

**TRANSCRIPT OF AUGUST 4, 2021
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

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[President Barke strikes the gavel to signal the commencement of the board meeting.]

BARKE: Calling the meeting to order. Will you please do roll call?

BOYD: Trustee Sparks?

SPARKS: Here

BOYD: Trustee Shaw?

SHAW: Here

BOYD: Trustee Gomez?

GOMEZ: Present.

BOYD: Vice President Williams?

WILLIAMS: I am here.

BOYD: President Barke?

BARKE: Here. Do I have a motion to accept the Agenda?

WILLIAMS: Yes, I will make the motion to adopt the Agenda for today.

SPARKS: Second.

BARKE: All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, SHAW, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: 5-0.

BOYD: Just a point of clarification, you're amending the Agenda to remove item 18?

BARKE: Yes. Okay. Do you want to remake the motion?

BOYD: That's going to be held over to the September board meeting.

WILLIAMS: Oh, that's right. We did talk about that. Okay. It's not in the red line, but I will remake.

BOYD: It is above the Agenda.

WILLIAMS: I will remake my agenda to adopt the Agenda, but removing item number 18. This is at the request of Scholarship Prep. They will have their meeting next month, I believe, in September.

BOYD: Correct.

WILLIAMS: Okay. I need a second.

BOYD: Lisa is seconding the amendment?

SPARKS: Second, yes.

BOYD: Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Want to do a roll call? I amended it, so we have to do it as a vote.

BARKE: All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, SHAW, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: Okay, 5-0.

BOYD: You all have the red line, right?

BARKE: Yes.

BOYD: Just making sure.

BARKE: Yes. I was looking at the facilities. That was the issue earlier. Now, I see it. Thank you. Okay. We are now going to go into closed session.

[President Barke strikes the gavel to signal the end of closed session.]

BARKE: We are back from closed session. Thank you for your patience.

WILLIAMS: We are going to go right to the report out.

BARKE: We're are going to start with the report out from our attorney, Jonathan Brenner.

BRENNER: Good evening, members of the Board. Good to be with you. This is the report out for closed session item number one. The Board had a discussion with council and did not take any action other than to approve the invoice of Epstein, Becker and Green, number 1056886. That was on a vote of 4-1. Trustees Shaw, Sparks, Williams, and Barke voting in favor; Trustee Gomez against. That concludes the report out for closed session number one. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you. Okay. Next, will be our invocation. I believe we have a substitute invocation, because our first one ran out of time. We'll invite Padmini up, please.

SRINIVASAN: Good afternoon everyone. Thank you for this opportunity to share a few words with you. I wanted to bring our attention as we stand before that spiritual power that we connect with and ask, what do we stand for? We stand for freedom in this country. It is the beacon of freedom for so many people. We stand for freedom together. We stand for care. We stand for taking care of each other. We stand for taking care of those who most need care. We stand for building trust across differences, across seeming boundaries that sometimes seem difficult to cross. We stand for understanding that actually we are united. That actually, we are on the same side. That actually, we're on the side of the children of Orange County. For that unity and for that connection, I am ever grateful. I therefore, ask that we close our eyes. Think about all of those children for whose sake we are here today, for whose sake we speak. We speak our truth. We do our best. We take action courageously, kindly, and in unity with each other. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you for those beautiful words.

WILLIAMS: Wow, yes, that was very graceful.

BARKE: Next, we will have the Pledge of Allegiance by Trustee, Dr. Williams.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Padmini. That was wonderful. You may stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. It's not required, but we all stand because we honor the country that we love and the flag that it represents. I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

BARKE: Next, we will have our organization meeting, and I would entertain a nomination for a clerk of the board.

WILLIAMS: I'd would like to nominate Dr. Lisa Sparks for the clerk of the board.

BARKE: I will second that. All in favor?

WILLIAMS, BARKE, SHAW, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: All opposed? I think the ayes have it.

WILLIAMS: Very good clerk, thank you.

BARKE: Congratulations.

SPARKS: Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Introductions.

BARKE: Do we have any introductions?

BOYD: Just an announcement. The Superintendent is on vacation and will not be attending the meeting this evening.

BARKE: Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Very good. I make a motion for approval of the Minutes from the June 16 meeting.

SPARKS: Second.

BARKE: All those-

GOMEZ: I have some corrections for the Minutes, please.

BARKE: Okay.

GOMEZ: For the June 16 meeting, under the time certain, on page 5, number 1, during the votes - Trustee Sparks was absent. To be consistent with our minutes, we should indicate that during the vote where it is 3-1 that Trustee Sparks was absent. That should carry over with items two and three. Then, at the conclusion of that, where it indicates that Trustee Sparks joined the closed session via Zoom, we should have the time that she joined. We may not be able to have that. We probably will need to look at the video to see what time that was. Those things should be fixed. Then on page eight, item number 11, where it says the motion - we don't say what the motion was, whether it was to accept or what it was. We may need to look at the minutes for that and the video for that as well. Could we just postpone the approval of these till we get that information?

BOYD: For number 11?

GOMEZ: Yes.

BOYD: That was a motion to approve.

WILLIAMS: That would be on the Agenda, correct?

BOYD: The action item would have been, but it should have been translated. We can add that in.

