: Overnight Field Trip Request for Paloma Valley High School Students to Attend the 2024 Friday Night Live Youth Summit at Camp Pali in Running Springs, California, March 15-17, 2024 (funded through the Riverside County Office of Education, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees approved the overnight field trip request for Paloma Valley High School students to attend the 2024 Friday Night Live Youth Summit at Camp Pali in Running Springs, California, March 15-17, 2024.

11.21 CURRICULUM: Overnight Field Trip Request for Heritage High School Future Farmers of America Students to Attend the Public Speaking State Finals, March 19-24, 2024, in Sacramento, California (funded through Heritage High School Associated Student Body Funds and the Carl D. Perkins Grant at a total cost not to exceed \$9,567.34, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees approved the overnight field trip request for Heritage High School Future Farmers of America students to attend the California Future Farmers of America State Convention and Public Speaking Finals, March 19-24, 2024, in Sacramento, California.

11.22 CURRICULUM: Overnight Field Trip Request for Perris High School Future Farmers of America Students to Attend the 96th Annual State Leadership Conference at the Sacramento Convention Center in Sacramento, California, March 19-24, 2024 (funded through Perris High School Future Farmers of America Associated Student Body Funds and the Carl D. Perkins Grant at a total cost not to exceed \$5,000, not the General Fund)

CONSENT CALENDAR (cont.)

The Board of Trustees approved the overnight field trip request for Perris High School Future Farmers of America students to attend the 96th Annual State Leadership Conference at the Sacramento Convention Center in Sacramento, California, March 19-24, 2024.

11.23 CURRICULUM: Overnight Field Trip Request for Perris High School Advancement Via Individual Determination Students to Visit Southern California College Campuses, March 20-22, 2024 (funded through Site Local Control Accountability Plan funds not to exceed \$20,000, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees approved the overnight field trip request for Perris High School Advancement Via Individual Determination students to visit Southern California college campuses on March 20-22, 2024.

11.24 CURRICULUM: Overnight Field Trip Request for Heritage High School Film Students to Attend the Filming of Commercials at the University of California, Berkeley in Berkeley, California, April 2-6, 2024 (funded through Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Funds in the amount of \$4,500, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees approved the overnight field trip request for Heritage High School film students to attend the Filming of Commercials at the University of California, Berkeley in Berkeley, California, April 2-6, 2024.

11.25 CURRICULUM: Overnight Field Trip Request for Heritage High School Students to Attend the California Association of Student Leaders State Conference in Ontario, California, April 12-15, 2024 (funded through Heritage High School Site Funds and Heritage High School Associated Student Body Funds at a total cost not to exceed \$6,500, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees approved the overnight field trip request for Heritage High School students to attend the California Association of Student Leaders Annual Conference in Ontario, California, April 12-15, 2024.

11.26 CURRICULUM: Overnight Field Trip Request for Paloma Valley High School Students to Attend the California Association of Student Leaders State Conference in Ontario, California, April 13-15, 2024 (funded through Paloma Valley High School Associated Student Body Funds at a total cost not to exceed \$9,000, not the General Fund)

The Board of Trustees approved the overnight field trip request for Paloma Valley High School students to attend the California Association of Student Leaders Annual Conference in Ontario, California, April 13-15, 2024.

11.27 CURRICULUM: Overnight Field Trip Request for Perris High School Future Farmers of America Students to Attend the Career Development Competition State Finals at Cal Poly University in San Luis Obispo, California, May 2-5, 2024 (funded through Perris High School Associated Student Body Funds and the Carl D. Perkins Grant, not the General Fund)

CONSENT CALENDAR (cont.)

The Board of Trustees approved the overnight field trip request for Perris High School Future Farmers of America students to attend the Career Development Competition State Finals at Cal Poly University in San Luis Obispo, California, May 2-5, 2024.

11.28 CURRICULUM: Revised Social Science Courses: World History; U.S. History; American Government/Civics; Economics; and AP World History (meets A-G requirement "A")

The Board of Trustees adopted the revised Social Science courses: World History; U.S. History; American Government/Civics; Economics; and AP World History.

11.29 CURRICULUM: Revised Social Science Elective Course: Sociology (pending approval to meet A-G requirement "G")

The Board of Trustees adopted the revised Social Science course: Sociology.

11.30 CURRICULUM: Revised World Languages Course: Chinese II (pending approval to meet A-G requirement "E")

The Board of Trustees adopted the revised World Language course: Chinese II.

