

**YOLO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Meeting: August 8, 2023**  
**MINUTES**

**1.0 OPENING PROCEDURES**

- 1.1 Call to Order and Roll Call. The Yolo County Board of Education met on August 8, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. at a Regular Board meeting session in person and via Zoom. Board Members present were Melissa Moreno, Shelton Yip, Armando Salud-Ambriz, Tico Zendejas. President Zendejas presided. Superintendent Garth Lewis was present. (Roll Call held). Trustee Esquivel arrived at 3:31 pm
- 1.2 Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement. The land acknowledgement statement was conducted.
- 1.3 Pledge of Allegiance. The pledge of allegiance was conducted.
- 1.4 Approval of Agenda.  
Motion to Approve agenda.

**MOTION:** Moreno **SECOND:** Yip **AYES:** Moreno, Yip, Esquivel, Salud-Ambriz, Zendejas **NOES:** None **ABSENT:** None

**2.0 RECOGNITION OF GUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

- 2.1 YCOE Employee of the Month – August 2023  
Cindy Nguyen, Interim Executive Director, Human Resources presented the Employee of the Month certificate for August 2023 to Abigail Briceno, Administrative Secretary, Information Technology. Staff thanked her for her hard work.
- 2.2 Introduction of New Staff  
Maria Arvizu-Espinoza, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services stated that new special education staff Eddie Graziano, Principal and Sarah Portugal, Principal is not here because they are working. They will possibly be at the next Board meeting.
- 2.3 Presentation on the Yolo Climate Action & Adaption Plan  
Kristen Wraithwall, Sustainability Manager, Yolo County Sustainability Department presented the PowerPoint, Climate Action & Adaptation Plan in the Board packet. Trustee Yip thanked Ms. Wraithwall for presenting. Trustee Yip has met with students who have a passion for this topic and at the upcoming YES Conference students will bring this topic to the forefront. Trustee Moreno thanked her for her work and encouraging so many to be involved in this topic. She stated that it is important to encourage climate sustainability which is an ancient concept, and it is important to include local and tribal youth in discussion and dialogues in Yolo County. She also stated that this should be a part of the school curriculum to acknowledge our homeland. Recycling and compost should also be at each school

and district.

### 3.0 Public Comment

Martha Hanson made a public comment on attendance – habitual truancy policy and effects on students with disabilities.

My name is Martha Hanson and I am the parent of three (3) students with a disability. I live in Sacramento but my kids now go to school in Davis for reasons beyond our control. I previously have served on several seats at the Washington Unified School District, including the CAC Yolo County SELPA. My family and many others have been traumatized and targeted by the individual truancy laws that are regulations that the Yolo County Board of Education seems to want to adopt. According to the California School dashboard Six Hundred Ninety-Six (696) students are receiving some form of special education in Washington Unified School District alone and in which over Three Hundred Twenty (320) of those students are considered habitual truants. For Davis to identify Two Hundred Fifty-Eight (258) students out of Nine Hundred Twenty Two (922) are truant and on the line to be habitual truants and, in Woodland out of One those One Hundred Twenty Three Thousand (1,123) students are receiving special education services in which Five Hundred Fourteen (514) are considered habitual truants. That's approximately One Thousand One Hundred and Two (1,102) students that you have chosen to label habitual truants or just truants. Your truancy policies have 0 room for missed minutes that are clearly related to a student's disability or living situation. Your administration and SPED teachers or services at big schools and within your realm, refusal to allow students access to curriculum during time that cannot be physically in the classroom due to their disability and disallowing the student access is a violation of FAPE and other laws protecting students with disabilities. Eventual truancy labels wrongfully harm students with disabilities and family causing unnecessary targeted trauma. By signing this resolution, you are knowingly and willingly violating the rights of a minimum of One Thousand One Hundred and Two (1,102) students that are protected by special education policies and I urge you to not sign and please go back to the drawing board to allow students with disability access to curriculum via Chromebooks or paper copy during missed minutes to be counted as minutes in seats, I am happy to discuss how to achieve this and I've been working on this in the California State Capitol for three (3) years now.

### 4.0 REPORTS

#### 4.1 Board Reports

##### Trustee Esquivel

- Took a vacation.
- Discussed CCBE conference in September.
  - Great workshop sessions.
- Will be going to Washington DC regarding the IDEA for special education with CSBA to discuss funding bill.