GOMEZ: To approve? Okay. I would request that we make those corrections. Then, look at the time when Trustee Sparks returned to the meeting. On page seven, under the charter schools, number 15, we indicate the time that she left the meeting, so we should have the correct time she joined the meeting.

BARKE: Do you know that Dr. Sparks or is that something we will follow up with?

SPARKS: I thought it was like 4 o'clock. It was right at the top of the- I was waiting for the closed session to be finished. I believe it was 4 o'clock.

BARKE: Okay.

SPARKS: If you all want to verify on video?

BARKE: I believe that is correct. That you came in after the closed session.

GOMEZ: I know it was after the closed session, but I don't recall what time.

SPARKS: I was waiting for you guys to let me in.

WILLIAMS: Yeah. You were in the closed session for both one and two, right?

GOMEZ: Correct, but there is no time. She was not there for the inter-district appeals, but joined the closed session for one and two.

SPARKS: Yes. Exactly.

BOYD: That would be time that you all had, because we won't have that. That won't be on Zoom. You were in a separate closed session. That's not captured there.

BARKE: I would be comfortable with using 4 o'clock if that is as Dr. Sparks remembers it?

SPARKS: Why don't we just say approximately 4 o'clock.

GOMEZ: Why don't we just say that, approximately 4 o'clock. I'm okay with that.

BARKE: Okay.

GOMEZ: I'm okay with approving the Minutes with those corrections.

BARKE: Okay. All in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, SHAW, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: All right. I think the aye's have it again. All right. We get to move into public comment.

WILLIAMS: No, July 7 Minutes.

BARKE: I'm sorry.

WILLIAMS: I'll make a motion for approval of the July 7 Minutes.

BARKE: I'll second.

GOMEZ: Okay. I've got corrections to those minutes as well. On page 11, same thing. Trustee Sparks joined the board meeting, and again, we'll need to have the time to be consistent with our other minutes. Then, on page 14, it says that on item number 13, it said motion by Williams. Then, two lines down it says that he was absent. There's a little bit of discrepancy there, because item number 14 says Williams had another motion. I don't know if there is an error in the editing of this or what?

WILLIAMS: That's for the Minutes. I made the motion, and it says I'm absent, yeah. That's an inconsistency.

GOMEZ: Then, if you look on page 15, it says that you departed after item 19.

WILLIAMS: Right.

GOMEZ: Perhaps we could look at the video to get that sorted out?

WILLIAMS: Well, I can probably tell you right now. If I'm making a motion for the minutes, I was there present and made my vote, I would just say, let's move me under the yes vote. That was probably a 5-0.

GOMEZ: The Minutes say you were absent. That's why I'm just saying,

WILLIAMS: Right. Obviously though, I made the motion. I was there. We should correct the Minutes. Put me under a yes vote, and remove where it says Williams absent. Does that make sense?

GOMEZ: It does.

WILLIAMS: You agreed with me? This is to be recorded in history.

GOMEZ: Now wait a minute. Don't go there. Maybe you need to agree with me once in a while?

WILLIAMS: Okay.

GOMEZ: Maybe we can just – so you're saying just to delete that you were absent?

WILLIAMS: Yeah. Just put me under yes. That would make a very simple resolution of that. I was there for the consent calendar and made the motion for that, too. Did you get that Darou?

SISAVATH: Yes.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

BARKE: All right. What else?

GOMEZ: I think that was it. On page 15, we indicate that he left the meeting at 8:00 PM. Then, he's shown he's absent under item 22 so that's consistent.

BARKE: All right. Just stop leaving the meetings and we won't have these issues.

WILLIAMS: I was sick.

BARKE: All right. All right.

WILLIAMS: The second motion.

BARKE: Alright. We are now voting on the second motion.

GOMEZ: The second set of minutes?

BARKE: Yes.

WILLIAMS: July 7.

BARKE: All those in favor?

GOMEZ: With corrections.

BARKE: With corrections.

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, SHAW, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: All right. The ayes have it. Now, can we do public comments?

WILLIAMS: We are going to do public comments. Okay. I got the cards here. We have, it looks like 10 people. I'm going to call the first name to come up. Then, I'll give the second name. If you are called for the second name, if you just want to come in the front, you'll be on deck. The first one will be Ana, and it looks like Lucia or Crisia? Pardon me?

LUCIA: Ana Lucia.

WILLIAMS: Lucia. You are getting three minutes. Come on up. You may remove your mask to talk with us. On deck, we'll be Lauren Hernandez. If you want to come up to the front here, and stand behind Anna.

LUCIA: Is it rolling my three minutes?

WILLIAMS: No, you haven't started yet.

LUCIA: Okay.

BOYD: We'll start it again. She hasn't started. As soon as you start, the light will start.

LUCIA: Okay. Good afternoon. Thank you for seeing me today. Congratulations, on the panel last week. I think it was enriching for everyone. My understanding is that you guys referral those specialists here. Do you guys remember who invited Dr. Brandy Shufutinsky? She made a very nice impression on me in I think every item, every bullet the way she explained it. It was the process. It's not a theory. It is a process. It was you that invited her here? Each one of you guys invited one of the people that are going to be on the panel. Is that correct?

