

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room  
1 p.m., Tuesday, February 7, 2023

The Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles, acting as the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District, met in regular session on Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at the Los Angeles City Board of Education Administrative Offices, Board Room, 333 South Beaudry Avenue, Los Angeles, California.

Mr. Michael McLean, Executive Officer of the Board, called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

The following Board Members were present: Dr. George McKenna, III, Dr. Rocío Rivas, Mr. Scott Schmerelson, Mr. Nick Melvoin, Ms. Tanya Ortiz Franklin and Board President Jackie Goldberg.

Ms. Kelly Gonez was absent.

Student Board Member Nathaniel Shin was present.

Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students from Lorena Elementary School.

Remarks were heard from Ms. Goldberg regarding Black History Month.

**BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORTS**

STUDENT VOICES

The Board will work with Mr. Shin to identify relevant topics and presenters for future meetings.

LABOR PARTNERS

Mr. Nery Paiz, Associated Administrators Los Angeles (AALA), addressed the Board regarding the impact of school police reductions on school administrators.

Mr. Gil Gamez, Los Angeles School Police Association (LASPA), introduced Officer Travis Fenderson who shared his experiences as a former teacher and current Los Angeles School Police officer.

INDEPENDENT ANALYSIS UNIT

Reports from this Unit will be heard at future meetings.

## COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Ms. Goldberg announced the Board will now have a Greening Schools and Climate Resilience Committee that will monitor environmental efforts. This committee will be chaired by Dr. Rivas. She also announced the Facilities and Procurement Committee, to be chaired by Mr. Melvoin. This committee will oversee maintenance and construction of school facilities and the procurement of materials and resources.

The Innovation Committee will expand its topics to include specialized schools. Early Education will be added to the Family and Community Engagement Committee.

An ad-hoc committee regarding Integrated Pest Management issues is forthcoming.

Mr. Schmerelson reported on the January 11, 2023 Special Education Committee meeting and the February 1, 2023 Family and Community Engagement Committee.

Ms. Goldberg reported on the January 26, 2023 Curriculum and Instruction Committee.

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

Remarks were heard from Ms. Goldberg regarding the Consent Calendar.

Items for action below to be adopted by a single vote:

### NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION:

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|--------|---|
| Tab 2  | BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 140 – 22/23<br>Procurement Actions  |
| Tab 3  | BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 130 – 22/23<br>Facilities Contract Actions  |
| Tab 5  | BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 153 – 22/23<br>Report of Cash Disbursements   |
| Tab 6  | BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 168 – 22/23<br>Donations of Money to the District and Associated Student Body   |
| Tab 7  | BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 145 – 22/23<br>Approval of Routine Personnel Actions  |
| Tab 8  | BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 146 – 22/23<br>March 15 Notices to Administrators   |
| Tab 10 | BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 160 – 22/23<br>Approval of the 2021 Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CCEIS)<br>Action Plan Amendment |

Tab 11 BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 162 – 22/23  
Approval to Submit Physical Education Block Schedule Waiver to the California State Board of Education for High Schools on a Block Schedule

BOARD MEMBER RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION:

Tab 12 Dr. McKenna, Dr. Rivas, Mr. Schmerelson, Mr. Melvoin, Ms. Goldberg, Ms. Ortiz Franklin, Mr. Shin – Celebration of Black History Month 2023 (Res-010-22/23) (Noticed January 17, 2023)

Whereas, Black History Month, or National African American History Month, is an annual celebration of achievements by Black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in United States history;

Whereas, Carter G. Woodson, a Harvard trained historian, like W.E.B. DuBois before him, believed that truth would not be denied and that reason would prevail over prejudice, and as a result announced “Negro History Week” in 1925 to raise awareness of the contributions of African Americans;

Whereas, It is commonly stated that Carter G. Woodson selected February as the month to host “Negro History Week” because it encompasses the birthdays of two great Americans who played a prominent role in shaping black history, namely Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, whose birthdays are February 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> respectively;

