

Newport-Mesa Unified School District
Special Meeting of the Board of Education
January 25, 2022 3:30 PM
District Education Center - Roderick H. MacMillian Board Room
2985 A Bear Street
Costa Mesa, California 92626

Attendance Taken at 3:30 PM:

Present:

Ashley Anderson
Michelle Barto
Carol Crane
Leah Ersoylu
Charlene Metoyer
Krista Weigand
Karen Yelsey

1. Special Meeting 3:30 p.m.

2. Call to Order

2.a. Call to Order - Presiding Chairperson

Minutes:

President Barto called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

3. Opening Ceremonies

3.a. Moment of Reflection/Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Minutes:

Trustee Anderson led the Moment of Reflection and Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Roll Call

4.a. Board of Education/Superintendent

Minutes:

Roll call was taken and the following were present:

Michelle Barto, President
Charlene Metoyer, Vice President
Carol Crane, Clerk
Ashley Anderson, Member
Leah Ersoylu, Member
Krista Weigand, Member
Karen Yelsey, Member
Dr. Smith, Superintendent

5. Adoption of Agenda

5.a. Adoption of Agenda

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt the agenda as presented. Passed with a motion by Charlene Metoyer and a second by Karen Yelsey.

Yes Ashley Anderson

Yes Michelle Barto
Yes Carol Crane
Yes Leah Ersoylu
Yes Charlene Metoyer
Yes Krista Weigand
Yes Karen Yelsey

Minutes:

It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt the agenda as presented. Passed with a motion by Charlene Metoyer and a second by Karen Yelsey.

6. Community Input on Special Agenda Items Only

6.a. Comment Cards are Requested to be Completed Prior to Addressing the Board

Minutes:

The following comments were received on the special agenda topic. All comments are recorded in full on the meeting video record posted on the district's YouTube page.

- 1) Michelle Erickson: advocated for improved and expanded elective offerings at TeWinkle
- 2) Bridget Duffin: advocated for more elective options, including advanced band and instrument ensembles
- 3) Tamara Fairbanks: suggested an increase in VAPA options, drama and foreign language
- 4) Laura Van de Merghel: supported increase in elective options to address equity and to provide access for students
- 5) Sarah Auwarter: read a letter from TeWinkle counselor Tammy Mielke outlining the current electives at TeWinkle and advocating for more choice
- 6) Nicholas Dix: read a letter from TeWinkle teacher Jacqueline Washington in support of maintaining AVID
- 7) Kari Vozenilek: advocated for the importance of foreign language electives

7. Study Session

7.a. Middle School Electives

Minutes:

Kerrie Torres, Assistance Superintendent of Secondary Education provided a presentation on middle school electives. Topics covered included the purpose of middle school, strategies and considerations for expanding electives, research-based effective practices, equity, and balance. Dr. Mike Sciacca, Director of Teaching and Learning, spoke about middle school schedules and student achievement data. Additional information was provided on current electives examples of other middle schools' schedules, and opportunities for change. The four middle school principals also spoke. Next steps will include town hall meetings at the middle schools.

8. Adjournment

Chairperson

Superintendent