WILLIAMS: I can't hear you very well. If you want to drop your mask?

LUCIA: Drop your mask is against the guidelines, Doctor. You cannot understand me well, because I have a very, very, very heavy accent. The reason that I'm here today is just I have a suggestion. You have a meeting next week. I would like, because I think it's very helpful. When you have study cases, because then, you put a picture. You put a situation. You use that a lot at workplaces. You use that a lot in school, in training schools.

I would strongly suggest that you put the brutality that you attack my family. That Capistrano Unified and is here. I asked for an open meeting. You guys said, I couldn't have it. The documents I submitted, Dr. [inaudible] blocked it. The paper that I submitted, you unlawfully blocked it. You told me I needed a transcript with not enough time for the hearing. I was brutally attacked by the principal of Dana Hills High School. His name is Brad Baker. He unlawfully tried to arrest me. He thought, obviously, look at me, my missing teeth, my face, my accent, that I was an illegal immigrant. I came here. I asked for a transfer. You didn't give it to me. None of

you. You call an incident. You asked me to go meet with this man alone. A man that attacked me. Unlawfully called the police on me after I was attacked inside the school.

There is parents here from Twitter. They are watching me. I'm the reason you made your account private over Instagram. You know who I am. Your ties, your husband's ties with the six indicted OC citizens [inaudible] you to use our money for the anti-mask mandate. It is a conflict of interest. You cannot do it. Mr. [inaudible] I am opposing the spending of this money in the schools that do have rats. You haven't -

BARKE: Thank you. Your time's up. Thank you.

LUCIA: Okay. I'm leaving the country in few days, because of you attack me. I am prosecuting you and Dr. Baker.

WILLIAMS: Okay, Lauren, how are you?

HERNANDEZ: Good. Good evening. My name is Lauren Hernandez, and I am from Huntington Beach. I am a mother of four and a member of Let Them Breathe. An organization of over 12,000 members advocating for mask choice in K-12 schools, and the end of all mask mandates in California. On behalf of myself, other parents in the community, and Let Them Breathe, I would like to thank the following board of trustees that voted to sue the state and stand for mask choice, Mari Barke, Tim Shaw, Lisa Sparks, and Ken Williams. We thank you very, very much.

Our children have suffered enough, and I am so thankful to see members of this board stand up for their rights. Not just the rights of our children, but for the rights of the parents to make health care decisions best for their family. Neither the federal government, nor local authorities should ever override the decision of the parent, especially when it comes to healthcare and education. Mask choice stands for just that - your choice. If a parent wants to put a mask on their child, that is their constitutional right. If a parent doesn't want to put a mask on their child, that is their constitutional right. There is no authority in our United States Constitution that allows government to make our health decisions for us. The state of California should trust parents to outweigh the risks and benefits and make the best choice for their family. Our children need to return to a normal, healthy learning environment. No child should be isolated or punished through distance learning if they don't wear a mask. If a parent is in fear of letting their child go to school with other children who don't wear masks, then, they may utilize the distance learning option; healthy children should not. I've submitted a board resolution that was drafted by the Let Them Breathe legal team to four Orange County school districts. Of those four, only one has agreed to put it on their agenda.

The board resolution asks the districts to advocate in writing to the CDPH to remove mandatory requirements such as masks, quarantines, and asymptomatic testing. Orange County Board of Education, I urge you to please contact all Orange County school districts, and ask them to

please add mask choice to their board meeting agendas. Thank you again for all that you do. We, the parents support you. We thank you, and we will stand by you in this fight to reclaim our children's freedom. God bless each and every one of you that stood by our children and voted to sue the state. Thank you so much.

BARKE: Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Lauren. Our next public speaker will be Mr. Steven Grass. On deck, both of you will be up here, but Rachita Bajaj, please come up. You have three minutes, Mr. Grass.

GRASS: Good evening. My name's Steven Grass. I live in Costa Mesa. President Barke, Vice President Dr. Williams, and Trustees of the Board of Orange County, and all gathered. I'm here to advocate for the Board's continued support and approval of ISSAC Charter School. My daughter has been attending the International School for Science and Culture for the past two years and is about to enter her third year with ISSAC. My wife and I have been completely impressed with ISSAC in so many ways. Our family is grateful for the professional composition of the staff and leadership at ISSAC. My daughter is just as excited to return this year as she was when we first talked about her opportunity to attend this amazing school. ISSAC transcends, in my opinion, the traditional performance of the previous Orange County schools our daughter has attended over the past seven years, and it's truly become an extension of our family in some regards. We found ISSAC to be comprised of a dedicated staff that possesses exemplary, open and willing collaboration along with phenomenal commitment to the students and parents. This is what allows us as parents to be comfortable and assured that our precious daughter is safe and is enrolled at the highest possible learning environment available in Orange County. We thank you for your continued support of the school. It's truly a most valuable contribution to our community. Thank you very much.

BARKE: Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Rachita, you are up, and Kathi Schroeder is on deck.