Whereas, Carter G. Woodson believed that history was created by great people and not simply great men; he envisioned the study and celebration of Black people as a race, not simply as the producers of great men and emphasized the contributions of countless Black men and women who contributed to the advancement of human civilization;

Whereas, Since 1976, the commemoration was extended from a week-long event to the entire month of February;

Whereas, Every United States President has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month and other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating Black history;

Whereas, The legacy of Carter G. Woodson lives on in the continued work of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), an organization now in its 107<sup>th</sup> Year;

Whereas, The 2023 theme for Black History Month established by the ASALH is “Black Resistance;”

Whereas, African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression, in all forms, especially the racial terrorism of lynching, racial pogroms, and police killings since their arrival upon these shores;

Whereas, Black people have sought ways to nurture and protect Black lives, and for autonomy of their physical and intellectual bodies through armed resistance, voluntary emigration, nonviolence, education, literature, sports, media, and legislation/politics;

Whereas, By resisting Black people have achieved triumphs, successes, and progress as seen in the end of chattel slavery, dismantling of Jim and Jane Crow segregation in the South, increased political representation at all levels of government, desegregation of educational institutions, the passage of Civil Rights Act of 1964, the opening of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History in DC and increased and diverse representation of Black experiences in media;

Whereas, The representation, identity, and diversity of Black people have been revered, stereotyped, and vilified from the days of enslavement to our own time;

Whereas, Black History Month aims to mitigate the persistent and ongoing failure to acknowledge the contributions of Black Culture, Black Inventors, Black Artists, Black Artisans, Black Advocacy Black Leaders, and Black Civic Engagement to American history and society;

Whereas, Black people continually remain optimistic and confident about the path ahead while leading the courageous, yet hard fought fights for the rights, liberties, and freedoms that many marginalized communities are now beneficiaries;

Whereas, Black resistance strategies have served as a model for every other social movement in the country, thus, the legacy and importance of these actions cannot be understated; and

Whereas, Our democracy's founding ideals were exclusionary when they were written, but Black Americans have continuously fought to make them true; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District recognizes February as National Black History Month;

Resolved further, That the Board acknowledges that all people of the United States are beneficiaries of the wealth of history given to all by Black Culture, Black Inventors, Black Artists, Black Artisans, Black Advocacy Black Leaders, and Black Civic Engagement;

Resolved further, That the Board embeds the study of Black History into the core curriculum of its Ethnic Studies, African American History courses, and African American Literature so that this critical learning lives in the minds of our students beyond the month of February;

Resolved further, That the Board direct the Superintendent to expand upon the District's existing efforts, such as the implementation of the Black Student Achievement Plan, to convene a committee or working group to identify strategies and tactics to align resources targeted toward eliminating ~~anti-racist~~ **biased** educational practices and closing the gap of academic achievement outcomes for Black Students, and, be it finally

Resolved, That the Superintendent will work with educators, librarians, all the schools of the District, and our wider community to recognize and celebrate this month with culturally relevant and appropriate curriculum, programs, ceremonies, and activities that generate in-

depth discussion of the complex factual history of the United States and the legacy of Black Americans.

#### CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS:

Tab 14 Report of Correspondence, including Williams Settlement Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report Summary (ROC-007-22/23)

#### MINUTES FOR BOARD APPROVAL:

Tab 15 September 13, 2022, Regular Closed Session, 9:00 a.m.  
December 13, 2022, Regular Closed Session, 9:00 a.m.

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Tab 16 Resolution of Intention to Dedicate Easements to the County of Los Angeles at Wisdom Elementary School (025-22/23)

Mr. McLean made the following statement:

Before action is taken on Board Report No. 162-22/23, Approval to Submit Physical Education Block Schedule Waiver to the California State Board of Education for High Schools on a Block Schedule, a public hearing must be held.

This constitutes a public hearing on the report, and a maximum of 12 individuals who wish to address the Board on the item will be heard. Those who wish to speak should sign-up in the rear of the Board Room. Speakers will be called by name.