##### Trustee Salud

- Nice to take a break in July.

- Looking forward to the CCBE and CSBA conference.
- Attended the workshop at YCOE on the Roadmap to the Future.
  - Excited to be a participant.
  - Amazing to know children born in Yolo County are taken care of.

Trustee Moreno

- Hope staff was able to regenerate and take a break.
- Acknowledged public comment.
- Remains on CLSBA board as regional director. Discussed conference on September 28 with presenter Sylvia Mendez, American Civil Rights Activist.
  - The conference will be very important and positive for key school leaders.
- Acknowledged support for ethnic studies at Yolo Academy California Tribal College.

Vice President Yip

- Hope the staff was able to break away to rest.
- Appreciate SPI and MTSS training.
- Shout out to staff for YCCA backpack giveaway event recently.

President Zendejas

- Welcomed back staff after recharge and he is looking forward to the 2023-24 school year.

Trustee Yip likes the One YCOE logo and stated that the message is strong.

Superintendent

Items discussed included:

- Start of new school year.
- Invitation to the Board for staff orientation this Friday at 8 am.
- Staffing numbers are better than last year.
  - Tremendous effort and innovation to advertise on radio and Spotify.
  - Grateful for the team.
- YCOE was part of YCCA school giveaway of backpacks and school supplies.
- Cesar Chavez Community School Design team and the full two (2) days working towards goals and strategies for students.

SAT

Administrative Services

Veronica Moreno, Associate Superintendent, Administrative Services out due to illness.

Superintendent Lewis discussed the youth engagement grants and that the Youth

commissioners will review grants and give their recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. Grants go toward organizations that serve youth and this is the first time this is being implemented.

Educational Services

- Maria Arvizu-Espinoza, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services reviewed her Board report.

She also discussed:

- Visiting the ethnic studies academy to view the art gallery and students' commitment.
- Thanked YCOE for commitment and betterment of landscape.
  - Starting school on August 14, 16 and 22 of various sites and welcoming staff and students back. She is excited about the new school year.

Committees

None.

2.2

Associations

None.

**5.0** CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to Approve Consent Agenda.

**MOTION:** Yip **SECOND:** Esquivel **AYES:** Yip, Esquivel, Moreno, Salud-Ambriz, Zendejas **NOES:** None **ABSENT:** None

A question from the Board included early enrollment for transitional kindergarten and if it affects Yolo COE. Superintendent Lewis stated that it does not affect YCOE. Maria Arvizu-Espinoza, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services and Shannon McClarin, Director, Early Childhood Education recently joined a webinar on this subject and received a lot of good information. Staff will reach out to districts who are affected.

**6.0** ACTION ITEMS

6.1 RESOLUTION #23-24/4 California Native American Day - September 22, 2023

Trustee Moreno presented resolution to Director Maestras. She stated that she appreciates the land acknowledgement being recited at the beginning of the meeting. Looks forward to collaboration in future to provide history and curriculum to school districts. Thanked the Board for the resolution.

Motion to approve RESOLUTION #23-24/4 California Native American Day - September 22, 2023

**MOTION:** Salud-Ambriz **SECOND:** Yip **AYES:** Salud-Ambriz, Yip, Esquivel, Moreno, Zendejas **NOES:** None **ABSENT:** None

6.2 RESOLUTION #23-24/5 In Support of California High School Voter Weeks, September 20-30, 2023

President Zendejas presented this resolution to Tom Adams. Mr. Adams commented and stated it is a great honor. He also commented on YCYCI support for initiatives (changing 12<sup>th</sup> grade to include civics curriculum).

Trustee Yip commented on task force accessibility and the work being done in Yolo County for persons with disabilities and high school students and voting.

Mr. Adams commented on curriculum writers and students advocating for rights on state level.

Motion to approve RESOLUTION #23-24/5 In Support of California High School Voter Weeks, September 20-30, 2023

**MOTION:** Yip **SECOND:** Moreno **AYES:** Yip, Moreno, Esquivel, Salud-Ambriz, Zendejas **NOES:** None **ABSENT:** None

6.3 RESOLUTION 23-24/6 In Support of School Attendance

Vice President Yip presented this item to Gayelynn Gerhart, Director, Special Projects. She commented on how important attendance is in education and teaching life skills for future work habits. Ms. Gerhart thanked the staff who work with students on attendance. Trustee Moreno acknowledged thinking about attendance in context of Cesar Chavez Community School students or in general districts.