BAJAJ: Good evening, esteemed board members. I had written this letter to all of you in the month of June, but I'm here to personally thank you for your support to ISSAC this far. Me and my husband are extremely proud parents of our daughter Jia who goes to ISSAC, which is the International School for Science and Culture. We've been with the school since they started in 2019. My daughter's going to be in third grade starting this fall. Every parent wants to do right by their child. Give them the best possible education. Send them to the right school. We feel that ISSAC has done that for us. ISSAC has given us, given our child a holistic learning environment with not only focus on common core math, language, and other subjects; but also, giving her an opportunity to be a part of project-based learning. Where she's not only building her leadership skills to be a strong individual, confident to voice her opinion when she needs to, to stand up for what's right. She's also learning, you know, additional languages like Mandarin and Spanish. She

spends evenings with her grandparents on Zoom calls trying to teach them some of Mandarin and Spanish. Believe me, that's great joy to watch her do that.

Being a part of the ISSAC family makes us very happy. My daughter has been very happy to attend classes on Zoom. We were so paranoid that that's not going to work out; but the teachers, the staff, the support that not only the children in school got, but also the support that parents received to help our children learn via Zoom was phenomenal. Right? We're very thankful to the school, the staff, and to all of you as part of the board members for supporting our school. My daughter is extremely happy and excited to go back this fall. Thank you very much.

BARKE: Thank you.

SCHROEDER: Thank you for allowing me to speak. My name is Kathi Schroeder. I represent about 50 teachers who couldn't be here in person to support Explore Academy. As a California credentialed teacher, a strong passion for teaching, and a love for all children. I want to be assured their learning needs are met. I've been in conversation with the leaders of Explore Academy. I'm very supportive of the high-quality education that it will bring, excuse me, to all children in Orange County. Each child's learning needs vary, which is why it is important for parents to have a school choice. At Explore Academy, the teachers and parents work together to customize an education that works well for all. Students make great progress maximizing their learning goals while being introduced to new interests, skills, and other activities the school has to offer. The beauty of Explore Academy is that it won't be limited to students in a defined area. The charter school will be available to all students in Orange County. Through Explore Academy, all students will have the opportunity to flourish. Please don't hesitate to call me and contact me if you have any questions about my opinion and support for this school. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Kathi. Okay. Then next two, will be Faith Dye. You're only 11 years old, but come on up and tell us what you think. On deck, we'll be Pedro Hernandez. Pedro, if you want to come up front here, we'd love to hear what you have to say. He is 10 years old. A very handsome young man.

DYE: Good evening Board of Education. My name is Faith Dye. I'm 11 years old. I am going to Helen Stacey Middle School this fall. I'm here to talk to you about masks. I think they are useless. I believe we should have the right to have a choice if we want to wear masks or if we prefer not to. Masks may help some parents feel more comfortable for their kids to wear one. Masks make kids less happy, have self-doubt, and have anxiety. I personally, have been getting stress pimples and a lot of kids are, too. Some kids have a fear called claustrophobia. The Lord says, for I have not given you a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and sound mind. Please remember this. Thank you for your time.

BARKE: Thank you, Faith.

HERNANDEZ: Hi, my name is Pedro Hernandez. I'm 10 years old, and I'm from Huntington Beach. Thank you for getting rid of the mask, so I don't have to wear them, hopefully. And, um.

WILLIAMS: Say it from your heart. Say it from your heart.

BARKE: Tell us whatever's on your mind. You don't have to have a script.

HERNANDEZ: I don't like masks either, because it hurts. Sometimes it's hard to speak. I can't really speak clearly. When my friends speak, I can barely hear them. My sister is probably going to come up after me with my dad. I usually wouldn't see my teacher's face for a long time, it was actually surprising to see her face when she took her mask off to eat one time and yeah.

BARKE: You did a great job. Thank you.

DYE, R: Hello. My name is Rosalia Dye. I just wanna thank you all for getting rid of the masks, hopefully. We all know that the mask is bad. We don't like masks, so yeah. I just want to thank you all for getting rid of the mask. We all deserve to have a right to not wear masks, because we all have a right to do it. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Okay. The last two will be Mr. Chris Jones. After that, will be Mr. Miles Durfee.

JONES: That's a very tough act to follow. I am very teary. That was beautiful. My name is Chris Jones. Yeah, honestly. I am a mother to four children, ages 11, 8, 6, and 4. I would like to start by sincerely thanking Mari Barke, Tim Shaw, Lisa Sparks, and Ken Williams for voting in favor to sue the state and being in favor of mask choice. My opportunity and privilege as a parent is to demonstrate to my children how to stand up for what you believe in. That's why I am here like many others today. We know that our children need to breathe. They need to share their beautiful smiles. They need to see the smiles of others. They need to see their teachers announce their words. They need to be able to visibly demonstrate the same in return. Our children will thrive when given the opportunity. Thank you for using your voice and being brave to speak on behalf of so many families. Please continue to strongly encourage the school districts to add mask choice to their agendas and allow parents to choose what is in the best interest of our children. Parents and children will never forget what you are doing. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you.

DURFEE: I'm happy to speak under number 17 if you're going to have public comment under 17 or I'll go now, if you prefer.

WILLIAMS: You can go now or you can wait for then. It's up to you.

DURFEE: I'll go ahead and speak. My name is Miles Durfee with California Charter Schools Association. Thank you. It's good to see you all and have you here again. Thank you for all the work that you're doing for the community and the work that you do to look at charter schools fairly, and to also, push very hard to make sure that we have good schools and quality schools in the Orange County area. Today, I'm here to speak on behalf of Explore Academy, which will be in front of you for a public hearing. We have worked with Senator Gloria Romero over a number of years. We have also been involved in some of the petition process that she's going through right now for Explore Academy. We're speaking in support for her tonight. We look forward to seeing what we expect will be a really great report from staff after they reviewed petition and have their hearing, their meeting on capacity. We look forward to being back and speaking in even more full-threaded support as that staff report comes out. We look forward to her approval on her starting of her school in Orange County as Explore Academy. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Miles.

WILLIAMS: Okay. That concludes public comments, Madam President.

BARKE: Thank you, sir. Okay. Next, we'll go to communication information and discussion on the FCMAT.

WILLIAMS: Any update on the FCMAT response from the Department to FCMAT?

BOYD: Well, the Board sent the FCMAT report. We understood that the Board might have some questions. We were told to put it on the Agenda for this month. We haven't received any questions.

BARKE: Mr. Rolen will come up with some questions.

ROLEN: Members of the Board, there's been a little bit of confusion concerning the order about which this would happen. If the Board has some questions, I'm in the process of reviewing the report. I can provide some questions to the Board if that's your desire? If staff wants to provide a response to the FCMAT report, we welcome that as well.

BOYD: You want to carry it over until September, then? Is that what you?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, it was my understanding, please correct me if I'm wrong, that the Department was going to respond to the FCMAT report?

BOYD: Yes.

WILLIAMS: And some of the criticisms.

BOYD: Yes.

WILLIAMS: Okay. That's what I thought we would talk about it. Where is that process in the response?

BOYD: Renee, do you want to?

HENDRICK: We have drafted some responses, and the Superintendent has those currently.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Maybe next month, then? Okay. We'll carry it over.

BARKE: Okay. Our redistricting is delayed? Oh, I'm sorry.

SHAW: Okay. We're going to redistricting. Is our guest here?

ROLEN: No.

SHAW: Not yet, okay. Boy, that was anticlimactic.

ROLEN: On my law school application, I put, I am concise. He is going to be contacting me upon his arrival. He's in route.

BARKE: Okay. We can come back to that.

SHAW: Okay.

BARKE: Great. Next, is ethnic studies. Ken, did you want to lead that discussion?

WILLIAMS: Yeah. I thought it was a very good forum. I loved the bipartisan nature of it. I loved the information that was given. I think it was probably one of the best community forums

that we've had. The next forum will be on the 24th of this month. For those who are inviting, Beckie, I would ask you if you have someone that you want to invite, please get it to me. We need to get that real quick. Of course, Tim, you and I did talk about somebody. If you can –

SHAW: I'm having lunch with that individual next Monday.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

SHAW: I don't know if this person will say yes or no, but I will know more on Monday.

BARKE: I think this time it would be great if we could come out with all of our speakers two weeks out to let everyone know. That would be great.

WILLIAMS: Are you allowed to say his name?

SHAW: No.

WILLIAMS: No. Okay.

SHAW: Well, he hasn't agreed to it so that would be kind of unfair to put it out there.

WILLIAMS: He teaches ethnic studies?

SHAW: It's an individual who is very well-credentialed.

WILLIAMS: Okay. That's all I have to say.

SHAW: Will that be August 24th at 5:00 PM, again? Was it 5:00 PM?

BARKE: The event will start at six. We will probably start the press again at 4:30, similar format. Thank you to the staff for everything you did for that. I know that was a busy long day, so we do appreciate everything. Hopefully, it will be just slightly more organized for our second one.

WILLIAMS: Let me give kudos, to Nina. She did a lot of the backend - what we didn't see. She worked really, really hard.

BOYD: Our team did. I won't take all the credit, but we do have an excellent team that I work with. Staff did respond very well to the Board's requests with regards to things. Some, we were very timely on, and some we were trying to move forward. In terms of format, are you still planning to have your outdoor? We'd like to try to schedule and reserve what we need to. If we're going to just contain that to the Boardroom? We had only about 65 people that utilized that at one given time. Then, that trailed to probably about 30 people after a short period of time, so you all may want to consider. I will email the Board, excuse me, I was trying to have the costs associated by this evening. I'll have that information to you before the end of the week. I was pulling it from the different areas on what that actually costs for all the resources that had to be pulled in.

WILLIAMS: One of the questions is security. I was talking with Captain Meyer about that. He thinks that we should scale it back quite a bit based upon the last meeting.

GOMEZ: You might want to get closer.

BOYD: Yeah. We had some communications with Captain Mayne. He, actually is the one who made the determination of numbers. He naturally, consulted with you and consulted with us, did a walkthrough and so forth. Our understanding is he just watches what's occurring. As long as there's nothing that changes, then, that would be what they would anticipate - is scaling back on the numbers. Then, just having resources available in the area if they needed them.

WILLIAMS: The tent, it was for 150 people, but only 65 utilized it. By the end of the night, that had dwindled down to about 35?

BOYD: Or less, yes.

WILLIAMS: Or less. My thoughts were, and I'd love to hear it from my colleagues. We really overestimated the amount of people that I thought were going to be able to be here. There may be reasons for that. Having YouTube live streaming was very effective. How many viewers did we have on that? Do you have that data?

BOYD: I don't have that data, but I can certainly get that data for the Board.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

BARKE: Ken, correct me if I'm wrong. You have more experience. I think in the past, the second event, more people have attended.

WILLIAMS: It's hard to say. That's hard to say. Really, in the advent leading up to that, the reason we went up to your neck of the woods up there in that community center is that we

thought we'd have a much bigger turnout. It was less than what we anticipated. That's why we got the tent out there and the TV. We arranged it for the overflow, but I just didn't think there was that much of an overflow crowd. It's hard to predict, you know. It could be a much bigger turnout for the second one. Certainly, it was well-received. I think there was a lot of good information that was articulated and expressed at that evening. It's really hard to determine and guess.

BARKE: I know we already have one speaker who's very well-known confirmed. I think also, the dates have been out longer. Everybody knows the August 24. I would anticipate that we would want at least 100 chairs for out front. That would be my initial gut.

BOYD: The costs would be the same. I know what the approximate cost was for that, but I don't have the exact. I don't have all the overtime from staff that were involved in it. We had portable restrooms that we had to have out there to go along with the tent, the chairs and lights and monitors that we put out.

SPARKS: I think because it's the middle of the summer, it's good that we have it on YouTube. I'd like to know what that data is going to show us; but if the cost is the same, maybe we just keep it the same.

BOYD: It's just a matter of if you are going to do it or not do it? That was my question.

SPARKS: Oh yea, I think we should definitely do it. Yeah, definitely we should do it.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Tim, your opinion? Beckie, your opinion?

SHAW: I thought the forum was very interesting. I thought that our panelists were very interesting to hear in their perspective. I'm someone who kind of enjoys a robust debate. I would welcome different perspectives. Honestly, some of my most favorite learning experiences. I've shared with others. I loved listening on the radio when Hugh Hewitt would have on Erwin Chemerinsky and John Eastman. John Eastman a conservative professor, Erwin Chemerinsky a liberal, they would debate the legal cases of the day. I would come away from that thinking, wow, I'm smarter for listening to that. I hope we can really have a nice diverse set of opinions. Through that clash of ideas, respectfully, of course, we will all come away, I think, smarter for having heard it. That's what I'm kind of looking to also have at our next forum if possible.

SPARKS: Of course, that's the point of all the forums that we run is just to provide information from a variety of perspectives for parents and community members to better understand whatever the issue is at hand.

BOYD: Our wonderful media team just texted me that we had 200 live views and 3.3 million, excuse me, 3,300 views of recorded video.

SISAVATH: 3,300.

SPARKS: Thank you.

SHAW: That's good.

SPARKS: That's really good.

GOMEZ: I'd like to comment on a couple of things. We had a budget of \$7,500. I think we exceeded that. It sounds like.

BOYD: You did. The approximate number that I have right now, is almost \$15,000.

GOMEZ: For one.

BOYD: For the one. Yes.

GOMEZ: Did we budget \$7,500 for both or was it just one? I don't recall.

BARKE: I think it was per event. If I'm -

WILLIAMS: I can't, you have to go back to the records.

BARKE: I think it was per event.

GOMEZ: Okay.

BOYD: That might've been the intent. We just had \$7,500 as a total. Whatever you all.

WILLIAMS: We'll eventually come back and approve anything that went over that. We can always bring that back to the Board for approval if we go over that.

BOYD: We can put on the agenda just to extend the dollar amount for the next one without even having the exact, or if you want to wait until we get the exact and your approving it just for the blanket dollar amount. We're going to pay the bills regardless.

SPARKS: I do anticipate since we're going to have less people power, in terms of security, that we're going to save. In the future one, we're going to save once we decide what that number is going to be. We want to be as safe as possible, but you know, be reasonable about it if we overshot last time.

BOYD: Right. If you're going to have that number of chairs and seats, then we may need the same amount of security. We're in the Boardroom with you all. Somebody has to be outside. We also have to have knowledgeable people to answer questions that they have, in terms of, how they contact the Board, you know, public comment cards, and all those different things. Those were the additional things that, you know, we didn't dialogue with the Board, but we just know our expectations.

SPARKS: Okay, good to know.

GOMEZ: I would also share my concern. I heard this from several people about the reserved seating. There was conversation amongst the Board that we would each have five seats reserved for our guests, but a good chunk of the room was full before the public was even let in. I think we need to be a little bit more cautious about that, because some of the public members said they couldn't get in. Also, I would just ask that we look at the decorum of the group. There was a lot of calling out and clapping while people were trying to speak, which means we can't hear what the comments are. I would just ask that when we ask for public comment, that we ask the audience to refrain from clapping and talking during the public comments so that we can hear. We are pretty strict about that in other places, but we're not consistent.

Same thing with the time. If we give people two minutes or three minutes, whatever it is. I know Lisa you were trying to give them time, and they kept on going.

SPARKS: I was trying to cut them off.

GOMEZ: With some of the conversation going on in the audience, I don't think the speaker could hear the time as well. I think that we need to be, you know, in fairness to all the public speakers and in fairness to the audience, we need to be a little bit more consistent in how we handle the meeting; because then, it looks as though there's other things going on. We want to be fair to everyone and listen to what people have to say. I would just ask that we do a better job next time. Lisa, just be louder when you say time.

SPARKS: It's not easy.

GOMEZ: I know. I know. Well, that's what I'm saying. They couldn't hear over some of the folks in the audience. Those would be my comments for that.

BARKE: I guess the only comment that I would make is I think that, you know, at times the audience was loud, but I think they were always very respectful. As long as they're respectful, I didn't have a problem. I know people really enjoyed it. I actually talked to the officers who thought it was a great crowd. They were very pleased, because I asked them if it was too loud. They didn't think so. I think as long as they're respectful, I was very comfortable with the audience.

GOMEZ: I also think there's been other meetings where the folks had been respectful, and we have cut them off or asked them to be quiet. I can tell you that when we were talking about CHYA a few years ago, the chair often shut down the clapping and the finger snapping. We let that go on during this meeting. I'm just saying, let's just be consistent.

BARKE: I think finger snapping though, isn't really respectful as clapping is, but that may be my perception.

GOMEZ: I'm just using that as an example as to the disruption from the audience while the speaker is trying to speak.

BARKE: Okay. Any other comments?

BOYD: Also, I appreciate the Board trying to get information to us as quickly as possible. The day of the event, there's a lot of stuff that we're coordinating. Getting names on that day or trying to, you know, then in terms of all the different reiterations, I know you're trying to do the best you could and so forth. I really appreciate that. Also, the recognition that if we're communicating with speakers and they have presentations, they can get those in. It's more, we want to make sure that the connection works. Media is trying to load it so that we don't have multiple computers coming up to the podium and that delays and interferes with your timeframes and so forth. We can get it on one computer if they have a thumb drive or if we're going to give them some other options, that we've had a chance to communicate with them in advance.

BARKE: All right. I think we learned a lot from the first one, so we'll be better for the second one.

GOMEZ: Also, she just reminded me of something. The draft agenda that we had for this, wasn't the final agenda that we had. I think on the draft agenda, we had two options to ask questions. Then on the final agenda, we only had one section to ask questions. I would just like us to make sure that we all get the agenda as to what the format is going to be. If the format is going to be the same, that's fine. I would just like to know that. I had prepared some other comments and things, and I didn't have an opportunity to contribute to that.

WILLIAMS: Okay. I think the format will be the same. I thought we approved it with just a single round.

BARKE: I thought so, too.

GOMEZ: It was still in a draft when it came to the Board.

WILLIAMS: For approval?

GOMEZ: Yes.

WILLIAMS: I'll have to look at that.

GOMEZ: Just so that we can all be well-prepared.

WILLIAMS: Yeah. I don't anticipate that there'll be really any substantive changes from the style and the methodology of how the meeting went.

GOMEZ: We'll use the same agenda format that we used for the second one?

WILLIAMS: Right, exactly.

GOMEZ: Okay. That's fine. As long as I know, that would be great.

BARKE: Okay. Announcements, Dr. Mijares isn't here. Do you have a report from him?

BOYD: I don't have a report from him, but Renee has an update on the budget.

HENDRICK: In your red folder should be, it just says revisions to the adopted budget. I just wanted to give you some items that will be included in the First Interim Budget so you have knowledge ahead of time. We talked a little bit last time about the ESSER III funds, which is the federal funding. Our allocation we're being told is \$16.8 million. That will probably, it looks like we'll come in over two to three years. We're still trying to get clarification on whether they give us an allotment up front or you have to submit your expenditures first. It's a little bit different than state dollars. We will be receiving \$2.9 million for COVID special education funding, specifically for learning recovery services for students with IEPs. That's new in the state budget; \$2.8 million increase for what they call the AB 602, which is a special education funding. That's for the whole North Orange County SELPA. We haven't had a chance to figure out how much per district, because there's five other districts in that SELPA.

We were surprised to learn that there's \$13.8 million in one-time funding for county offices to help with services for students in juvenile court and community schools that are COVID-19 related services. Remember, I think that's to try and offset the loss of ADA we have, because we didn't get the prior protection. They're trying to, it's more specifically for services and protective supplies.

WILLIAMS: That is from the state?

HENDRICK: Yes, this is part of the education trailer bill AB 130. There was also a new funding in there, \$682,000 one-time to help our students in A-G completion improvement. We have to show how we are providing more eligibility for that. Then, \$754,000, which is actually a decrease in expenditures, not revenue; but when we did the adopted budget, our percent we used was 1.23%. That was in the state budget. In the education trailer bill, the governor actually funded more of that, it dropped to 0.5%. That's a \$754,000 saving for us.

In addition to those fundings, there are still a few other pots of money that we're not exactly sure what we'll receive from that. I just wanted to let you know. One, is the educator investments, Educator Block Grant. There's 1.5 billion for the state. They have a whole bunch of different programs in that. We have to submit a plan by December 31st. You will see that plan coming forward, but they haven't told us how we would receive that money, what it's based on, how many teachers we have, students, or what that looks like. We're trying to find more data on that.