The following speakers addressed the Board on Consent Items:

Dr. McKenna, Dr. Rivas, Mr. Schmerelson, Mr. Melvoin, Ms. Goldberg, Ms. Ortiz Franklin, Mr. Shin – Celebration of Black History Month 2023 (Res-010-22/23)

- Dr. Laura McGowan-Robinson, Diversity in Leadership Institute
- Vanessa Aramayo, Alliance for a Better School
- Rev. Peter Watts, Innovate Public Schools
- Dalia Velasco, Alliance for a Better School
- Keisha Jones, Innovate Public Schools

Remarks were heard from Dr. McKenna regarding Black History Month and Black student achievement.

Remarks were also heard from Mr. Schmerelson, Ms. Ortiz Franklin, Dr. Rivas, Mr. Melvoin, and Ms. Goldberg.

The Consent Items were paused to allow the Superintendent's Report to be heard.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Mark Hovatter, Chief Facilities Executive, Ms. Maria Voigt, Director, Administrative Assignments, and Dr. Maribel Luna, Senior Director, Division of Special Education,

responded to questions and comments from Board Members regarding electric vehicle charging stations, rescinding March 15 notices, sending notices via certified mail, rationale for change, and background information on CCEIS Action Plan.

Mr. McLean made the following statement:

Before action is taken on the Report of Correspondence regarding the Williams Settlement Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report Summary from the Director of the Educational Equity Compliance Office, a public hearing must be held.

This constitutes a public hearing on the report, and a maximum of 12 individuals who wish to address the Board on this item will be heard. Those who wish to speak and have not already signed-up should sign-up in the rear of the Board Room. Speakers will be called by name.

There were no speakers.

Mr. McLean made the following statement:

Reference is made to Board of Education Report No. 137-22/23, dated January 17, 2023, wherein the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District adopted the resolution of intention to dedicate easements at Wisdom Elementary School for street and alley easement dedication purposes.

The Board has fixed this meeting as the time and place for the public hearings upon the question of such dedications.

An opportunity is now given to anyone present to file with the Board petitions protesting the proposed dedications, signed by at least ten percent of the qualified electors of the District as shown by the affidavit on one of the petitioners.

No petitions being filed, a motion is now in order to adopt the resolutions authorizing the execution of the deeds and to direct the President and the Director of Real Estate to sign on behalf of the Board the deeds dedicating said properties.

There were no speakers.

After discussion and on roll call vote, the Consent Items were adopted, 5 ayes, with Res-010-22/23 being adopted as amended by consent vote.

Mr. Schmerelson and Ms. Gonez were absent.

Mr. Shin recorded an advisory aye vote.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Schmerelson recorded an aye vote.

The final vote was 6 ayes.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS**

### **SUPPORT FOR BLACK STUDENTS AND BLACK EDUCATORS**

Dr. Robert Whitman, Educational Transformation Officer, Dr. Jared DuPree, Senior Director, Black Student Achievement Plan, Mr. Jacob Guthrie, Human Resources Director, Black Student Achievement Plan, and Ms. Blanca Esquivel, Principal, John C. Fremont High School, led the presentation.

