

**ROSEMEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING MINUTES**

**CONSENT**

June 28, 2018

The Board of Trustees of the Rosemead School District met in a special meeting on Thursday, June 28, 2018, in the District Office – Board Room at Rosemead School District, 3907 Rosemead Blvd., Rosemead, California at 7:45 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Armenta called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. Trustees present included: Ms. Nancy Armenta, Mr. Ronald Esquivel, Mr. John Quintanilla, Mrs. Rhonda Harmon, and Mrs. Veronica Peña.

Other *District personnel and guests* in attendance who legibly signed the register were:

Diane Benitez, John Benitez, Esther Garcia, Christina Price, Sylvia Petrovitch, Cindy Do, Reynita Amador, Karen Carr, Keith Elliott, Sharon Giambalvo, Katherine Monte, Carol Mahoney, Respect Ly, Lisa Elkins, Jing Cai, Tiffany Samora, Karen Reid, Ginny Ford, Connie Garcia, Jess Carreon, Terri Totten, Armida Carreon, Pamela Harris, Jodie Lee, Jerry Puente, Nadine Wilcox, Kelly Wong, Lindy Ngo, Leah Kilpatrick, Michelle Drain, Sharon Wan, Scott Levin, Jennifer Fang, Julie Diep, Kim Thai, Jacqueline McDonald, Dawn Rock, Frank Quintanilla, Ruth Soto, Arcelia Catalanas, Nicole Camonte, Mona Camonte, Octavio Serrato, Celsa Avalos, Alex Gaeta, Elaine Luong-Huynh, Felicia Truong, Jenny Cheung, and Maria Schulz.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Armenta invited Dr. Armida Carreon to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Minutes:** That the Agenda, be approved.

- *Trustee Harmon discussed her questions regarding this agenda. Mrs. Harmon has requested that her comments be attached to the minutes of the June 28, 2018 meeting.*
- *Trustee Esquivel made a comment of disagreement during the discussion of this item.*
- *President Armenta explained that one of the Trustees was unavailable on the originally intended day, Wednesday, therefore she asked if they were available on Friday in order to call the special meeting – they were not. She explained that in speaking with the Trustee she shared that she felt that it was very important that all Trustees be present for this meeting.*
- *Attorney Christine Hsu answered questions by the Board of Trustees.*

<b><u>Motion made by:</u></b>	Mr. Quintanilla	<b><u>Seconded by:</u></b>	Ms. Armenta
<b><u>Votes:</u></b>	Ms. Armenta	Yes	Mrs. Peña
	Mr. Esquivel	No	Mr. Quintanilla
	Mrs. Harmon	No	Yes

*Trustee Harmon excused herself from the meeting after the completion of the Approval of the Agenda.*

#### PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

1. Mrs. Karen Carr, Coordinator, of Migrant Education Consortium shared her thoughts on the following: ambiguity of the Board agenda and assumed topic of the agenda, long time employee of Rosemead, think about several factors regarding the closed session agenda, the feeling of disrespect for people who have worked so hard for the students, focus on what's best for the students, consider what is best for this district, can there be a transition period, and timing is very important.
2. Mrs. Nadine Wilcox, District Nurse/RTA Representative shared a message on behalf of Coleen Ball regarding Superintendent Dr. Amy Enomoto-Perez and her accomplishments for the District. Mrs. Wilcox shared Mrs. Harmon's sentiments.
3. Mr. Jerry Puente, RTA President shared that he agrees with everything Mrs. Harmon and Mr. Esquivel said. He urges the Board to hold off on their decision. He has heard from several sources and departments. If change is needed, please note that many are present because of their fear of who is being considered to fill the position. Mr. Puente urged the Board to reconsider holding off on their decision.
4. Carol Mahoney, Coordinator, Afterschool Programs shared a book about trust and has been watching the Board agenda topics. She expressed the "perception" that this special meeting has created regarding transparency concerns. The Board's actions have given staff a sense of tension and putting the District in a situation of instability.
5. Dr. Amy Enomoto-Perez, Superintendent expressed her concerns regarding the non-invitation to the employee of the Board – the Superintendent, and shared that she has never seen this happen in the 36 years she has been employed in Rosemead, and instead there are two Attorneys from the Olivarez Madrugá Lemieux O'Neill (OMLO) law firm who are working in lieu of the Superintendent. Dr. Enomoto-Perez shared that she had informed the Board that she plans to retire in June of 2019 and had been in discussions about successorship in the District. She expressed several concerns many have regarding the meeting, the Board's responsibilities as elected officials to the community. Dr. Enomoto-Perez discussed personal integrity, the importance of the recent loss of Dr. John Lovato, and the tremendous amount of urgent matters that need to be addressed during the summer. She expressed that the District teaches the students that everyone's voice is important, that they are leaders, and the students expect to have a voice as a community of student leaders. Superintendent Dr. Enomoto-Perez shared that the District received another complaint that will need to be thoroughly investigated. She reminded the Board that they were elected to represent the best interests of the community and the children.
6. Mrs. Ruth Soto, Savannah Principal shared and felt that it is important for her to speak with everyone today. In her experience with the District the past 11 years, she truly appreciates the work that the great team has raised the District to. She has worked in several different districts and has worked with numerous leaders and felt that she was finally at home in Rosemead. Mrs. Soto asked that the Board take time to understand how important and critical it is to have a transition period to ensure the success of all programs. Principal Soto shared that the success and recognition of Savannah this year is due to the teachers, students, parents, and the district administrators' patience including the support to her and the school. She asked the Board to consider listening to the principals' concerns and include them in the process, take time with the process and include a transition period with this change.

7. Mr. Octavio Serrato, CSEA President shared that the CSEA Board is present and very shocked at the Board agenda. He has been here for 28 years and everyone is confused. He understands if a decision needs to be made, but include a transition and all the stakeholders: RTA, CSEA, Principals, etc. Mr. Serrato shared that he feels we need to follow the 5<sup>th</sup> Habit: Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood. He also shared the concerns of possibly having to buy out the Superintendent contract.
8. Katherine Monte, Multi-Media Specialist, Citizen of the Rosemead Community and Employee of Rosemead expressed her concerns regarding the way the Board is conducting their business and the integrity of the Board.

#### RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

President Armenta began Closed Session at 8:32 p.m.

#### CLOSED SESSION

1. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release – pursuant to Government Code Section 54957
  - One matter
2. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(2), (e)(2)
  - Significant Exposure to Litigation – One matter
3. Public Employment – pursuant to Government Code Section 54957
  - Interim Superintendent

#### ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION

President Armenta adjourned closed session at 11:37 p.m.

#### RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

President Armenta reconvened the meeting to open session at 11:40 p.m.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS: (continued)

- Ms. Sandra Armenta, Councilmember of the City of Rosemead shared that she was present during the meeting after receiving several phone calls from Rosemead constituents who expressed their fear to be present during the meeting because they were afraid that their children would be blacklisted. She shared that community members have been texting her. Ms. Armenta also shared that she wasn't allowed to install her sister when her term began. She also shared that she applied as a substitute and her application was not considered. She plans to request copies of District records and will analyze all the information. Ms. Sandra Armenta stated that she plans will be the steward for the community children.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION (if any)

President Armenta reported that the Board of Trustees took the following action in closed session:

1. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release – The Board voted 3-1 with Trustee Esquivel voting No, Not to Renew the Employment Agreement of Amy Enomoto-Perez, thus ending her term effective June 30, 2018.

2. Potential Litigation – No action was taken.
3. Public Employment – Interim Superintendent –  
The Board voted 4-0, to appoint Dr. Jennifer Fang as Interim Superintendent.

President Armenta thanked everyone that stayed, that came here to express their feelings and their concerns. She wanted people to know the Board respects their positions and they are always here to listen to everyone. They appreciate all the public comments tonight and they had a very difficult decision to make. "The District's position is that Dr. Enomoto-Perez's contract expired June 30, 2018. The Board decided to make a change in the leadership and despite efforts to come to an agreement with Dr. Enomoto-Perez, we were not able to do so. We asked Dr. Jennifer Fang to serve as Interim Superintendent tonight, and she has nobly accepted. This decision was not made before tonight and the Board plans to go through a democratic and transparent process to hire a permanent superintendent with input from all stakeholders, which is very important. There is a lot of mis-information and we hope that Dr. Fang can help dispel some of the rumors and mis-information that has been circling in regards to tonight's decision. She thanked everyone for their attendance during the meeting.


Dr. Jennifer Fang shared that she hopes her acceptance of this position will help bring some comfort to everyone. It was the Board's decision for the change to happen. She hopes that she can bring a complete and transparent process to help with this transition. Everyone knows her style of leadership to be a very collaborative style. She will lead the staff during this tough process and will need everyone's support and prayers during this period.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

Minutes: That the June 28, 2018 Board of Trustees meeting, **be adjourned** at 11:49 p.m.

<u>Motion made by:</u>	Mr. Quintanilla	<u>Seconded by:</u>	Ms. Armenta
<u>Votes:</u>	Yes	Mrs. Peña	Yes
Ms. Armenta	Yes	Mr. Quintanilla	Yes
Mr. Esquivel	Absent		
Mrs. Harmon			

Signed,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
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Clerk