Motion to approve RESOLUTION 23-24/6 In Support of School Attendance.

**MOTION:** Salud **SECOND:** Esquivel **AYES:** Salud-Ambriz, Esquivel, Moreno, Yip, Zendejas **NOES:** None **ABSENT:** None

6.4 RESOLUTION 23-24/7 In Recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month - September 2023

Trustee Esquivel presented resolution to Vicky Fernandez, Mayor of City of Woodland. She thanked Yolo COE and the Board. She also commented on leadership recognizing and embracing our diversity and the importance to embrace culture and celebrate lifelong commitment to diversity through education and the political process. It is important to embrace community as immigrants. She will also be visiting Woodland's sister city in Mexico in September to witness culture and hopes to see the Board and the community at celebrations in Woodland recognizing this event. Trustee Moreno thanked Mayor Fernandez for recognizing all heritages. Trustee Salud-Ambriz is also an immigrant from Mexico and is happy to represent Mexicans and immigrants. He will also participate in the sister city event in September.

**Trustee Esquivel left at 4:32 pm and returned at 4:34 pm**

Motion to approve RESOLUTION 23-24/7 In Recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month - September 2023

**MOTION:** Salud-Ambriz **SECOND:** Yip **AYES:** Salud-Ambriz, Yip, Moreno, Esquivel, Zendejas **NOES:** None **ABSENT:** None

6.5 RESOLUTION 23-24/8 In Recognition of National Multicultural Organ Donor Awareness Month – August 2023

Trustee Salud presented resolution to Kyla Aquino Irving, External Affairs Director, Sierra Donor Services & Sylvia Dinozo, kidney transplant recipient and Donate Life Ambassador. Ms. Aquino Irving commented that people of color are most in need of an organ and how important it is to bring awareness. Sixty percent (60%) of donor waiting list is for people of color. Organ donation shortage. Currently working on organ donation shortage to find a solution and hope to partner with YCOE in future on this topic. Ms. Dinozo discussed her dialysis and being a donor recipient. She is very grateful and will continue to help save lives.

She thanked Trustee Salud-Ambriz for bring this resolution to Board. Trustee Moreno would like to make a commitment to this.

Motion to approve RESOLUTION 23-24/8 In Recognition of National Multicultural Organ Donor Awareness Month – August 2023.

**MOTION:** Yip **SECOND:** Salud-Ambriz **AYES:** Yip, Salud-Ambriz, Esquivel, Moreno, Zendejas **NOES:** None **ABSENT:** None

6.6 Second Reading of Board Policies (9000 series)

Motion to approve Board Policies:

BB 9100 - Organization  
BB 9121 – President and other Officers  
BB 9130 – Board Committees  
BB 9140 – Board Representatives  
BB 9200 – Limits of Board Members Authority

Trustee Moreno commented on the consistency of county board and Superintendent of schools in language of policy. Trustee Salud asked if the second reading is final? Superintendent Lewis commented on how YCOE implements Board policies and yes this will be the final policy until changes are made in the future.

**MOTION:** Yip **SECOND:** Salud-Ambriz **AYES:** Yip, Salud-Ambriz, Esquivel, Moreno, Zendejas **NOES:** None **ABSENT:**