#### **Presentation Overview:**

- The five tenets of the Black Student Achievement Plan (BSAP) are:
  1. Family, Community, and District Together as One
  2. Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Pedagogy and Curriculum
  3. Multi-Tiered Individual Student Support
  4. Rigorous Standards Aligned Education
  5. Black Excellence Experience
- BSAP goals for Black students by 2026 include 70 percent demonstrating college and career readiness, third-grade students moving 30 points closer to proficient in Language Arts and Literacy on the Smarter Balanced Assessment, moving 40 points closer to proficient in Mathematics for grades 3-5 and 6-8, and students of all grade levels demonstrating 8 percent growth in each of the social-emotional learning competencies. Early gains have been seen in the areas of graduation rate, DIBELS proficiency, A-G completion, Advanced Placement enrollment, and attendance. These goals are in alignment with Pillar 1, Academic Excellence; Pillar 2, Joy and Wellness; and Pillar 3, Engagement and Collaboration, of the District's Strategic Execution Plan.
- In alignment with Pillar 5, Investing in Staff, BSAP will increase investments in the marketing, recruitment, selection, staffing, and retention of under-represented employees at all levels of the District in order to better reflect the student population and create new pathways in specialized classifications and areas of need.
- The academic and social-emotional supports for Black and diaspora students being implemented at Fremont High School were highlighted. Creating a culture of caring is one of the school's primary goals. Fremont High School's BSAP Program provides organizational structures that foster purposeful learning, academic forward thinking and meaningful relationships through supports such as clubs, activities, tutoring, mentoring, counseling services, and college excursions.

Dr. DuPree and Dr. Whitman responded to questions and comments from Board Members regarding staffing vacancies, comparison data, attendance strategies, academic growth data, and AP Black History course.

Remarks were heard from Superintendent Carvalho regarding the District's hiring practices and teacher vacancies.

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President Goldberg modified the Order of Business.  
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### **PUBLIC NOTICE OF BARGAINING UNION INITIAL PROPOSALS**

#### LOS ANGELES SCHOOL POLICE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (UNIT H) INITIAL BARGAINING PROPOSALS FOR 2022-2023 REOPENER (UIP-003-22/23)

Initial proposals from collective bargaining representatives are made public before negotiations begin.

### **NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION**

- Tab 4     BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 006 – 22/23  
Adoption of a Resolution to Exempt the Proposed Bright Star Schools – Rise Kohyang Middle School Project from Local Land Use Regulations under Government Code Section 53094

This item was postponed to March 2023.

- Tab 9     BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 147 – 22/23  
Provisional Internship Permits

Dr. McKenna moved that the report be adopted. Dr. Rivas seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the report was adopted, 5 ayes.

Mr. Schmerelson and Ms. Gonez were absent.

Mr. Shin recorded an advisory aye vote.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Schmerelson recorded an aye vote.

The final vote was 6 ayes.

### **BOARD MEMBER RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION**

Mr. Melvoin moved the following resolution:

- Tab 13     Mr. Melvoin, Dr. McKenna, Dr. Rivas, Mr. Schmerelson, Ms. Goldberg, Ms. Ortiz Franklin, Mr. Shin – ENOUGH: End the Nation's Ongoing Unrelenting Gun Horror (Res-012-22/23) (Waiver of Board Rule 72)



Whereas, In just January of 2023, more than 70 lives were lost in 40 mass shooting incidents as well as six school shootings that have resulted in injuries or death. These statistics tragically represent just a fraction of all those lost to gun violence in the United States, a country with more firearms than people;

Whereas, In the nearly 25 years since the Columbine High School Massacre, there have been more than 300 school shootings, including the tragic incidents at Sandy Hook Elementary, Marjory Stoneman Douglass High, and Uvalde Elementary. Gun violence continues to run rampant, enabled by a culture of violence and fear, and by a legal framework that implicitly condones a deadly arms race amongst civilians;

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District supports the safety and well-being of its students, with joy and wellness forming a key pillar of its 2022-2026 Strategic Plan;

Whereas, The consequences of gun violence are widespread and impact entire communities by destroying a collective sense of well-being and safety and further exacerbating the growing mental health crisis. Children exposed to gun violence are at risk for short- and long-term psychological effects, including anger, withdrawal, post-traumatic stress, and desensitization to violence; and

Whereas, The Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District has previously acted to combat gun violence and improve gun safety, including through resolutions;

- Support of Assembly Bill 2706 and Other Gun Control Measures (1994)
- Support of National ASK (Asking Saves Kids) Day to Prevent Gun Violence (2001)
- Resolution in Support of President Obama's Plan to Protect Our Children and Our Communities (2013)
- Safeguarding Our Schools: Demanding Common Sense Gun Laws and Best Practices to Protect our Students and Staff (Res-030-17/18)
- Protecting Our Children from Preventable Gun Violence (Res-046-18/19); now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Los Angeles Unified School District reiterates its strong opposition to the culture of gun violence and the widespread prevalence of guns in this country;