11.31 CURRICULUM: New Career Technical Education Course: Ag Metals Fabrication (meets A-G requirement "G")

The Board of Trustees adopted the new Career Technical Education course: Ag Metals Fabrication.

11.32 CURRICULUM: New Elective Course: Ethnic Studies (will meet A-G requirement "G")

The Board of Trustees adopted the new elective course: Ethnic Studies.

11.33 CURRICULUM: New Physical Education Course: Introduction to Yoga (does not meet A-G requirements)

The Board of Trustees adopted the new Physical Education course: Introduction to Yoga.

11.34 CURRICULUM: New General Elective Course: Academic Decathlon (meets A-G requirement "G")

The Board of Trustees adopted the new Social Science elective course: Academic Decathlon.

11.35 BUSINESS: Resolution No. 10:23-24 - Resolution Authorizing Piggybacking for Purchase of School Furnishings, Office Furniture, and Accessories (no fiscal impact)

CONSENT CALENDAR (cont.)

The Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 10:23-24 - Resolution Authorizing Piggybacking for Purchase of School Furnishings, Office Furniture and Accessories.

11.36 BUSINESS: Resolution No. 11:23-24 - Resolution Authorizing Piggybacking for Purchase of Audio Visual Equipment and Accessories (no fiscal impact)

The Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 11:23-24 - Resolution Authorizing Piggybacking for Purchase of Audio Visual Equipment and Accessories.

11.37 BUSINESS: Declaration of Surplus Property (no fiscal impact)

The Board of Trustees approved the declared listed District property as surplus.

11.38 BUSINESS: Donations - Perris Union High School District

The Board of Trustees accepted the donations as presented.

11.39 BUSINESS: Report of Purchases - January 2024

The Board of Trustees approved the Report of Purchases for January 2024.

11.40 TECHNOLOGY: Out-of-State Conference Request for Joseph Williams to Attend the Education Week's 2024 Leadership Symposium (formerly known as the Leaders To Learn From Event) In Washington, DC, May 1-3, 2024 (funded through the General Fund at a total cost not to exceed \$4,000)

The Board of Trustees approved the out-of-state conference request for Joseph Williams to attend the Education Week's 2024 Leadership Symposium (formerly known as the Leaders To Learn From Event) in Washington, DC, May 1-3, 2024.

ORAL REPORTS (Continued)

12.1 Information and Instructional Technology Update

Joseph Williams, Executive Director of Technology, updated the Board of Trustees on Information and Instructional Technology within the District.

12.2 Perris Community Adult School Update

Dr. Pauline Garcia, Director of Adult Education, updated the Board of Trustees on the Perris Community Adult School.

WRITTEN REPORTS

13.1 DISCIPLINE: January 2024 Monthly Suspension Report

The Board of Trustees received, for its information, the January 2024 Monthly Suspension Report.

ACTION ITEMS

14.1 GENERAL FUNCTIONS: Resolution No. 15:23-24 - Trustee Compensation for Missed Meeting (Garcia)

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(David Nelissen)** moved, Member **(Steve Campos)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees adopt Resolution No. 15:23-24 - Trustee Compensation for Missed Meeting, allowing Trustee Edward Garcia, Jr. to be compensated for the January 24, 2024, Special Board Meeting."

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **4**, Nay: **0**, Abstain: **1**. The motion **PASSED 4 – 0 – 1**.

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Abstain
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	Yes

14.2 GENERAL FUNCTIONS: 2024 CSBA Delegate Assembly Election

AMENDED - Motion

Member **(Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.)** moved, Member **(David Nelissen)** seconded to approve the **AMENDED** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees It is recommended that the Board of Trustees vote for up to six 2024 CSBA Delegate Assembly candidates from a field of six."

The Board cast their vote for the following six candidates: Linda Lunn, Heidi Matties-Dodd, Cynthia Navarro, David Nelissen, Linda Porrás, and Jasmin Rubio.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **4**, Nay: **1**. The motion **PASSED 4 – 1**.

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	No

ACTION ITEMS (cont.)

14.3 GENERAL FUNCTIONS: Proposal for Board Governance Services With Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (funded through the General Fund in the amount of \$12,500 monthly)

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Steve Campos)** moved, Member **(David Nelissen)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the Proposal for Board Governance Services with Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates."

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **3**, Nay: **2**. The motion **PASSED 3 – 2**.

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	No
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	No

14.4 PERSONNEL: Certificated Personnel Action Items

The following public comment was addressed to the Board.

Xavier Padilla shared the following statement.

"President Garcia, board members, and Mr. Bennett's cabinet. Mr. Garcia, I need your help with this because this is a unique situation. I know we discussed earlier that we'll be speaking about 14.7 and 14.8, but we noticed that on 14.4, we have counselors as part of the wellness center and part of our CARES team that we came here to talk about. But we know you have to vote on 14.4 before you can vote on 14.7 and 14.8. So, I would like to ask for direction on this board. Is it possible to delay the votes on 14.4, 14.7, and 14.8 until you hear all of us have spoken? Thank you.

AMENDED - Motion

Member **(Steve Campos)** moved, Member **(Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.)** seconded to approve the **AMENDED** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees ratify and/or approve the Certificated Personnel Action Items as presented with the following revision:

- Pulled from Agenda: 1.1, 1.2, 1.9, 1.13, 1.16, 1.18, 1.24, 1.27, and 1.28."

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

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes

ACTION ITEMS (cont.)

Elizabeth Vallejo Yes

14.5 PERSONNEL: Classified Personnel Action Items

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Steve Campos)** moved, Member **(David Nelissen)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees ratify and/or approve the Classified Personnel Action Items as presented."

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

Steve Campos Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr. Yes
David Nelissen Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr. Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo Yes

14.6 PERSONNEL: Memorandum of Understanding Between the Perris Union High School District and the California School Employees Association and its Chapter, Perris Valley #469 Regarding the 2023-24 Supplemental Employee Retirement Plan

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(David Nelissen)** moved, Member **(Edward Garcia, Jr.)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Perris Union High School District and the California School Employees Association and its Chapter, Perris Valley #469 regarding the 2023-24 Supplemental Employee Retirement Plan."

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

Steve Campos Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr. Yes
David Nelissen Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr. Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo Yes

14.7 PERSONNEL: Resolution No. 13:23-24 - Elimination/Discontinuation and Layoff of Certain Certificated Management Employees for the 2024-25 School Year

The following public comments were addressed to the Board.

Christopher Tinajero shared the following statement.

ACTION ITEMS (cont.)

"Good evening. Cabinet and members of the board. I come to you today to speak on behalf of the thirty-six counselors in our district. While some are present here today behind me, many could not be here today due to the coincidental timing of this pivotal meeting taking place during the ski week break and CAFE while our Aspire program is also being cut, and the question of what will happen with the funds of the grant being raised. I humbly stand here putting the Aspire aside and, instead, focusing our concerns on the sweeping cuts to mental health programs in our district. For the past few years, our district leadership has not just backed mental health programs but has boasted about our programs to parents, the board, at the county level, in news articles, and in many other spaces when the opportunity arose. We were placed on a pedestal across the county, with county leaders calling this a potential blueprint for mental health support in schools. In fact, this past December, after presenting data on mental health services, you, our own board, made the comment of why does it sound like you are all losing your jobs? Assuring the board support for these programs yet foreshadowing a major shift just two months later. In a mere matter of months, it appears that our leaders have shifted from a stance of staunch support to one that conveys the message of mental health being a temporary ailment that has now all of a sudden been alleviated. We understand the nature of budgets. We understand that circumstances change and cuts become necessary. However, to make a decision to cut all mental health and A-G through support without discussing alternative options with credentialed counselors is absurd. Very few administrators have served as counselors, which is not a criticism of their experience but instead highlights the need to invite experts in the field into conversations to ensure that our kids are being served properly when it comes to their mental health. We cannot act as though mental health struggles are a rare occurrence that was only faced by students during the COVID era by choosing to only cut mental health and counseling positions we are sending a clear message that administrative leadership is more valuable to our district than mental health to our students. Let it be clear we aren't here today just to ask the board to save mental health for another year. We are here to ask that you make permanent positions to address the reality of mental health struggles among teens. We cannot continue to have counselors fighting for our kids every year as if mental health struggles are a temporary phenomenon. We need board policy and permanent positions to show our commitment to this generation and to future generations of students and to show them that we will always be prepared to serve them, whether it's this year or twenty years from now. We ask that you consider a transition plan while our leadership explores options for permanent solutions. One suggestion is that we at least keep our MTSS counselors in place at the sites, and that we add one to our Alt Ed site to help address the needs of our students. While it will be a big blow to our sites to lose all their mental health providers, with the help of our MTSS counselors and Care Solace, we can at least make an effort to ensure that students' mental health needs do not fall through the cracks. Our transition plan cannot be for school counselors to be the only line of support for students' mental health. There have been 15,216 student visits to our counseling offices since the start of the school year to now. We have 28 school counselors in our district, not counting the MTSS or Aspire counselors who are getting cut. Twenty-eight individuals have had over 15,000 individual conversations servicing our students this year so far. This does not account for the 7,223 students that have come through the wellness centers or that our MTSS counselors have seen and the 229 risk assessments that they have done, risk assessments that are done when counselors are made aware of a student that is potentially suicidal. Put all those numbers aside, the most important number is one because if you test 28 individuals with all of this, it is only a matter of time before we fail to reach just one student, and that student loses their life. And when that happens, will we have the courage to look at their family in the eyes and admit that we failed them. It should not have to take one of our students to lose their life to suicide for us

