

SOUHSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
4991 Southside Rd. Hollister, CA 95023
REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, August 9th, 2023
In-Person Meeting

MINUTES

ITEM I – Call to Order: 5:30pm

- a. Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by Mr. Michael Ruth**

Roll Call:

Board Members Present:

- Michael Ruth
- Julie Corrigan
- Julia Otterlei
- Julio Salazar

Board Members Absent:

Laura Forth

- b. Comments from public –**
c. Recess to Closed Session

ITEM II – Closed Session 5:30pm

Notice is hereby given that a closed session of the Board will be held under the general provisions listed as follows:

- a. Personnel – Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 & 54957.6(a)**
1. Superintendent Evaluation
 2. Conference with Labor Negotiator – Classified “Sunshine Letter”

ITEM III

- a. Roll Call – Closed Session ended at 6:20pm regular session started at 6:26pm**

Present:

- Michael Ruth
- Julie Corrigan
- Julia Otterlei
- Julio Salazar

Absent:

Laura Forth

- b. The Board directed Mr. Schilling to continue negotiations with the Classified Staff.**
c. Pledge of Allegiance
d. Approval of the Agenda – Julie Corrigan made the motion to approve the agenda and was seconded by Julio Salazar and carried the following vote: Yes – 4; No/Absent/Abstain – 1

Comments from the public – Mrs. Howard commented on insults that were spoken about Mrs. Romiti last year by a parent. She wanted the Board to know that Mrs. Romiti character is not the one described by that parent last year. Mrs. Romiti spent a lot of her personal time this summer creating the Bulldog Care Program. She coordinated meetings, creating the program and printed posters.

ITEM IV. – DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

a. Officers' Report

1. Superintendent/Principal –

- a. Mr. Schilling shared with the Board that the 23-24 school year enrollment is at approximately 240.
- b. Mr. Schilling shared with the Board that he emailed a Welcome Letter to all parents on 8/9/23 and Teachers will be meeting on 8/15 and 8/16 for training and setting up classrooms.
- c. Mr. Schilling shared with the Board that Ms. Lopez emailed a resignation letter last week.
- d. Mr. Schilling shared with the Board that he is still working with the Insurance and Roof Contractor. The Insurance adjuster is asking that we obtain a letter from the roofing company indicating the damage and cause. The materials to replace the stage floor have been ordered and Mr. Sanchez will begin to replace it.
- e. Mr. Schilling informed the Board that Back to School Night will be held on 8/30/23.
- f. Mr. Schilling shared with the Board that the school is working on a revised student referral form. It will include more detailed information about incidents.

2. Board Member Comments – Julia Otterlei asked about a timeline for repairing the gym ceiling tiles and student bathrooms. She asked that the school obtain more bids. She also asked about inter-districts and class sizes / ratios.

Julio asked Mr. Schilling to keep insisting with the insurance company and asked them to help contact the roofing company for the letter.

3. Board President Comment – None

4. Parent Club – Mrs. Barnes, Co Secretary informed the Board that on Back to School they will have Ohana Shaved Ice and a Taco Vendor. They also have new spirit wear. They will have samples and sign-up activity sheets.

ITEM V – CONSENT ITEMS

These items are considered routine and may be enacted by the board in one motion. There is no discussion on these items prior to the motion unless a specific item is removed from the consent list.

- a. Regular Board Meeting Minutes for July 12th, 2023, May 31st, 2023, and June 13, 2023, as presented.
- b. Warrants report to be presented next meeting.

Julie Corrigan made the motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated 7.12.23, 5.31, 2023 and 6.13.23 with corrections and was seconded by Julia Otterlei and carried the following vote: Yes –4; No/Absent/Abstain – 1

ITEM VI – DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

a. Bulldogs CARE (DISCUSSION)

Rationale: Building a positive climate and culture of our school is a priority this school year. The board has discussed programs, options, and initiative to address the need to build a positive Southside community this school year. Thank you, Mrs. Romiti, and the Southside staff for taking the lead on the project to build a positive school culture from within. The Bulldogs CARE program was developed by the dedicated Southside staff.

Recommended Motion: N/A

Mrs. Romiti shared with the Board the new Bulldog Care Program. She informed the Board that the teachers met over the summer to discuss and come up with a positive program to improve behavior using empathy, clear and consistent expectations throughout the classrooms. She created posters with 3 simple expectations for each classroom and to hang around the campus. Ms. Cruz shared that Mrs. Romiti worked hard on the program and as a staff using similarities of Capturing Hearts but more of a fit for Southside, they came up with 5 things staff can do around campus and in class.