Resolved further, That the District amend its 2022-2023 Legislative Priorities to include support for legislation that imposes requirements on gun sales or otherwise strengthens gun safety measures. Support may include registering support for state or federal gun control legislation, drafting letters of support or advocacy to state or legislators, or other actions as the Superintendent deems appropriate;

Resolved further, That the Superintendent shall review the District's procurement and financial investment policies to identify whether opportunities exist to adopt policies that discourage gun sales or ownership putting children at risk, such as divestment from gun retailers, and report back to the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District within 180 days with any recommended action items resulting from that review; and, be it finally

Resolved, That the District commemorates annually the first Friday in June as National Gun Violence Awareness and Wear Orange Day and facilitates education and outreach campaigns and curricular resources.

Dr. Rivas seconded the motion.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

- Cheryl Revkin, Moms Demand Action
- Maria Daisy Ortiz
- Ray López Chang, GPSN
- Ashley Castillo, Student
- Kirsten Farrell
- Adam Chernick
- Nikki Kentor, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America

Remarks were heard from Mr. Melvoin regarding gun violence and gun control.

Dr. Rivas offered the following amendments to the resolution:

Whereas, In just January of 2023, more than 80 lives were lost in 52 mass shooting incidents as well as six school shootings that have resulted in injuries or death. These statistics tragically represent just a fraction of all those lost to gun violence in the United States, a country with more firearms than people;

Whereas, In the nearly 25 years since the Columbine High School Massacre, there have been more than 300 school shootings, including the tragic incidents at Sandy Hook Elementary, Marjory Stoneman Douglass High, and Uvalde Elementary. Gun violence continues to run rampant, enabled by a culture of violence and fear, and by a legal framework that implicitly condones a deadly arms race amongst civilians;

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District supports the safety and well-being of its students, with joy and wellness forming a key pillar of its 2022-2026 Strategic Plan;

Whereas, The consequences of gun violence are widespread and impact entire communities by destroying a collective sense of well-being and safety and further exacerbating the growing mental health crisis. Children exposed to gun violence are at risk for short- and long-term psychological effects, including anger, withdrawal, post-traumatic stress, and desensitization to violence;

Whereas, Gun violence is a racial justice issue. People of color, particularly in low-income communities, are disproportionately and overwhelmingly harmed by gun violence due to the lack of investment in communities of color, racial housing segregation and structural racism;

Whereas, Black Americans are 10 times more likely than white Americans to die by gun homicide, women of color are disproportionately more affected by gun violence than white women, and young Black and brown Americans experience elevated rates of gun homicides;

Whereas, Gun related injuries became the leading cause of death for ages 1-19. Moreover, Black youth ages 15-34 experience the highest rates of gun homicides across all racial and ethnic groups;

Whereas, Children exposed to gun related violence are most likely to experience externalizing and internalizing disorders, posttraumatic stress, diminished social competence, school problems, and desensitization to violence, and potentially to be involved in or commit a gun violence offense; and

Whereas, The Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District has previously acted to combat gun violence and improve gun safety, including through resolutions;

- Support of Assembly Bill 2706 and Other Gun Control Measures (1994)
- Support of National ASK (Asking Saves Kids) Day to Prevent Gun Violence (2001)
- Resolution in Support of President Obama's Plan to Protect Our Children and Our Communities (2013)
- Safeguarding Our Schools: Demanding Common Sense Gun Laws and Best Practices to Protect our Students and Staff (Res-030-17/18)
- Protecting Our Children from Preventable Gun Violence (Res-046-18/19); now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Los Angeles Unified School District reiterates its strong ~~opposition to~~ condemnation of the culture of gun violence and the widespread prevalence of guns in this country;