ACTION ITEMS (cont.)

to make permanent positions to support students' mental health. If a vote must be cast, we ask that you vote with your conscience, not as a block. However, we ask the board consider all of these points and table this vote for a later date in order to explore options that better service the health and wellness of our students. We ask that you invite us as experts into the conversation so that we can establish a pathway to permanence for mental health in the district. Most importantly, we ask the budget cuts do not force you to place a value on the life of even one of our students. Lastly, I do want to add that I know there have been comments about temporary funding ending. However, our entire grant is only two years and up. That's a question that should be raised. Other than that, I thank you all for your time. Thank you."

Betty Tran shared the following statement.

"Good evening, cabinet and members of the board. As elected board members of the Perris Union High School District community, you committed to prioritizing our student's well-being and making decisions in the best interests. However, eliminating direct counseling services goes against this promise. California Education Code 51900.5 highlights the health framework for California public schools, emphasizing our responsibility to provide support to Perris Union High School District students and families. While counselors address academic, social, emotional, and post-high school planning domains. We acknowledge that current support levels enable an expert approach tailored to our students' needs. Our innovative Student Center support programs have been emulated by neighboring districts, so we are casting our leadership in student support. As board members, you have the authority to safeguard and nurture our students. Please reconsider this decision and its potential impact on our community. California Ed Code 49600 underscores the importance of offering comprehensive educational counseling programs to address students, academic, social, emotional, and college and career readiness needs. Given our community's history of serving marginalized students and families, providing both academic and mental health support has proven to be successful and profoundly beneficial. You have seen and heard the data and the benefits of this program in previous board meetings. Removing these supports would be detrimental. Our sister districts have demonstrated their commitment by providing long-term permanent support rather than temporary assistance. We all know the connections and the significant correlation between mental health and overall health and academic success. We owe it to our students and our community to provide an in-house, long-term, permanent plan to allow them to be successful. Our district has taken a proactive approach to mental health in the last few years with the beginning of the Wellness Center. We should be proactive rather than reactive when it comes to our students' mental health. Mental health support should be long term and consistent. It is not a temporary state, as mentioned earlier, nor is it a quick fix. Our students and families need you to provide unwavering support by voting to keep part of the mental health team. Please consider the critical impact of your vote. Thank you for allowing me to speak and for your support."

Xavier Padilla shared the following statement.

"My name is Xavier, by the way. I am a parent and a counselor at Liberty High School, and I'm also a school board member for the Menifee School District. So when I see you seated there, I see myself. So I know what you have to do. I know when it comes to making decisions, how hard they are. None of us got hired to let go of individuals and programs. We're all about kids first. That's what we're about. So when I speak to you, I speak to

ACTION ITEMS (cont.)

