

## **MINUTES**

### **RIALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**April 6, 2022**

**Dr. John R. Kazalunas Education Center  
182 East Walnut Avenue  
Rialto, California**

#### **Board Members**

**Present:**  
**Edgar Montes, President**  
**Nancy G. O'Kelley, Clerk**  
**Joseph W. Martinez, Member**  
**Julian Hunter, Student Board Member**

#### **Board Members**

**Absent:**  
**Stephanie E. Lewis, Vice President**  
**Dina Walker, Member**

#### **Administrators**

**Present:**  
**Cuauhtémoc Avila, Ed.D., Superintendent**  
**Darren McDuffie, Ed.D., Lead Strategic Agent: Strategic, Congruence and Social Justice**  
**Patricia Chavez, Ed.D., Lead Innovation Agent**  
**Diane Romo, Lead Business Services Agent**  
**Rhea McIver Gibbs, Ed.D., Lead Personnel Agent**  
**Also present was Martha Degortari, Executive Administrative Agent and Jose Reyes, Interpreter/Translator**

#### **A. OPENING**

##### **A.1 CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 p.m.**

The regular Board Meeting of the Board of Education of the Rialto Unified School District was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President, Edgar Montes at the Dr. John R. Kazalunas Education Center, at 182 E. Walnut Avenue, Rialto, California 92376.

**A.2 OPEN SESSION**

**A.2.1 Comments on Closed Session Agenda Items**

Any person wishing to speak on any item on the Closed Session Agenda will be granted three minutes.

None.

**A.3 CLOSED SESSION**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

As provided by law, the following are the items for discussion and consideration at the Closed Session of the Board Meeting:

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members to move into Closed Session:**

Time: 6:03 p.m.

**Majority Vote**

**A.3.1 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE  
EMPLOYMENT/DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE/REASSIGN  
MENT OF EMPLOYEES (GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION  
54957)**

**A.3.2 STUDENT EXPULSIONS/REINSTATEMENTS/EXPULSION  
ENROLLMENTS**

**A.3.3 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**

Agency designated representatives: Cuauhtémoc Avila, Ed.D., Superintendent; Rhea McIver Gibbs, Ed.D., Lead Personnel Agent, Personnel Services; and Rhonda Kramer, Lead Personnel Agent, Personnel Services.

Employee organizations: California School Employees Association, Chapter 203 (CSEA), Rialto Education Association (REA), Communications Workers of America (CWA)

**A.3.4 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(2)  
and/or (d)(3) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL -  
ANTICIPATED LITIGATION SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE  
LITIGATION**

Number of Potential Claims: 1

**A.3.5 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)**

276754312 v. Rialto Unified School District (Superior Court of California San Bernardino- Court Case No. CIVSB 2026907)

**A.3.6 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)**

EBusiness Solutions LLC v. Rialto Unified School District

**A.4 ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Julian Hunter, Student Board Member joined the meeting at 7:08 pm.

**Moved By** Member Martinez

**Seconded By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members to adjourn out of Closed Session:**

Time: 7:10 p.m.

**Majority Vote**

**A.5 OPEN SESSION RECONVENED - 7:10 p.m.**

**A.6 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Member Martinez led the pledge of allegiance.

**A.7 REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

The Board of Education took action to approve an agreement settling all claims asserted by EBusiness Solutions LLC in exchange for a release of all claims and obligations.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

The Board of Education took action to approve an agreement settling Superior Court of California San Bernardino - Court Case No. CIVSB 2026907 in exchange for a release of all claims.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

The Board of Education accepted the administrative appointment of David Carter, Agent: Maintenance & Operations.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

The Board of Education accepted the administrative appointment of Norberto Perez, Agent: Expanded Learning Programs.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

The Board of Education accepted the administrative appointment of Monica Garcia, Adult Education Assistant Principal.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**A.8 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Prior to adoption of the agenda, the Board to action to pull the following item from the CONSENT CALENDAR/ITEMS section (Page 25) of the agenda:

**TERMINATION OF PERMANENT CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE**

**Employee #2623332 Categorical Project Clerk 03/22/2022**

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members to adopt the agenda as amended:**

**Majority Vote**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

**B.1 HIGH SCHOOL - DISTRICT STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DSAC)**

The following DSAC High School leaders shared information and activities held at their school:

Eisenhower High School - Karlie Gutierrez

Rialto High School - Maya Williams

Milor High School - Aajayla Smith

Carter High School - Maya Norman

**C. COMMENTS**

**C.1 PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

At this time, any person wishing to speak on any item not on the Agenda will be granted three minutes.

**Shon Hampton, Wellness Counselor at Eisenhower High School,** talked about the need for more counselors at the school sites. He shared that currently the counselor to student ratio is 480 to one (1), and although they are doing their best to get to know students on a personal level to support their needs, it is not easy. He said that the American Counselor Association recommends 250 students to one (1) counselor; and although the graduation rates are rising, he can only imagine what they could do with

a better student to counselor ratio. He appreciates that more counselors have been added to middle school levels, but more can be done, including at the elementary schools. He shared that he has met with over 200 students per month and reiterated that counselors are struggling. He knows students deserve better.

**Tobin Brinker, Frisbie Middle School Teacher** shared that he loves teaching and has taught for over 27 years. He talked about some of the amazing teachers in the District, such as Mr. Rod Campbell who passed away short after retiring, but his legacy continues with his two daughters who work in the District. He said that there are many family members who work for Rialto USD, and have helped build up the District, such as Teacher Graciela Ballardo who has two children here in the District. Over the years, he said he has had the opportunity to teach the children of some of his colleagues and always found this to be an honor. He also talked about the data found in the California Department of Education website for the 2018-19 school years, which shows that over 800 teachers in the District at that time had Masters Degrees and 35 teachers had Doctors Degrees. He would like to see these amazing teachers and the District continue to work collaboratively.

Mr. Brinker said that at the last Board meeting, the Board agreed to put Standards-Based Grading on pause. He questioned what that would look like and hoped that it would mean the District would disable the 50% feature on Synergy and trust teachers to choose appropriately while they continue to learn about Standards-Based Grading. He thanked the Superintendent for bringing together the committee and including teachers to be part of the process. He reminded the Board that the teachers are the point of contact with the students and their voices matter.

**Michael Montano, Rialto High School Teacher**, shared that he came to talk about communication and dialogue. He asked that teachers, counselors, and other educators be listened to. He said that apart from standardized grading, many students are receiving D's or F's in English and Math, and there is a need to discuss why this is happening. Counselors and teachers need listening to and help look for long-term solutions, and 50% grading may not be working at some sites. He suggested keeping an eye on those students who have failed these classes and keep data on those who are retaking these courses in the summer in a nine-day period, versus 90-days. He questioned how this will help them to be successful in the next course. He says when this happens data has shown that behavior issues rise because students are not properly placed in the right courses,

and therefore are not successful. He requested that the District listen to teachers and counselors and those directly involved with students.

**Dr. Noaveyar Lee, District Lead Counselor, and currently serving as counselor at Carter High School,** shared four points of inquiry: What are the three domains in which counselors support students? How are they spending the 189 days they are assigned? What specifically would they do with the three additional days proposed by AB 130? Can they bring back asynchronized comments sent in to Board meetings? She explained that the three domains are academics, college and career readiness, and social and emotional learning and development. She said that this is an equitable blending between educational and student services. Things such as clerical duties, data entering, and substitute teaching, take away from directly working with students. As to what would they do with the extra three days beyond the 189 days, she recommends vertical articulation between middle and high school, interdepartmental collaboration to determine how information is entered into CalPads, and how they are meeting College and Career Readiness. She would like to see measurable outcomes and feels that the biggest hurdle would be to have systems in place, but without analyzing these systems, they would continue to get the same results. Her last inquiry would be to bring back asynchronized comments to allow those who cannot attend Board meetings, to submit their comments in writing.

**Joyce Hampton, Counselor for almost 24 years, currently at Carter High School,** shared that they are more than academic counselors and although they help students with academics, scholarships, schedule changes, placing students in correct classes, after the pandemic, they have had to address many other student issues. She indicated that students come to them with social-emotional needs, such as anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts due to loss of family members and many other problems. They need to address these issues to allow them to succeed. She explained that currently her caseload is 467 students to one (1), and although she loves her job and knows she was placed in this position for a reason, it is difficult. She said they also need to advocate for the students with their teachers, with parents, and with administrators. She said as counselors, their main duty was to assist students with their social-emotional needs and not to do data entry. She requested the District consider adding more counselors.

**Anmarie Delgado Brown, Counselor at Kucera Middle School,** shared that she is grateful to be able to serve students and their families. She said that last year a third counselor was added to the middle schools which

brought her caseload down from over 500 students to currently she has a total of 336 students assigned to her, and next year she will have 391 students. She explained that she is a school counselor and not an academic counselor. She explained the training and education they have received and shared that often they are the first line of defense for students who are seeking social and emotional support. She shared some of her daily duties, which include holding universal classroom and small group discussions, and assisting with mental health support. She explained that the answer is not in hiring more staff to address social and emotional needs of students, but to hire more counselors who can work simultaneously with students on both their academic and social emotional needs. She believes in addressing the whole child and starting at the elementary level.

## **C.2 PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Any person wishing to speak on any item on the Agenda will be granted three minutes.

None.

## **C.3 COMMENTS FROM ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

Rialto Education Association (REA), California School Employees Association (CSEA), Communications Workers of America (CWA), Rialto School Managers Association (RSMA).

**Miesha Calloway, Rialto Education Association (REA) President,** shared that she cannot believe we have made it to the month of April. She is excited to see that everyone is surviving. She thanked the union members for keeping up with all the hard work and watching over the students. She also thanked the counselors for coming to the meeting and reminding everyone, what they are here to do.

**Chris Cordasco California School Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter 203 President** shared that he intends to submit their proposal today for the 2022-23 contract reopener. He also shared the recent passing of classified employee, Mr. Earl Tillman, AV Technician. He shared his personal experiences with Mr. Tillman and how he assisted him when he was low on cash by hiring him to do work at his home. He said Mr. Tillman had a positive impact on many employees and shared his condolences to his family.



**Karla Guzman Rialto School Management Association (RSMA) President-Elect and Principal at Morris Elementary School** shared that they would like to continue to encourage and motivate everyone as we get close to the end of the school year. She also reminded everyone that RSMA would be giving out scholarships to seniors moving on to educational fields. They are accepting senior portfolios through April 22, 2022.

Ms. Guzman also acknowledged the leaders of the quarter, which were classified leader, Mr. Derek Harris, Lead Agent of Risk Management, who played a crucial role in supporting the District during the pandemic, and certificated leader Mr. Adam Waggoner, for his dedication in finding services and resources to students and their families. Congratulations to both of these amazing leaders.

**C.4 COMMENTS FROM STUDENT BOARD MEMBER**

**C.5 COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT**

**C.6 COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**D. PUBLIC HEARING - None**

**E. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

All items on the Consent Calendar will be acted upon in one motion unless pulled by Board of Education members or the Superintendent for individual action.

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members to approve Consent Calendar items:**

**Majority Vote**

**E.1 GENERAL FUNCTIONS CONSENT ITEMS - None**

**E.2 INSTRUCTION CONSENT ITEMS – None**

### **E.3 BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL CONSENT ITEMS**

#### **E.3.1 WARRANT LISTING AND PURCHASE ORDER LISTING**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Approve the Warrant Order Listing Register and Purchase Order Listing for all funds from March 4, 2022 through March 17, 2022 (Sent under separate cover to Board Members). A copy for public review will be available at the Board Meeting.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

#### **E.3.2 DONATIONS**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Accept the listed donations from Ruben and Tanya Garcia of Industry Music Group/DJ Cazal Presents, and that a letter of appreciation be sent to the donors.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

#### **E.3.3 APPROVE EDUCATIONAL AFFILIATION AGREEMENT WITH CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Approve the Educational Affiliation Agreement with California State University, Long Beach to assist current and future educators in completing state requirements for credentialing, effective April 7, 2022 through April 6, 2025, at no cost to the District.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**E.3.4 AGREEMENT WITH ONE ON ONE LEARNING, CORPORATION**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Approve an agreement with One on One Learning, Corporation, tutoring services under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Title I, Part A, for identified students at St. Catherine of Siena, effective April 7, 2022 through June 30, 2022, at a cost not-to-exceed \$4,000.00, and to be paid from the General Fund (Title I).

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**E.3.5 AGREEMENT WITH INSPIRED LIFE SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Approve an agreement with Inspired Life School Assemblies to perform "The Forward BMX Show", at Morgan Elementary School, effective April 15, 2022, at a cost not-to-exceed \$1,718.61, and to be paid from the General Fund.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**E.3.6 AGREEMENT WITH ART SPECIALTIES, INC. – FITZGERALD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Approve an agreement with Art Specialties, Inc. to provide and install digitally printed signage at Fitzgerald Elementary School, effective April 7, 2022 through June 30, 2022, at a cost not-to-exceed \$9,807.00, and to be paid from the General Fund.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**E.3.7 AGREEMENT WITH ART SPECIALTIES, INC. – FRISBIE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Approve an agreement with Art Specialties, Inc. to provide and install printed signage at Frisbie Middle School, effective April 7, 2022 through June 30, 2022, at a cost not-to-exceed \$13,641.14, and to be paid from the General Fund.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**E.3.8 A-G COMPLETION IMPROVEMENT GRANT PLAN**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Approve the A-G Completion Improvement Grant Plan as presented, at no cost to the District.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**E.3.9 AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH ACTIVE EDUCATION**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Approve an amendment to the agreement with Active Education to provide an additional coach for Myers Elementary School. The addition of a coach will allow for more students to be served through the program, effective April 12, 2022 through May 27, 2022, at a cost not-to-exceed \$4,725.00, and to be paid from the General Fund.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**E.4 FACILITIES PLANNING CONSENT ITEMS - None**

**E.5 PERSONNEL SERVICES CONSENT ITEMS**

**E.5.1 PERSONNEL REPORT NO. 1275 FOR CLASSIFIED AND CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Approve Personnel Report No. 1275 for classified and certificated employees.

The following item was pulled from Classified Employees Personnel Report No. 1275, page 25:

**TERMINATION OF PERMANENT CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE**

**Employee #2623332 Categorical Project Clerk 03/22/2022**

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**E.6 MINUTES**

**E.6.1 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING HELD MARCH 23, 2022**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Education meeting held March 23, 2022.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**E.6.2 AMENDED MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING HELD MARCH 9, 2022**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Approve the amended minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting held March 9, 2022.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**F. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

**F.1 RESOLUTION NO. 21-22-39 AUTHORIZE TEMPORARY BORROWING BETWEEN FUNDS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Adopt Resolution No. 21-22-39 authorizing temporary borrowing between funds of the School District for fiscal year 2022-2023.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**F.2 RESOLUTION NO. 21-22-40 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CONTRACT FOR STATE PRESCHOOL PROGRAM #CSPP-1427**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Adopt Resolution No. 21-22-40 accepting the 2022-2023 Child Development Contract, #CSPP-1427, for the amount of \$4,113,672.00, with the California Department of Education and authorizes Diane Romo, Lead Business Services Agent, as the signer of said agreement.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**F.3 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Approve the Board of Education meeting schedule for the 2022-2023 school year.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**F.4 ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Case Numbers:

21-22-43

21-22-42

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**F.5 STIPULATED EXPULSION**

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

Case Numbers:

21-22-54

21-22-53

21-22-52

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members:**

**Majority Vote**

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

~~The next regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Rialto Unified School District will be held on April 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Dr. John Kazalunas Education Center, 182 East Walnut Ave, Rialto, California.~~

Materials distributed or presented to the Board of Education at the Board Meeting are available upon request from the Superintendent's Office.

**Moved By** Clerk O'Kelley

**Seconded By** Member Martinez

**Prior to adjournment, President Montes made the follow announcement:**

**Change of Location of Next Regular Board Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Rialto Unified School District will be held on April 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., at The Bistro, located at the Cesar Chavez/Dolores Huerta Center for Education, at 324 N. Palm Avenue, Rialto, California 92376.

**Vice President Lewis and Member Walker were absent. Vote by Board Members to adjourn:**

Time: 7:48 p.m.

**Majority Vote**

  
Clerk, Board of Education

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Board of Education