Resolved further, That the District amend its 2022-2023 Legislative Priorities to include support for state and federal legislation that: ~~imposes requirements on gun sales or otherwise strengthens gun safety measures. Support may include registering support for state or federal gun control legislation, drafting letters of support or advocacy to state or legislators, or other actions as the Superintendent deems appropriate;~~

1. Imposes requirements on gun sales or otherwise strengthens gun safety measures;
2. Strengthens gun storage laws, and facilitates public education about laws mandating the storage of firearms separately from ammunition;
3. Strengthens gun violence restraining laws and promotes education of the public and law enforcement about the importance of removing firearms from anyone who appears to be a threat to themselves or others; and
4. Support may include registering support for state or federal gun control legislation, drafting letters of support or advocacy to state or legislators, or other actions as the Superintendent deems appropriate;

Resolved further, That the Superintendent shall review the District's procurement and financial investment policies to identify whether opportunities exist to adopt policies that discourage gun sales or ownership putting children at risk, such as divestment from gun retailers, and report back to the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District within 180 days with any recommended action items resulting from that review;

Resolved further, That the District commemorates annually the first Friday in June as National Gun Violence Awareness and Wear Orange Day and facilitates education and outreach

campaigns and curricular resources. In addition, the District will participate and partner with the city and county for National Gun Violence Survivor Week from February 1-7 as a platform to amplify gun violence survivor stories, make trauma informed programs and direct services available and hold discussions on reducing the traumatic impact of gun violence on youth, particularly students of color; and, be it finally

~~Resolved, That the District commemorates annually the first Friday in June as National Gun Violence Awareness and Wear Orange Day and facilitates education and outreach campaigns and curricular resources.~~

Resolved, That the District will advocate for investments in community-based violence intervention (CVI) initiatives and programs to address the root causes of gun violence to establish contextual proactive solutions.

With the consent of the resolution's mover and seconder, the amendments were accepted as friendly.

Remarks were heard from Board Members.

After discussion and on roll call vote, the resolution was adopted as amended, 6 ayes.

Ms. Gonez was absent.

Mr. Shin recorded an advisory aye vote.

Remarks were heard from Superintendent Carvalho.

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President Goldberg resumed the Order of Business.

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### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following speakers addressed the Board on the subjects indicated:

Simya Smith, Student	Dorsey HS Field Trip
Amaris Carter, Student	Lack of School Resources
Ashley Edwards, Students Deserve	Lack of Empathy for Students
Genesis Cruz, Student	Contamination at Jordan HS

Remarks were heard from Superintendent Carvalho regarding the District's response to environmental concerns at Jordan High School.

Zoe Gardner, Student	School Police Funding
Cathie Pacheco, KIPP SoCal	Contamination at Jordan HS
Eloisa Galindo, Parent	Lack of School Resources
Joseph Williams, Students Deserve	Use of Pepper Spray
Lindsey Weatherspoon, Student	Increased BSAP Investments
Martha Torres-Ortiz, Parent	Lack of Special Education Professionals
Maria Daisy Ortiz, Parent	Speaker Process for Board Meetings

Chloe Finley, Student  
Nicole Bates

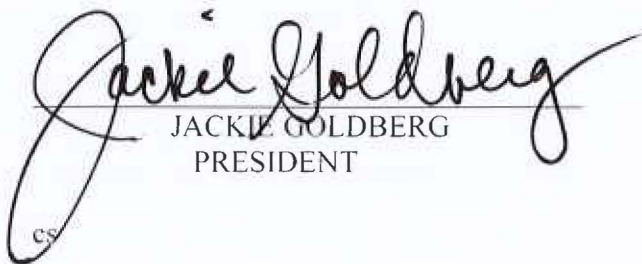
School Safety  
School Police Funding

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Melvoin moved that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Hamzah Alsaudi, a graduate of Palisades High School.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD: **June 20, 2023**

  
JACKIE GOLDBERG  
PRESIDENT



MICHAEL A. MCLEAN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD