



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Board Highlights provides summary information from the Aromas-San Juan Unified School District board meetings.

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Special Recognition

- Julie Hicks, Anzar High School's college counselor, was recognized as this month's "Unsung Hero." She is one of the recipients of Menlo College's 2022-2023 Outstanding Counselor Award (Catherine Dewey Mason Outstanding Counselor Award) sponsored by Menlo College's alumnus Howard Mason.
- Anzar High School's Basketball team (boys and girls) were also recognized for their outstanding seasons!

Committee Reports

Facilities Committee met on March 1, 2023. A brief summary of the committee's work was provided at the board meeting. There is still NO decision from DSA or OPSC on the future for San Juan school in terms of replacement or renovation though another step in the process was accomplished with DSA providing concurrence for Phase 1. Also, we reviewed our progress in procuring drawings for the HVAC units that need to be DSA approved before bids can be taken for the purchase of equipment. The water bottle cooler station at Anzar has been installed and is being used. Other Measure M projects are proceeding apace. Next facilities committee meeting is tentatively set for March 1, 2023. We hope to have more information at that time.

Informational Items

Substitute Teacher Pool and School

Anne Siri, HR Director, provided information about a new onboarding program for new substitute teachers and informed the Board that we have been successful at increasing our pool of subs available on days when Teachers need to be absent. We are always looking for more individuals to become part of our team!

Action Items

- **Superintendent Employment Contract and Appointment:**
The Board approved the appointment of interim Superintendent Dr. Barbara Dill-Varga as the next permanent Superintendent for ASJUSD, effective immediately. A three-year contract was unanimously approved.
- **Negotiations:** The board approved the district administration's "sunshined" proposal of the parts of the teacher's contract they wish to negotiate in the coming weeks. This will also include negotiation on salaries and benefits. Both teams are beginning to prepare for a successful negotiations process.
- **Second Interim Budget Report:** CBO Daniel Ornelas presented the Second Interim Budget Report with updates for the Board on revenue and expenses to date. It also included some projections that can be made at this time.

- **The Board approved a letter in Support of the town of San Juan’s application for a multi-modal planning grant** which seeks to improve the access and configuration of transportation options in the town of San Juan. We want to be collaborative partners in this process as some of the decisions being considered will be influenced by our in facilities plans for San Juan School that will take shape in the future.
- **Management Salary alignments and job description update**
The Board approved changes for a couple of management items. The Director of Human Resources job description was updated to reflect added responsibilities. The salary schedule was approved to be aligned with other managers carrying the title of Director. The salary schedule for the Coordinator of Data and Assessment was also approved to match others carrying the title of Coordinator.
- **Preschool Site Supervisor Salary Schedule and Position**
The board approved the position of “Site Supervisor” for the Preschool and related salary schedule, so the district can post, interview, and hire someone to fill that needed position.
- **Board Policy Updates:** A first batch of Board Policy Updates from CSBA (California School Board Association) were presented for first reading. These policies will be brought back for second reading and approval next month. These updates reflect changes in the law and ed code that we must follow. There will be other batches brought to future board meetings to help us catch up with a backlog of policies in need of revision. This batch included updates to policy re: Board Bylaws, Human Resources, Special Education, and Preschool.
- **Approval for Standards for Local Certification for Universal Transitional Kindergarten Teachers:** . Effective August 1, 2023, The California Department of Education (CDE) requires additional qualifications beyond traditionally required Multiple Subject Teaching Credential for teachers assigned to Universal Transitional Kindergarten classrooms if they began teaching TK after July 1, 2015. The Board approved these standards as required by CDE.
- **The SARC Reports (School Accountability Report Cards)** for each site were approved by the Board. These will soon become available on the website. It was noted that some information is missing because CDE has not released all of its data to schools in California as of yet.
- **Anzar Library:** The Board approved the mural design for the Anzar library reception desk, a project facilitated with the help of the high school art teacher and the San Benito Art Foundation. The Board also discussed the upcoming dedication ceremony to rename the library “The Paul Stampleman Library” in honor of a past beloved employee. The dedication is set for April 22. The Board agreed to cover the cost of the lettering above the entrance way. A citizen’s committee will share the cost by fundraising for a bronze plaque to be installed by the district in the hallway by the library. Community member Wayne Norton is leading that effort.

Upcoming Meetings

Next regular board meeting is: April 12, 2023