you with several hats. You know, it was crazy that two weeks ago, on Counselor Appreciation Week, counselors were called into HR and told they were not coming back. That was heartbreaking. I didn't even know about it until we started hearing what was going on. So then, for us counselors, knowing that our programs are being cut to find out what's coming from our own people that are being let go rather than from our administrators, our superintendent, or cabinet was very disheartening to have to hear it from our colleagues. You heard it: 7,000 visits at the Wellness Center just this semester alone, over 200 risk assessments. We're talking about self-harm. My question to you as one board member to other board members is this, "Did they explain to you how bad it would be if these programs were cut? Did the cabinet let you know how bad the situation was going to be? And if the cabinet told you how bad the situation was going to be, you're sitting in a seat where you have a powerful vote and a powerful direction. If you became aware that this was going to happen, did you direct the cabinet to speak to our brothers and sisters of PSEA and let them know this is happening? What can we do to fix it before we let everybody go?" So, I also ask that you hold off on this vote until you figure out a solution. If you were not told how critical this situation was, that's a discussion between the board and the cabinet. But I told my district this, "I know we're in the red. I know that it's not good for districts. But this is the direction I gave my cabinet and the negotiation team because I knew about this last semester. I told him. You go in there, and you take care of our staff. Make our district solvent as best as you can, and make sure you don't let anybody go. That was my direction and my stance. You make this district solvent. Work with them because it's not them; it's us, and figure out a solution. But do not let anybody go. That was our direction. So I ask of you. What direction did you give your cabinet when it was time to negotiate for next year? On a last note. It was very frustrating for me to see temporary employees; I think that's the wording in this board meeting tonight that doesn't even mention a name unless you click on the PDF, obviously. But it frustrates me that people are being called temp workers. I'm part of PSEA. They knew what they were signing up for. You know, like I said at a previous meeting, these aren't temporary workers. These people have names, and when you cut a job, you're not cutting a temp worker. You're not cutting a temporary position. They knew what they got themselves into. I've gotten to know these individuals for three years. So when you think about cutting people, don't call them temporary workers or just another number. Sylvia, Courtney, Winifred, and Melissa at my school have done so much for our kids. I speak highly of you guys in my district. I've complimented this district. I said that you are the forefront of mental health. You brought the Wellness Centers to the district. We got all these services and I complimented you, and I'm going to still compliment you. I believe in you guys. Do what you need to to take care of this. But again, I would be drowning, and I would not be surviving if it wasn't for the Wellness Center and our CARES team. I wouldn't be making it. And I've said this at board meetings. You've given me 500 hours. You've given me countless things that I need to take care of, and when you brought the Wellness Center to us, it freed me. I was drowning people. I thought about going back to teaching as a history teacher. Then you brought the Wellness Center and the water went below my chin, and I was so grateful. Now, I'm going to have to figure out how long I have to hold my breath and that scares me. I'm going to be sad to see anybody go if this happens. But, you know, what's worse is that our kids won't see them. Thank you."

Adam Cyhan shared the following statement.

"Thank you for letting us speak and address the board. We were identified as being disproportionately high, and a lot of key factors that basically require us to provide these services, and I think that we still are

ACTION ITEMS (cont.)

disproportionately high. So, the bottom line is we all know that somehow, someway, these kids still have to be serviced, and what these professionals are telling you is that they cannot do it. What it seems to me is that the article where the commitment was made to the community. Is there still a commitment? Is the commitment still made to the community? Because I feel like we are rescinding that commitment or maybe trying to sort of fabricate this illusion where we're going to let all of those people go away and dump all of that work back on the counselors, and they're telling you that they cannot do it, and it is not really going to be possible. It's just like the situation we had where teachers were constantly being put over their special education caseload numbers in violation of the law. When you read the Ed Code, it specifically says in there that the reason why there are limits is because the state of California knows that there's a realistic amount of work that one human being can do and that if you push these people beyond that, then the work's not getting done and the kids are not getting serviced, period. And this is no different. This situation is no different. Those professionals are amazing. My counseling team at my high school is the best in the world. No offense to the other schools. I don't know them. I see, I only know what I see for the last 14 years at Heritage High School, and they were drowning in the, and they fought so hard for so long to get help. And now it's going away. And we're not accusing you of doing that, but we are telling you is that there is a better way and that there are too many years of education in this room, and there's too much knowledge in this room for us to leave here thinking that the only thing to do is to dump that commitment back on the guidance counselors. After you cut the staff when they're telling you as professionals, they really can't fulfill the promise that you seem to be making to the community on their behalf. I don't understand that. The last thing I want to say is that throughout this process, it came to my attention that there were two unit members who were told they could not choose their union rep. One will be provided to you. And the rep never showed up, and the meetings were held anyway. And one of the people said that the person that was supposed to represent them was in the building and didn't even go in the room and walked right past them. I know I'm not the president, and I don't have the official authority to conduct business on behalf of the union. But I am definitely speaking on behalf of those to you and saying that that's not how we do things in this district. Should I be afraid that you can do that to me, to set me up? Tell me I can't pick my rep. Tell me one will be provided they don't show up. Then, all of a sudden, I'm sitting in a meeting that's being conducted. That's not how we do things in Perris and I hope that that never happens again. Thank you."

