

MINUTES

RIALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

September 25, 2024

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

Board Members

Present: Joseph W. Martinez, President
Edgar Montes, Vice President
Evelyn P. Dominguez, LVN, Clerk
Dr. Stephanie E. Lewis, Member

Board Members

Absent: Nancy G. O'Kelley, Member

Administrators

Present: Edward D'Souza, Ph.D., Acting Superintendent
Rhea McIver Gibbs, Ed.D., Lead Strategic Agent
Patricia Chavez, Lead Innovation Agent
Diane Romo, Lead Business Services Agent
Rhonda Kramer, Lead Personnel Agent
Also present was Martha Degortari, Executive Administrative Agent, and Interpreter/Translator, Jose Reyes.

A. OPENING

A.1 CALL TO ORDER 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

A.2 OPEN SESSION

A.3 CLOSED SESSION

Moved By Vice President Montes

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

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

- **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EMPLOYMENT / DISCIPLINE / DISMISSAL / RELEASE / REASSIGNMENT OF EMPLOYEES (GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957)**
- **STUDENT EXPULSIONS / REINSTATEMENTS / EXPULSION ENROLLMENTS**
- **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**

Agency designated representatives: Edward D'Souza, Ph.D., Acting Superintendent; Lead Personnel Agents: Rhonda Kramer, Roxanne Dominguez, and Armando Urteaga, Personnel Services.

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

- **PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d) and/or (d)(3). CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE LITIGATION - Number of Potential Claims: 1**

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9) 2179114 v. Rialto Unified School District (San Bernardino Superior Court Case No. CIVSB2101379)

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9) 2767514 v. Rialto Unified School District (San Bernardino Superior Court Case No. CIVSB2024096)

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.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members to move into Closed Session:

Time: 6:03 p.m.

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

A.4 ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members to adjourn Closed Session:

Time: 7:14 p.m.

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

A.5 OPEN SESSION RECONVENED - 7:00 p.m.

Open session reconvened at 7:14 p.m.

A.6 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trapp Elementary School second grade student, Daphne Vance, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A.7 PRESENTATION BY TRAPP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

In celebration of National Hispanic American Heritage Month, Miss Hitomi Sakakibara and her second grade class recited a poem: *Make New Friends* and sang *You've Got a Friend in Me*, in English and in Spanish.

A.8 REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Vice President Montes

The Board of Education took action to settle Superior Court of California, San Bernardino County Case No. CIV SB 2024096 in exchange for full release of any and all liability claims.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

Moved By Vice President Montes

Seconded By Member Dr. Lewis

The Board of Education accepted the administrative appointment of Ignacio Avila, Elementary School Principal, Dunn Elementary School.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Vice President Montes

The Board of Education accepted the administrative appointment of Dr. Adam Bailey, High School Principal, Carter High School.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

The Board of Education accepted the request for an unpaid leave of absence for classified employee #2489534 from October 7, 2024 through February 7, 2024.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

A.9 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members to adopt the agenda:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

B. PRESENTATIONS

B.1 KUCERA MIDDLE SCHOOL'S COMPREHENSIVE COUNSELING PROGRAM: THE RAMP JOURNEY

Presentation by Annemarie Delgado-Brown, Counselor; Jessica Veit, Counselor; and Jennifer Cuevas, Principal

Annemarie Delgado-Brown, Counselor; Jessica Veit, Counselor; and Principal Jennifer Cuevas conducted a presentation on Kucera Middle School's Comprehensive Counseling Program: The Ramp Journey.

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.

Rhonda Scott, General Manager for Think Together, shared a flyer/invitation with the Board and staff for an upcoming student presentation. She thanked the Board for their support of this program and encouraged everyone to attend.

Dallas Anderson, 17-year-old Eisenhower High School Senior, shared her experience with Think Together. She spoke about the benefits and how the program has helped better prepare her for the future. She indicated that the program has also helped her to understand young minds and discipline her in many ways. Think Together has helped build up her confidence and has provided her with resources that she can continue to use after high school.

Paula Bailey, Parent, and Community Member shared that she was happy to cheer the students from Trapp Elementary School for their presentation tonight. She also shared what a great experience it was to attend the SBCSS County Family Summit at Redlands University this past weekend. She spoke of the upcoming football between EHS vs. CHS. She also reminded everyone that October is suicide awareness month.

