

**CORCORAN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
February 8, 2022  
6:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President of the Board, Sammy Ramirez, called the regular meeting of the Corcoran Unified School District Board of Trustees to order at 6:00 p.m.

**TRUSTEES PRESENT/ABSENT**

Trustees present were Sammy Ramirez, Berenice Alvarez, Sandra DeLaFuente, and Valerie Bega  
Trustee absent was Patty Robertson

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Pearl Prins, Antonia Ramirez, Elizabeth Mendoza, Lola Lerma, Steve Berry, Brian Brazier, Charles Price, Horacio Cruz, Bernie Jones, Dave Whitmore, Laurie Haas, LeeAnne Lucio, Robin Feldman, Carol Abeyta, Karen Yamashita, Ivette Nunez, Maricela Lerma, Lora Cartwright, Pam Dihel, Eduardo Ochoa, Gina Gonzales and others.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Board voted to approve the agenda for the regular Board Meeting of February 8, 2022

*Motion: Valerie Bega*

*Second: Sandra DeLaFuente*

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Sammy Ramirez, Berenice Alvarez, Sandra DeLaFuente, and Valerie Bega

**MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL REPORT**

A student from John Muir Middle gave a report to the Board in regards to the sites current and upcoming activities.

**CFA REPORT**

CFA Treasurer LeeAnne Lucio reported that it had taken a toll on the staff with absences due to COVID. However, she adds that everyone works together to keep students in the classroom. She asked the District and the Board to support the continued use of Zoom for the Wednesday staff meetings. Ms. Lucio gave the board an overview of the various events happening at the K-12 schools, including promoting kindness, sports updates, and campus safety. The CFA wants to show their appreciation to office staff, teachers covering classes through their prep period, and the nurses working with students nonstop.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT**

Trustee Valerie Bega Valerie Bega attended an inter-dual wrestling meet at the John Muir Middle School on February 2, 2022. She was surprised that enough students participated in making a Junior Varsity team. She also attended the Corcoran High School League Championship, in which four wrestlers became League Champions.

**CBO REPORT**

CBO Pam Dihel informed the Board of the results of the After School Meal Review. It was a good review with no fiscal findings. There were a few areas where recommendations and corrective actions were needed, including annual training, facility reviews/monitoring, and personnel activity reports that will be followed.

In preparation for the new concession building at Kings Lake, PG&E must increase the electricity/transformer. Corcoran Joint Unified School District is working with the City of Corcoran on a needed lot line adjustment between Kings Lake and the 1204 Dairy Avenue property. This process with the City will take approximately 3-6 months.

There has been much discussion about the need for air conditioning units at the High School Gym and Cooper Hall at John Muir. We use both of those facilities a great deal during the hot season, and the current HVAC is not much help, especially now that masks are required. We have received a quote on the High School Gym, JM Cooper Hall/Cafeteria, which came to \$1.5 million. Additionally, we requested quotes for two additional items. The first item is upgrading the thermostats District-Wide to allow CO2 monitoring and cloud access, which came to just under \$400,000. The installation of the Bi-Polar ionization System will help in the reduction of airborne pathogens. We had an assessment completed last year to help recommend improvements to air quality in our school sites. The quotes will be coming to a future board meeting for approval. We are utilizing our ESSER II Funds, which fall within the uses guidelines.

Mrs. Dihel gave the Board an update on the Roofing projects needed at Fremont Cafeteria, Mark Twain Cafeteria, and Bret Harte B-Wing. Last week there was a job walk with contractors, and Bid Openings of the submitted bids are planned for February 16. The lowest bid will be presented to the Board for approval on March 8th.

The District is currently requesting quotes for John C. Fremont and Mark Twain's kitchen heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems. We will bring these quotes to the Board as soon as they are received. The cost is estimated at around \$10,000 for each unit. We are planning to install these during the summer with the roofing projects.

The walk-in freezer at Mark Twain's needs some maintenance and repairs. We have brought in a temporary walk-in refrigerator to store food while the walk-in is being updated. We estimate it could take up to 2-3 months.