Paul Clay shared the following statement.

"Thank you again for allowing me to address the Board and Mr. President. I want to speak to you because I was motivated by what I heard, and I wasn't originally going to speak. I was here for support, but your decision tonight has real-world consequences. What I mean by that is I have two students, sisters whose mother and father have both passed from cancer a year apart recently. The last I heard was her mother died. How are we expected to deal with this without the proper support? I'm not just disparaging any of the guidance counselors here or the many teachers who give an awfully large part of their lives to the kids when they're in trouble, have pain, and suffer. But I'm telling you right here and right now, they make a difference. This whole group back here, those who weren't here, they make a profound difference. And if you were to vote to dismiss them, then there would be real-world consequences to that decision. And the real-world consequences are this. I was once a volunteer aiding children who were in a mental hospital that was essentially closed down for budgetary reasons. Does that sound familiar? These kids said, okay, you're well; you can go home. And I was with three

ACTION ITEMS (cont.)

different kids. I worked with three different kids. One made it; one lived to the age of 19 years old, was addicted to drugs, was a prostitute, and died from suicide. The other is on death row in Illinois. There are real-world consequences. And I want to impress upon you the importance of this. I mentioned to students that I would probably gather that in any one of my classes, there are at least 4 or 5 students who avail themselves of these services. Every one of my classes ever since the program began, and I probably underestimated that you're going to have a profound impact on those hundreds of students, thousands of students in the district over the course of many years if this program is cut. I further want to ask, when did we start looking for grants to replace this money? I don't know the answer to this. I might be wrong, but it doesn't sound like we were starting this three years ago when we knew this would be a temporary program. I may be wrong about that, and I'll be fair. I would like to know. So, if somebody could email me when and who we sought grants from and who turned us down, because we need to find some source of income for this, we really do. I think the young man who spoke here said it would be best if we had a big bake sale, so let's do that. Let's do something to keep this program going. And thank you for your time. And thank you for my opportunity to speak."

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Steve Campos)** moved, Member **(David Nelissen)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees adopt Resolution No. 13:23-24 - Elimination/Discontinuation and Layoff of Certain Certificated Management Employees for the 2024-25 School Year."

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **4**, Nay: **1**. The motion **PASSED 4 – 1**.

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	No

14.8 PERSONNEL: Resolution No. 14:23-24 - Elimination/Discontinuation and Layoff of Certain Classified Management/Unrepresented Employees for the 2024-25 School Year

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(David Nelissen)** moved, Member **(Edward Garcia, Jr.)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees table this item until a Special Board Meeting can be arranged."

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

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	Yes

ACTION ITEMS (cont.)

14.9 PERSONNEL: Revised Job Description: Student Information Systems Coordinator

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Steve Campos)** moved, Member **(David Nelissen)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the revised job description: Student Information Systems Coordinator."

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

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	Yes

14.10 BUILDING AND GROUNDS: Award of Bid #012324 - PUHSD District Administrative Center Fencing Project (funded through Various Facilities Funds in the amount of \$774,000, not the General Fund)

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(David Nelissen)** moved, Member **(Steve Campos)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees award Bid #012324 - PUHSD District Administrative Center Fencing Project to the lowest bidder for the base bid with a fencing height of 10 feet."

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

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	Yes

14.11 BUILDING AND GROUNDS: Award of Bid #012524 - Perris Lake High School Shade Structure and Improvements Project (funded through Various Facilities Funds in the amount of \$456,400, not the General Fund)

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Steve Campos)** moved, Member **(Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees award Bid #012524 - Perris Lake Shade Structure and Improvements Project."

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

ACTION ITEMS (cont.)

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	Yes

14.12 BUSINESS: Resolution No. 12:23-24 - Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Perris Union High School District Implementing a Supplementary Employee Retirement Plan and Approval of SERP Service Agreement with Keenan & Associates

AMENDED - Motion

Member **(Steve Campos)** moved, Member **(Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.)** seconded to approve the **AMENDED** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees It is recommended that the Board of Trustees adopt Resolution No. 12:23-24 - Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Perris Union High School District implementing a Supplementary Employee Retirement Plan and

It is also recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the Supplemental Employee Retirement Plan Service Agreement with Keenan & Associates with the following revision:

- Remove Certificated and Classified Management."