Michael Montano, Rialto High School Teacher, emphasized the need for more male counselors at Rialto High School. He also spoke of the recent law passed by Governor Newsom banning cell phone use in the classrooms. He said that Rialto USD is ahead of the game by implementing new cell phones rules. He also spoke of the safety concerns brought up by parents during the last Board Meeting. He is worried that we are getting

closer to a tragedy taking place. He shared the need for more safety precautions.

Randy Ochoa, Carter High School District Student, spoke of his concern with the SAT testing date being moved up. The test in the past has been offered during the second semester. He said students just learned of the change and had limited time to prepare. He shared that a petition was signed by over 100 students. He is requesting that the District cover the cost of the second test to compensate for the unexpected change. He shared how this change leaves students at a disadvantage.

Celia Saravia, Representative of Amigos Unidos, representing parents of children with needs, shared that she attended the first meeting of the Community Advisory Training. She shared that it was a very productive meeting and encouraged others to participate. She also shared a reminder that October 5, 2024, is the first class for the USC Literacy program. She urged families to take advantage of this great opportunity. She also gave kudos to the presentation and program at Kucera Middle School.

Gabriela Gonzales, DLI Parent, shared her appreciation and thanks to Rhonda Kramer, Roxanne Dominguez, and Dr. Marina Madrid for providing a permanent sub for the DLI program. They are very happy to have Ms. Cortez who is doing a great job at providing stability in the classroom.

Mirna Ruiz, a Community Member, shared that PTA is having a fundraiser at Shakey's Pizza this evening and invited everyone who can attend to please stop by and show their support. She thanked Dr. Burciaga, Norberto Perez, and Ofelia Fitzpatrick for their support of the after-school program. She also shared that the Community Citizen Training was very positive and encouraged more people to attend. She asked the Board to please listen to the student who spoke previously about the SAT change, and requested that this be looked into. She also spoke highly of the Young Women Conference which was offered at Carter High School when Dr. Chavez was Principal.

C.2 PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

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

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)

Tobin Brinker, Rialto Education Association (REA) President, spoke of the student who previously addressed the Board regarding the SAT testing. He recommended that the Board invite the students to be part of the decision-making process before committing to any decision. He shared that this would be more beneficial to the students.

Mr. Brinker also spoke of the money received from Proposition 28 for the arts. He shared that there are concerns as to where the money is being spent and requested transparency. He shared that teachers are excited to see that funding go towards the arts program as intended.

Kristy Streff, Rialto School Management Association (RSMA) President, invited everyone to attend the Crosstown football game this coming Friday. RSMA will host their annual tailgate party to support Carter and Rialto High Schools. She also encouraged everyone to attend the City of Rialto Viva la Fiesta event, where many District students will be performing. She also gave a shoutout to the Kiwanis Students of the Month and assisted Board President Martinez in sharing their names.

C.4 COMMENTS FROM THE ACTING SUPERINTENDENT

C.5 COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

D. PUBLIC HEARING

D.1 OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

Any person wishing to speak on the item on the Public Hearing agenda will be granted three minutes.

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

SUFFICIENCY OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members to open Public Hearing:

Time:8:46 p.m.

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

**D.1.1 SUFFICIENCY OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR THE
2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR**

D.2 CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

SUFFICIENCY OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR THE 2024-2025
SCHOOL YEAR

**Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members to close
Public Hearing:**

Time: 8:46 p.m.

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

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 Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

**Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members to approve Consent
Calendar Items:**

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

E.1 GENERAL FUNCTIONS CONSENT ITEMS – None

E.2 INSTRUCTION CONSENT ITEMS

E.2.1 APPROVE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Approve two (2) parents and community members to participate and represent the Rialto Unified School District in the East Valley SELPA Community Advisory Committee (CAC) during the 2024-2025 school year, at no cost to the District.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

E.3 BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL CONSENT ITEMS

E.3.1 APPROVE THE WARRANT LISTING AND PURCHASE ORDER LISTING

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

All funds from August 22, 2024 through September 5, 2024, (Sent under separate cover to Board Members). A copy for public review will be available on the District's website.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

E.3.2 DONATIONS

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Accept the listed donations from Amazon, and that a letter of appreciation be sent to the donor.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

E.3.3 APPROVE AN AFFILIATION AGREEMENT WITH YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Assist current and future Speech Language Pathologists and Speech Language Pathology Assistants in completing state requirements for certification from September 26, 2024 through September 25, 2027, at no cost to the District.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