The business department is working together with San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution on another grant for five vehicles; a Prius for the District Office and Annex, 2 Gators for the grounds department, 2 Global Electric Motorcars (GEM) for the custodian and technology department. The estimated cost to the District is \$16,000 for those five vehicles, with the Grant providing approximately \$90,000.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Superintendent Ochoa reported to the Board that the District is projecting two additional classrooms on the Bret Harte campus, as the Transitional Kindergarten class will be expanding in 2022-23. The registration period will begin right after spring break to help determine the facility, staff, and resource needs. A COVID rapid antigen test distribution was held at the Technology Learning Center (TLC) on Wednesday, February 2. It resulted in over 1900 test kits being distributed, with another 900 kits given out on Monday, February 7. Superintendent Ochoa thanked everyone who supported the event. The District also received more kits from the California Department of Education for school employees. Those will be disbursed in the days ahead. He invited the Board to the Tacos & Technology event held at the John Muir Middle School on February 10 at 5:30 pm. This event welcomes all district parents and will serve as a Google Classroom Overview and answer any questions parents may have regarding technology.

Before the board meeting, Mr. Ochoa visited Corcoran High School for their Pathways Night. He stated it was well attended. He expressed how great it was to see the current 8th-grade students learning about the various pathways they could select from before signing up for classes his spring. There was an article in the Visalia Sun-Gazette about the High School. It favorably compared the school to others in Visalia, highlighting that more than two-thirds of Corcoran students were college and career ready compared to less than half of those in Visalia Unified. It also read that a higher percentage of Corcoran students were taking and passing college credit courses and career and technical education (CTE). This feature emphasizes the incredible work the site has been working towards for years. He congratulated the Academic Decathlon team at Corcoran High School. After day 1, the team stood at second place and was only surpassed by Lemoore High by the end of the second day. The team had various students who received medals and scholarships, including a student with a perfect score in speech. The team accomplished this while only fielding a partial group of 7 members. Superintendent Ochoa was pleased to announce Mr. Isaias Ramirez, a teacher at Corcoran High School, as this year's Corcoran Man of the Year. The honor and recognition are well deserved as he has made a tremendous impact on the lives of

hundreds of students on campus and his cross country and football teams over the years. He truly is an excellent example of putting the needs of students first and helping them grow into their potential.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Director of Categorical Programs, Elizabeth Mendoza, presented the Board with the Supplement to the Annual Update to the 2021-22 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP). The 2021–22 Supplement will be submitted for review and approval as part of the 2022–23 LCAP. Mrs. Mendoza discussed mid-year outcome data related to metrics identified in the 2021–22 LCAP and mid-year expenditure and implementation data on all actions identified in the 2021–22 LCAP.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### 1) CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on January 25, 2022  
*For questions regarding item a. contact Gina Gonzales at 992-8888, ext. 1224*
- b. Warrant Registers for:
  - i. January 21, 2022 for \$145,034.49
  - ii. January 28, 2022 for \$130,579.83*For questions regarding item b. contact Pam Dihel at 992-8888, ext. 1232*
- c. 2021-22 Personnel Assignment Order #11
- d. Student Trip
  - i. For 1 High school student and staff Charles Hache to Game Developers Conference to be held from March 21 through March 25, 2022, in San Francisco. Use of personal vehicle mileage to be reimbursed by Career Technical Education Incentive grant
  - ii. For John C. Fremont Second Grade classes and teachers to Burris Park Outdoor Education Program Field Trip to be held February 25, March 1, and March 3, 2022, in Kingsburg. Use of busses to be paid by Burris Park
  - iii. For John C. Fremont Third Grade classes and to Farm Day to be held March 17, 2022, in Hanford. Use of bus to be paid by Kings County

*Motion: Sandra DeLaFuente*

*Second: Valerie Bega*

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Sammy Ramirez, Berenice Alvarez, Sandra DeLaFuente, and Valerie Bega

## **BUSINESS**

The Board discussed and approved Bowen Engineering and Environmental Inc. for the demolishing and Removal of the existing office building at 1204 Dairy Avenue

*Motion: Berenice Alvarez*

*Second: Sandra DeLaFuente*

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Sammy Ramirez, Berenice Alvarez, Sandra DeLaFuente, and Valerie Bega

The Board discussed and approved Quiel School Signs quote for the purchase and installation of marquee signs at John Muir and Mark Twain Schools

*Motion: Sammy Ramirez*

*Second: Valerie Bega*

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Sammy Ramirez, Berenice Alvarez, Sandra DeLaFuente, and Valerie Bega

## **ACTION ITEM**

The Board discussed and responded to the Notice of Action Claim

Board Vice President Berenice Alvarez motioned to approve the claim. It died due to the lack of a second. Board Trustee Valerie Bega motioned to reject the claim and Board Clerk Sandra DeLaFuente seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Sammy Ramirez, Sandra DeLaFuente, and Valerie Bega

NAYES: Berenice Alvarez