1. Greet students every morning individually.
2. Working with class on shared agreements on how to be in the classroom
3. Students sharing good things.
4. Ending with a goodbye at the end of the day
5. Behavior shared questions to be consistent with all staff.

Mrs. Abercrombie shared that she will be doing team building with the 8th grade students.

1. The first field trip will be to the Food Bank and Southside will also put on a School wide picnic with parents and students from 11am – Noon.
2. Bulldog Care Club every 2nd Thursday of the month for TK – 8th grade. She will ask for parent volunteers.
3. Designing Bulldog Care t-shirt for all students and staff wear on Fridays.

Mr. Schilling complimented the staff on creating the Bulldog Care Program.

b. School Board Policy (DISCUSSION)

Rationale: The board has requested to have the opportunity to discuss the polices for the district as an open discussion item. It has been requested to be an ongoing item moving forward.

Recommendation: That the board discuss the topic of a school board policies for Southside school

c. 2024 – 2025 Southside School Instructional Calendar (ACTION)

Rationale: The 2024-2025 calendar has been reviewed and is ready for the board to finalize. After contact with the high school, adjustments were made to the spring break section of the

calendar to align the Southside break to the high school break. The calendar has been reviewed by the classified and certificated bargaining units.

Recommended Motion: Approve the 2024-2025 instructional calendar for the Southside School District

Julie Otterlei made the motion to approve the 2024-2025 Southside Instructional Calendar and was seconded by Julie Corrigan and carried the following vote: Yes –4; No/Absent/Abstain – 1

d. School Fencing Project Contract Approval (ACTION)

Rationale: School safety is a priority of the Southside School District and like many other schools, we are taking measures of securing our campus by installing exterior fencing around the exposed portions of the school. Repeated contacts have been made with local fencing contractors and we have received two bids for the work. Typically, three bids are needed for a public-school project, but a third bid was not obtained.

Recommendation: The board review, discuss and select a fencing contractor for the exterior fencing work.

Contract Bids:

- a. S and C Fencing total bid: \$48,455
- b. Ace Fence and Gate bid: \$46,700d.

Recommended Motion: The board approve the contract bid for exterior fencing from B in the amount of \$46,711 not to exceed \$50,000.00.

Julie Otterlei made the motion to approve the School Fencing Project Contract and was seconded by Julie Corrigan and carried the following vote: Yes –4; No/Absent/Abstain – 1

e. Inter-District Transfer Agreement Revision (ACTION/DISCUSSION)

Rationale: After a review and discussion of the current inter-district transfer agreement, the board requested additional items added to the agreement for the 2023-2024 school year. The primary changes were to add items to the reasons for the revocation of the transfer agreement and to clarify the language in the same area of the document.

Recommended Motion: The board approve the revised inter-district transfer agreement for the 2023-2024 school year.

Julie Corrigan made the motion to approve the Inter-District Transfer Agreement Revision and was seconded by Julio Salazar and carried the following vote: Yes –4; No/Absent/Abstain – 1

**f. Southside School Bullying Prevention (Code of Conduct) Draft
(DISCUSSION)**

Rationale: The Southside School District believes that all students have a right to a safe and healthy school environment. The district and community have an obligation to promote mutual respect, tolerance, and acceptance. To take steps in Bullying prevention, Southside has developed a code of conduct to provide clarification to students and adults that bullying behavior will not be tolerated. The objective of the Bullying Prevention code of conduct is to obtain parent, student, and staff consent to the areas of behavior. Additionally, to provide clarification about what types of behaviors will not be tolerated and the consequences for individuals that violate the contract. Parents will be required to sign the form upon receipt and the content of the code will be reviewed with students by staff members in the classrooms.

Recommendation: The board review and discuss the draft Southside Bullying prevention document.

VII. Closing Items

- a. The next Regular Meeting of the Board is Wednesday September 6, 2023, at 6:00 pm.
- b. Adjournment

Julie Corrigan made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 pm and was seconded by Julia Otterlei and carried the following vote: Yes – 4; No/Absent/Abstain – 1

John Schilling, Superintendent/Principal
Southside School District

Michael Ruth, Board President
Southside School District, Board of Trustee