

Glendora Unified School District  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
September 23, 2019

President Mr. Ellenson called the regular meeting of the Glendora Unified School District Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Board Room, Glendora Unified School District, 500 North Loraine, Glendora, CA 91741.

Board Members Present:

Cory Ellenson, President  
Elizabeth Reuter, Vice President  
Robin Merkley, Clerk  
Zondra Borg, Member  
Rukshan Fernando, Ph.D., Member

District Administrators Present:

Robert Voors, Ed.D., Superintendent  
Marc Chaldu, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services  
Michelle Hunter, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services  
Becky Summers, Ed.D., Director, Educational Services

AGENDA

Upon a motion by Mrs. Reuter, seconded by Mrs. Merkley the Board of Education unanimously approved to adopt the agenda as presented.

REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION

The Board of Education met in closed session to discuss the following items. No action was taken.

- Negotiations with the Glendora Teachers Association, the California School Employees Association and unrepresented employees (Designated Representatives: Marc Chaldu, Dominic DiGrazia, Michelle Hunter and Rob Voors).
- Pending litigation settlement pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1(a)(3) for Student 09222019-01
- Potential Litigation

RECOGNITION SECTION

Mrs. Hunter introduced Jennifer Bell, Glendora USD's Teacher of the Year. Jennifer began her career with GUSD in 2004 as an English teacher at Glendora High School. Her supervisor, Paul Lopez, states that "Jennifer Bell is loved by the students at GHS. She has been voted the Most Inspirational Teacher by the

senior class for the last five years! She always listens to her students to make sure she is educating them to the best of her ability. Congratulations to Jennifer Bell as the Certificated Employee of the Year and one of the 16 Los Angeles County Teachers of the Year.

Mrs. Hunter introduced Classified Employee of the Year, Drenda Archer. Drenda currently works as an Instructional Aide at Cullen Elementary School. Her supervisor Cheryl Bonner states that Drenda is beyond amazing! She is the person most familiar to all Cullen Kindergarten and first grade students, right after their teachers. On a daily basis, Drenda works with students in every K/1 classroom, flying from room to room in addition to both K/1 yards, providing much needed guidance and support to each student and teacher. She is nurturing, funny, humble, and kind and she recognizes the value of building positive relationships with each child, relationships that often last far beyond their 5<sup>th</sup> grade departure. Congratulations to Drenda Archer as our Classified Employee of the Year!

On behalf of the Board of Education, Board President Ellenson commented that it is wonderful to be able to recognize employees like Drenda and Jennifer. The Board of Education is very proud of each of them. They are inspiring and have a positive impact on the students. Jennifer and Drenda were given a certificate and plaque honoring each of them as an employee of the year.

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Voors congratulated both Drenda Archer and Jennifer Bell as the District's Employees of the Year. Dr. Voors explained that the District will move forward with going to Trustee Area elections and that a presentation and public hearing will be on the agenda for the October 14<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Dr. Voors shared that community member and former board member, Dr. Charles Gomer is doing well as he recovers from surgery and continues his fight against cancer. Los Angeles County wants to use school sites as local voting places; the new voting time has now increased to four days and could impact the schools for up to 20 days. Dr. Voors expressed concern to LACOE Superintendent, Debra Duardo, regarding this new schedule, and the safety of the school campuses with the increased traffic and people on school sites during voting days. Once a response is received, he will provide an update.

## STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representative to the Board, Dominic Svagdis, reported on the following activities:

Sellers Elementary School is off to a great start for the 2019-2020 school year. Staff and students participated in an “all school flag salute” on September 10<sup>th</sup> where the Brownies and Boy Scouts raised the flag. Many students went to the LA County Fair where students enjoyed exhibits, as well as the farm animals. The PTA sponsored an ice cream social that was well attended by students, parents and staff. Afterschool activities have begun and include race car adventures, tennis and robotics.

Sandburg Middle School fall sports are in full swing and include football, volleyball and cross country; the student athletes are looking forward to a competitive season. In recognition of suicide awareness week the campus was decorated with yellow ribbons and positive messages; students wore yellow and participated in a variety of lunch time activities.

Glendora High School senior students enjoyed the senior luau with food, pool activities and a movie. Many students are looking forward to the Powder Puff football game featuring the junior girls versus senior girls. Homecoming preparations are well underway in anticipation for parade, game and dance. This year’s theme is A Night on Mount Olympus. Congratulations to water polo player, Carson Alonso, the Athlete of the Week. Carson had a great week scoring 13 goals; 3 assists, 9 steals and 12 ejections drawn.

## STAFF PRESENTATION AND INFORMATION

Annual School Reports:

Sellers Elementary School Principal Mr. Steve Bishop presented the school’s annual report. He reviewed the 2018-2019 overall SBAC performance results in English Language Arts and Math. In ELA, 73% of the students tested met the overall standards with 45.3% exceeding the standards. In Math, 63% of the students met the standards. Specifically, in the claim area of math concepts and procedures 47% of the students exceeded that standard. Achievements and challenges for the 2018-19 school year include sending a third grade team to the AVID Summer Institute, increased access to technology; a reading specialist and increased reading interventions. Challenges include increased need for mental health support, manageable Math interventions and lack of space. Mr. Bishop commented that everyone is excited about The Great Scientists program where each trimester there will be a focus on a scientist and their field of study. For example, Da Vinci and the invention of the catapult. Students also continue to enjoy afterschool activities such as chess, coding, tennis and Lego robotics. Mr. Bishop thanked the amazing Sellers staff, PTA, and GEF for their support.