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

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	Yes

14.13 BUSINESS: Authorization for the Purchase of Capital Equipment Above \$10,000 - February 2024

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.)** moved, Member **(David Nelissen)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees authorize the purchase of capital equipment above \$10,000 for the month of February 2024."

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

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes

ACTION ITEMS (cont.)

Elizabeth Vallejo Yes

14.14 BUSINESS: Authorization for Purchase Orders Above \$50,000 - February 2024

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(David Nelissen)** moved, Member **(Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees authorize the purchase of capital equipment above \$50,000 for the month of February 2024."

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

Steve Campos Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr. Yes
David Nelissen Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr. Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo Yes

14.15 BUSINESS: Multi-Year Agreement With Eide Bailly LLP for Audit Services (funded through the General Fund in an estimated amount of \$180,000 for a Three-Year Period)

AMENDED - Motion

Member **(Steve Campos)** moved, Member **(David Nelissen)** seconded to approve the **AMENDED** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees table this item until a Special Board Meeting can be arranged."

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

Steve Campos Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr. Yes
David Nelissen Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr. Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo Yes

INFORMATION ITEMS

15.1 CURRICULUM: Revised World Language Course: French III (meets A-G requirement "E")

The Board of Trustees received, for its review and consideration, as part of the first reading, the revised World Language course: French III.

15.2 CURRICULUM: New Advanced Placement Course: AP Research (meets A-G requirement "GB")

INFORMATION ITEMS (cont.)

The Board of Trustees received, for its review and consideration, as part of the first reading, the new advanced placement course: AP Research.

15.3 CURRICULUM: New Art Course: Visual Communications 2 (meets A-G requirement "F")

The Board of Trustees received, for its review and consideration, as part of the first reading, the new Art course: Visual Communications 2.

15.4 CURRICULUM: New Career Technical Education Course Under the RCOE Information and Technology Sector: RCOE Advanced Game Scripting (pending A-G requirement "F" verification)

The Board of Trustees received, for its review and consideration, as part of the first reading, the new Career Technical Education course under the RCOE Information and Technology Sector: RCOE Advanced Game Scripting.

15.5 CURRICULUM: New Elective Course: Mock Trial (meets A-G requirement "G")

The Board of Trustees received, for its review and consideration, as part of the first reading, the new elective course: Mock Trial.

15.6 CURRICULUM: New Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps Course: JROTC Competition Drill (meets A-G requirement "F")

The Board of Trustees received, for its review and consideration, as part of the first reading, the new Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps course: JROTC Competition Drill.

15.7 CURRICULUM: New Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps Courses: Naval Science 1 and Naval Science 2 (meets A-G requirement "G")

The Board of Trustees received, for its review and consideration, as part of the first reading, the new Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps courses: Naval Science 1 and Naval Science 2.

15.8 CURRICULUM: New VAPA Course: Ballet Folklorico - Level 1 (meets A-G requirement "F")

The Board of Trustees received, for its review and consideration, as part of the first reading, the new VAPA course: Ballet Folklorico - Level 1.

15.9 BUSINESS: Revolving Cash Report - January 2024

The Board of Trustees received, for its information, the Revolving Cash Report for January 2024.

15.10 BOARD POLICIES: Instruction (Series 6000)

INFORMATION ITEMS (cont.)

The Board of Trustees received for its review and consideration, as part of the first reading: AR 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation.

CLOSED SESSION (IF NECESSARY)

16.1 CLOSED SESSION (IF NECESSARY)

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Steve Campos)** moved, Member **(Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees adjourn to the continuation of Closed Session at 8:36 pm."

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

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	Yes

RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION (IF NECESSARY)

17.1 RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION (IF NECESSARY)

The regular Board Meeting was reconvened at 8:52 p.m.

OTHER ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

18.1 OTHER ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Bennett went over the 2024 graduation speaking assignments.

OTHER ITEMS BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

20.1 OTHER ITEMS BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Trustee Garcia requested hand sanitizer and commercial misting fans for the 2024 graduations.

ADJOURNMENT

21.1 ADJOURNMENT: Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees for February 21, 2024

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(David Nelissen)** moved, Member **(Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees adjourn the February 21, 2024, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees" at 8:55 p.m.

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

Steve Campos	Yes
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes
Elizabeth Vallejo	Yes



Grant Bennett, Superintendent



Edward Garcia, Jr., President



Anthony T. Stafford, Sr., Clerk