

**Bishop Unified School District
Minutes of the Board of Trustees
Special Meeting • November 4, 2019 • 5:30 pm
Carl Lind Board Room, Located in the Bronco Student Center at BUHS
301 N. Fowler Street, Bishop, CA 93514**

(Site maps are available on website under School Board, Board Meeting Schedule, and Campus Maps)

Individuals who require special accommodations, including, but not limited to an American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating or documentation in accessible formats, should contact the Superintendent or designee at least two days before the meeting.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend Board meetings and address the Board concerning any item on the agenda within the Board's jurisdiction. A person wishing to be heard by the Board shall first be recognized by the President and shall then proceed to comment as briefly as the subject permits. (BB 9323)

*Any materials required by law to be made available to the public prior to a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the District can be inspected at the following address during normal business hours:
Bishop Unified School District Office – 656 W. Pine Street, Bishop, CA 93514*

The Board of Trustees has called this special meeting for the BUSD Governance Team to Approve Resignation Agreement with Superintendent and Appoint an Interim/Acting Superintendent.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER – 5:33 PM

2.0 FLAG SALUTE – led by Marnie Casteel

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Amy Greve-Dutton thanked the board for a well written letter to the staff. She felt it was a perfect way to move forward and many in the audience seconded her statement. Dee Ann Boyd thanked the board for their difficult and heart-wrenching decision and added that the mood at the schools had lightened considerably. Again, many in the audience seconded the statement. Katy McLaren stated that she valued the intent of the board and was available to assist in any way she could. Stacy Van Nest asked about the next steps in particular asking about which of the changes will stay and which will go. She volunteered to assist as the liaison between the teachers' union and the board in order to figure it all out quickly. Lisa Coleman asked about the board's process to ensure the mistakes of the past are not repeated.

4.0 CLOSED SESSION

4.1 Approval of Resignation Agreement with Superintendent

Motion was made by Kathy Zack to approve the resignation agreement. Trina Orrill seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

4.2 Public Employee Appointment/Employment—Interim or Acting Superintendent

Trina Orrill motioned to approve the appointment of Katie Kolker as Interim Superintendent for the remainder of the 2019/2020 school year. Virginia Figueroa seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

5.0 REPORT OUT ANY ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION:

5.1 Announce action taken in Closed Session

a. Vote on Resignation Agreement

Taylor Ludwick announced a unanimous 5-0 vote to accept the Resignation Agreement of Jon Ray.

b. Vote on Appointment of Interim or Acting Superintendent

Taylor Ludwick announced a unanimous 5-0 vote to appoint Katie Kolker as Interim Superintendent for the remainder of the 2019/2020 school year.

PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION:

Julie Faber asked what was on the Board's mind and for the details of the agreement. Taylor Ludwick responded by saying that the District and Mr. Ray had amicably parted and he would have no further comment. Further audience comments supported the switch but considering there was no explanation, asked for reassurance that it would not happen again. Taylor Ludwick agreed that no one wants a repeat and that a search for a permanent Superintendent will be launched immediately and will be overseen by the Inyo County Office of Education. We will do a better job of vetting the candidates. When asked about length of contract for Katie Kolker, he responded by saying that she will be the interim for the remainder of the school year. Stacy Van Nest asked about the plans for Palisades with Ms. Kolker taking on the new role. Taylor Ludwick and Katie Kolker discussed her intent to be at PGHS for a couple of hours a day, using a retired principal to assist one or two days per week, and appointing a teacher in charge and paying the person a stipend. Katie Kolker told the audience that her heart is at Palisades, that the staff at Pali are Rock Stars and there was no way she would leave them without the support they deserve. Audience members asked again about the resignation agreement and how much it will cost the District. The board reiterated that the District Legal Counsel had advised them not to release the details but at the insistence of the audience and citing the Public Information Act, Taylor Ludwick announced that he would contact our attorneys for a determination. David Kalk publicly congratulated Katie Kolker. Kathy McLaren asked who would be revisiting decisions made by the former Superintendent and Ms. Kolker announced she would be going over everything. When the audience asked if that could be done now, Ms. Kolker stated that she would be taking this week to get situated in her new role and start that process soon. In closing, Taylor Ludwick asked everyone to give Katie the week to acclimate and apologized to the community vowing to do a better job this time and give the District a fresh start.

ADJOURNMENT – 6:26 PM



Dr. Taylor Ludwick, President



Trina Orrill, Clerk

11.21.19

Date

11.21.19

Date

Respectfully Submitted by:
Marnie Casteel
BUSD Administrative Assistant

Bishop Unified School District

SCHOOL BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. Set Direction**
- 2. Establish the Structure**
- 3. Demonstrate Support**
- 4. Ensure Accountability**
- 5. Demonstrate Community Leadership**

Mission Statement

The Bishop Unified School Governance Team, as representatives of our community, is committed to providing the best education to all students ensuring they reach their full potential.

Governance Team Priorities 2018-2019

- 1. Raise academic performance levels K-12 and maintain a balanced curriculum**
- 2. Support and monitor annual academic growth through regular review of LCAP metric and assessment data**
- 3. Ensure positive student engagement, morale and school connectedness**
- 4. Provide safe and secure campuses**
- 5. Recruit, retain and value a dedicated teaching staff**
- 6. Maintain fiscal solvency**

Addressing the Board

There are many different ways individuals may choose to address the Board. Those who wish to request an agenda item may do so by submitting the request in writing, along with supporting documents and information, to the Superintendent at least eight school days prior to a scheduled meeting date. Those wishing to address items on the agenda may do so when recognized by the Board President near the beginning of the meeting or when the President requests public comments when the item is being considered. For matters not on the agenda, there is an opportunity for individuals to address the Board when the Board President requests comments from the public near the beginning of the meeting. The Board shall not take action on such items at that meeting.