Mrs. Reuter appreciated the informative data and specifically, the cohort data saying that it was easy to understand. She asked clarifying questions regarding Chromebooks, AVID goals, and the mental health challenges. She loves the Great Scientist program saying that she appreciates everyone's efforts. Mrs. Merkley asked clarifying questions regarding the Great Scientist Program. She thanked Mr. Bishop and the staff saying that a lot of good things are going on at Sellers. Dr. Fernando commented that he appreciates the work that is being done adding that the three-year cohort data was very helpful. He asked about staff training to provide assistance with the increased mental health issues. Dr. Fernando thanked Mr. Bishop and the staff for the excellent work they do with students. Ms. Borg thanked Mr. Bishop for the data saying that it helps the Board, and that she appreciates the percentiles. She asked clarifying questions regarding the ELA data and how staff is working with interventions for these students. She also asked about math interventions and student participation in the after school programs. Mr. Ellenson expressed his appreciation for the excellent report that provided a good picture of what is occurring at Sellers. Student Board Representative Dominic Svagdis asked clarifying questions regarding the student mental health concerns.

Cullen Elementary School Principal, Dr. Bonner presented the annual report with the assistance of teachers Mrs. Conklin, and Ms. Golden. Overall result data for SBAC performance in ELA shows that 75% of the students met the achievement standard. Dr. Bonner reported that overall students improved in all areas of ELA and 73% of 5<sup>th</sup> grade met or exceeded standards. She commented on the three-year cohort data as well as the subgroup data results for ELA. Overall Math data results also indicate that students improved in all areas of math with 67% of the students meeting the standards. She reviewed the three-year cohort data as well as a subgroup summary. Achievements for Cullen include a dedicated staff, increase in the number of students meeting and exceeding standards; in-house RTI; growth mindset embraced by students, parents and staff; and the greater availability of technology. Challenges include closing the performance gaps, time; students with new and diverse needs; PBIS; and developing student leaders. Dr. Bonner thanked GUSD leadership, GEF, and the entire Cullen community including the PTA, staff and students.

Ms. Borg thanked Dr. Bonner for the report and the staff for attending the meeting. She commented that the data looks good, and she asked about meeting of the school goals. Dr. Fernando asked about the challenges regarding time for staff collaboration and how the Monday early-outs are working. He thanked Dr. Bonner and the staff for all they do. Mrs. Merkley appreciated the report saying that it was impressive and she loved the program highlights and using a growth mindset.

Mrs. Reuter asked about the Kindergarten Switcheroo, commending the staff for putting the extra effort into the students. She commended Dr. Bonner and the Cullen staff for a great job adding that she appreciated the report. Mr. Ellenson commented that there is so much evidence of the staff going above and beyond; adding that the test data was outstanding. He is pleased that the Kindergarten Switcheroo is paying off. He thanked Dr. Bonner and staff for all the great things that happen at Cullen.

#### PUBLIC HEARING

None

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

#### DISCUSSION ACTION ITEMS

1. Upon a motion by Ms. Borg, seconded by Mrs. Merkley, the Board of Education unanimously approved the settlement agreement for Student 09222019-01.

#### GENERAL CONSENT ITEMS

Upon a motion by Dr. Fernando, seconded by Mrs. Reuter, the Board of Education unanimously approved the General, Educational, Business and Personnel Consent Items as follows:

1. Approved the minutes of the regular meeting of September 9, 2019 and the Special Closed Session Meeting of September 5, 2019 as presented.
2. Accept gifts from Edison International and Cullen PTA as presented.

#### EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CONSENT ITEMS

1. Approve/ratify the Glendora High School Varsity Girls Field Hockey field trip as presented. All procedural requirements of the District have been met.

#### BUSINESS SERVICES CONSENT ITEMS

1. Approve/ratify purchase order numbers 1920000453 through 1920000549 in the amount of \$820,709.33 for the 2019-2020 school year.

PERSONNEL CONSENT ITEMS

1. Approve/ratify Certificated Personnel Employments, Retirements, Resignations, and Leaves.
2. Approve/ratify Classified Personnel Employments, Retirements, Resignations, and Leaves.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mrs. Merkley reminded everyone of the Whitcomb High School fundraiser, Ladies Night out on October 18, saying that it is always a fun event. She congratulated her niece who has been selected as the Utah State Teacher of the Year.

Ms. Borg was happy to attend the LACOE Teacher of the Year banquet, where teachers from 61 Los Angeles County school districts were honored. She congratulated Jennifer Bell for being selected as one of the 16 LACOE Teachers of the Year, moving on to the state competition. She congratulated Classified Employee of the Year, Drenda Archer saying that the District is blessed to have such valuable employees.

Mrs. Reuter commented on a meeting with Mr. Chaldu to discuss the Strategic Communication Plan and to follow up on Blue Ribbon Committee. She reported that real progress is being made with the communications plan, and there is more momentum coming including staff, student and parent surveys. And the Blue Ribbon Committee will be looking to the future communications strategy, survey results etc., which will be very important on how they move forward.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Robert Voors, Ed.D.  
Secretary, Board of Education

Approval Date:

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October 14, 2019

Certified by:

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Robin Merkley, Clerk