None

7.0 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

- 7.1 Head Start/Early Head Start Reports  
Shannon McClarin, Director, Early Childhood Education presented this item. She also gave an update on facilities projects this summer. Vice President Yip commented on how busy staff has been in the summer with CPI training. He thanked Ms. McClarin for sending a mental health and wellness survey to staff and building professional development around it. Trustee Moreno has noticed building improvements.
- 7.2 2022-2023 Fourth Quarter – Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints for YCOE schools  
Heather Schlaman presented this item. No questions from Board.
- 7.3 2022-2023 Annual Average Daily Attendance (ADA) Report  
Frances Palu, Director, Internal Fiscal Services presented this item. No questions from the Board.
- 7.4 Monthly Board Financial Report  
Frances Palu, Director, Internal Fiscal Services presented this item. Trustee Moreno asked about deposits and Ms. Palu commented that they will be deposited soon.
- 7.5 Public Disclosure of Costs Associated with the 2022-23 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Yolo County Office of Education (YCOE) and California School Employees Association (CSEA), Chapter #639  
Frances Palu, Director, Internal Fiscal Services presented this item. Trustee Moreno asked about page 135 and why there is a decrease in fiscal impact. Ms. Palu stated that she would need to gather more information and get back to her on this question. Trustee Esquivel also asked about the salary schedule and health benefits. She wants to understand the change on fiscal impact from 2023-24 to last year. She asked about the decrease from 6.17 percent (23-24) to 2.96 percent for (24-25) and Trustee Esquivel asked when the decision was made on the 6.17 percent increase. Superintendent Lewis clarified that the numbers were settled upon with unions (2-year agreement) and the difference has to do with the state budget and what our fiscal position is and what we were able to offer. Trustee Salud-Ambriz asked about the bargaining agreement and health benefits. Does this affect trustees? Is the same amount given to trustees as staff. Superintendent Lewis commented that they are not tied together but it is the same amount.
- 7.6 Public Disclosure of Costs Associated with the 2022-23 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Yolo County Office of Education (YCOE) and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Union  
Frances Palu, Director, Internal Fiscal Services presented this item. There were no questions from the Board.

7.7 Public Disclosure of Costs Associated with the 2022-23 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Yolo County Office of Education (YCOE) and Yolo Education Association (YEA), Chapter #71  
Frances Palu, Director, Internal Fiscal Services presented this item. There were no questions from the Board.

7.8 2023-24 Yolo COE Organizational Charts  
Superintendent Lewis presented the 2023-24 organizational charts and structure of Yolo COE. In years past the organizational chart has included information on school sites but the intent is to now show organizational structure. Trustee Moreno asked what special projects are on page 153-154. She would like to learn more about what is special projects and what the director does in that position. Superintendent Lewis stated that the special projects position is held by Director Gerhart, and it is varied and diverse in span and specific work. It includes support for community schools across county, state and federal programs, compliance, and several smaller projects. The reason for the title is because of the diversity of work. It is a specific discipline and liaison role that works across departments and outside of Yolo COE in education. This position also helps to tie together initiatives in early childhood education and transitional youth which also includes being part of roadmap steering committee and a host of initiatives.

7.9 First Reading of Board Bylaws (9000 Series)  
Superintendent Lewis reviewed the first reading of Board Bylaws (9000 Series):

BB 9220 - Governing Board Elections  
BB 9222 - Resignation  
BB 9223 - Filling Vacancies  
BB 9224 - Oath or Affirmation  
BB 9230 - Orientation

Trustee Moreno has the following corrections/questions:

**Page 160** and the third paragraph where it states...*county board encourages (can we include as well as county office)?* Superintendent Lewis stated that we can include this language.

**Page 162** ..the language that includes...at time with winner to *lot* or should we say *lottery*. Garth suggests we can seek legal counsel on the difference between lot and lottery, but it seems to be based on the purview of office. We can also provide specific definition for how operationalized if needed?

**Page 168** starts with county board language, and she would like it to be consistent. She stated that she will leave it up to the office to decide language and terms of process.

**Page 172** she recommends that the language... *county board shall publish notice*



*in the paper that we also add... publish on website.* Trustee Salud commented that it is supposed be published in the paper and not on the website. She wants to add the wording *website as an addition* to the newspaper. Trustee Esquivel asked how much more work for staff this would be before adding language.

Trustee Salud-Ambriz asked about procedures for finalizing policies? Staff stated this these policies will be final at the next Board meeting when they go to the Board for Action. There will be no recommended changes and the strikeouts will be removed at the next meeting. The only recommendation from Trustee Moreno is adding website language. Superintendent Lewis will consult with staff on what that effort would be and final policy will be presented to the Board at next meeting.

Policies will come back to the Board as an action item at the next meeting.

8.0 Suggested future agenda items.

- Turnover and emergency credential conditions in YCOE – Future meeting.
- EL RISE – Future meeting.
- Health Benefits for trustees next month.
- Trustee Esquivel will also discuss the new CSBA, CASBO and Carahsoft Technology Corporation that will launch Golden State Technology Solutions to reduce costs and streamline technology procurement for California in the future when she learns more about the new initiative process.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.

**MOTION:** Esquivel **SECOND:** Moreno **AYES:** Esquivel, Moreno, Salud-Ambriz, Yip, Zendejas **NOES:** None **ABSENT:** None

  
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Garth Lewis, Superintendent