E.3.4 SURPLUS OF EQUIPMENT AND MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Declare the specified surplus equipment and miscellaneous items as obsolete and not serviceable for school use and authorize the Superintendent/designee to sell or dispose of these items as specified in the Education Code Sections 17545 and 17546.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

E.3.5 APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH FOX BANQUET & EVENTS, INC. - MILOR HIGH SCHOOL

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Provide an event space for Milor High School's prom 2025 hosted by the Adult Transition Program, effective September 26, 2024 through June 30, 2025, at a cost not-to-exceed \$20,000.00, and to be paid from the General Fund.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

E.4 FACILITIES PLANNING CONSENT ITEMS - None

E.5 PERSONNEL SERVICES CONSENT ITEMS

E.5.1 APPROVE PERSONNEL REPORT NO. 1325 FOR CLASSIFIED AND CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

E.5.2 ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 24-25-16 - EC 44263 DEPARTMENTALIZED

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Assign various teachers at the secondary level, with their consent, to teach any subject in departmentalized classes if the teachers has completed 18 semester units, or 9 upper semester units, in the subject to be taught.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

E.6 MINUTES

E.6.1 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

F. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

F.1 APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH FENAGH ENGINEERING AND TESTING TO PROVIDE GEOTECHNICAL, MATERIALS TESTING, AND SPECIAL INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TWO (2) NEW TWO-STORY CLASSROOM BUILDINGS AT EISENHOWER HIGH SCHOOL

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By President Martinez

This item is effective September 26, 2024, through September 30, 2025, at a cost not-to-exceed \$134,680.90, and to be paid from Fund 21- General Obligation (G.O.) Bond and Fund 25 – Capital Facilities Fund.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

F.2 APPROVE A RENEWAL AGREEMENT WITH PANORAMA EDUCATION

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Provide social-emotional learning measures and the student success platform at all school sites, effective October 1, 2024, through August 30, 2025, at a cost not-to-exceed \$56,000.00, and to be paid from the General Fund.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

F.3 APPROVE THE FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Approve paying the fees for 150 family members to participate in the Family Literacy Program offered by the University of Southern California (USC) from September 26, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost of \$450.00 per participant for registration; \$350.00 per participant for D2L (Desire2Learn)

license software management system used by USC for online classroom learning to access the materials, discussion questions, and videos in English and Spanish created by USC professors as well as tracking homework and grades; and \$75.00 for completion certificates and padfolios; for a total cost of \$875.00 per participant not-to-exceed \$131,250.00, and to be paid from Title I - Parent Involvement and SBCSS Systems of Support (SOS) funds.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

F.4 APPROVE THE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH KAISER PERMANENTE

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Approve the Grant Agreement between Kaiser Permanente and Rialto Unified School District for the Rialto Family and Community Engagement Initiative, in the amount of \$90,000.00, effective October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2026.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

F.5 AUTHORIZATION TO REPRESENT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Authorize the District's Lead Risk Management and Transportation Agent, Derek K. Harris, to represent the Board of Education in existing litigation in case number CIVSB2101379 at a status conference and grant settlement authority, subject to Board approval, to settle litigation.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

F.6 ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 24-25-15; SUFFICIENCY OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Moved By Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

For the 2024-2025 school year, the Rialto Unified School District has provided each pupil with sufficient standards-aligned textbooks and instructional materials consistent with the law, adoption cycles, content of curriculum frameworks, and State advisories.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

F.7 ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 24-25-17 - REMUNERATION

Moved By Clerk Dominguez

Seconded By Member Dr. Lewis

Excuse the absence of Board Member, Nancy G. O'Kelley, from the Wednesday, September 18, 2024, regular meeting of the Board of Education.

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote

F.8 STIPULATION FOR IMMEDIATE EXPULSION

Moved By Clerk Dominguez

Seconded By President Martinez

Case Number:
24-25-6

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members:

(Ayes) President Martinez

(Noes) Vice President Montes, Clerk Dominguez, Member Dr. Lewis

Motion Dies

G. ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Rialto Unified School District will be held on October 16, 2024, 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 Member Dr. Lewis

Seconded By Clerk Dominguez

Member O'Kelley was absent. Vote by Board Members to adjourn:

Time: 8:56 p.m.

Approved by a Unanimous 4 to 0 Vote



Clerk, Board of Education



Secretary, Board of Education