Then, the Career Technical Education Program, which we've had for many years, the state has decided to refund that program at \$300 million annually, ongoing for our regional CT programs. If you remember, we had this CTEP Grant. Then, it changed to the Workforce Investment Act Grant that went through community colleges. Now, it's shifting back to going to school districts. It does enhance that funding. We're excited by that. Then, the child nutrition, just to keep on your radar, it could mean some changes for us in staffing in that. The governor's proposal is by 2022-2023, there'll be universal school meals for every student who requests it. Currently, they have to be eligible to get free lunches, and they don't have to request it. That could make a change in how we provide our programs. That's about it on that item.

BOYD: Just a reminder that your next regular board meeting is September 1st, at 5 o'clock. Submission deadline for agenda items is August 18. That's about the same timeframe that you identified for trying to post and do things for your special board meeting. We're working on two agendas just like last time, so just as a reminder. I'll be contacting the Executive Committee with regards to review and timeframes that work for you all so that we can go over the draft agendas. That's all I have for you. There's some items in your folder, just in terms of communications, that came in last couple of days. We printed those for you instead of sending you bulk emails.

BARKE: Okay. Thank you. Okay. Next, we are on the legislative updates. Were we going to get some information on the benefits of and cost of these organizations? Didn't we, is that for today?

BOYD: That's when we get to those agenda items. This is just your updates.

WILLIAMS: That is number 20.

BARKE: Is that? Okay. Oh, sorry. Okay. This is just the updates. Beckie, do you have anything to add to updates?

GOMEZ: I have nothing. No updates. I probably will next month, but not now.

BARKE: Okay. We have board member comments.

SHAW: I hesitate somewhat to say this. I feel like if you're in the business of correcting the media, you're going to be busy. Excuse me, I just have been a little frustrated. I'm going to pick on someone here. My apologies to the Voice of OC. They put something up today that I was looking at. They're not alone. I apologize to them for singling them out, but this is their post online. I will quote it. They were talking about us. "Last year, they made national headlines when they recommended schools reopen without any pandemic safety measures." I was thinking to myself, I remember that meeting, and that's not how I remember it going down. I pulled up the document they're talking about. We had adopted a white paper last year, talking about the coming school year and the pandemic.

The guidelines as I pulled it up, it's posted on our website by the way. I will read from this verbatim, "temperature checks should be performed regularly as with any active disease or illness, children, teachers or staff suspected of having an illness should be sent home. As always, good hygiene with frequent hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer is encouraged. Classroom, meeting rooms, transportation vehicles, and administrative offices should be thoroughly cleaned each night. Ongoing surveillance and coordination with county public health is encouraged. At-risk children with underlying medical conditions and individual IEPs are in a different cohort or at-risk status. Thus, the guidelines provided should not apply, and all mitigating efforts should be used." We made a special point about those that are at risk. Anyway, if you were to actually read the white paper that we adopted, there's a whole series of precautions that this board recommended. For anyone in the media to say that we had recommended schools reopen without any pandemic safety measures is factually incorrect. That is just flat false. I realize the media, that they're human beings, too. They make mistakes. I will forgive them and move on. For anyone who is interested in being actually accurate in their reporting, you would not ever say the words that we recommended reopening without any safety measures. That was my effort at trying to correct the record for my colleagues up here.

WILLIAMS: If I can add to that? I'm the one who primarily created a lot of this after I did a very thorough medical research on it. Appendix B was CDC guidelines that was mentioned that we observed and recognized. As well as Appendix C, which was guidelines referred by the American Academy of Pediatrics. In 2020, I never debated anyone on the merits of that paper by

the way. I still would like to at any point, debate them on that, but everything was based upon the medical literature. The science of 2020, that that paper was based upon is now accepted science understanding in 2021. We were pretty looking forward. I think we're now in a chronic phase. We're in an endemic phase. We've reached almost herd immunity.

We've reached herd immunity for that at-risk age group from 60 or older. We still need, and I'm a personal advocate, and I know not everyone agrees with me, but I got the vaccine. I still think it works. I had a good patient of mine who should have gotten it. He wishes he would have. He did get COVID a couple of weeks ago. He was hospitalized. Thank God, he did survive. Everything in that white paper is very true today. It's all based upon pub med research that I did. That's my comments and contributions.

BARKE: Do you have any comments, Dr. Sparks?

SPARKS: I'll just – no.

BARKE: All right, well I will continue on with the making school safer, but I'll take it in a positive going forward note. I just want to report out on, I met with a company who had reached out to me called Act on It. They have this lighting technology that deactivates COVID, but not just COVID. When COVID has moved on, you know, regular colds, germs, things that might accumulate in a classroom, you know, on a school bus. I'm very proud to announce that, I made an introduction to Collin. Principal Dr. Collin Felch at Vista. He actually has put these amazing little lights into school buses. I think it's just something to be said. We're really, what is the word for it? We're kind of on the leading edge of school health here in Orange County. Vista happens to be having a grand opening this weekend, because they opened a new building. It's at 9 o'clock on Saturday. Those buses will be on display with this new lighting. I'm very proud to announce that. I'm excited to be there for it. I just want to give kudos to Collin for doing that. I hope that we'll see more of that. I know a lot of schools and districts have CARES money, and it's just a great use to provide future health of our young ones. On that note, that's a report on Vista. The one other school that I have visited recently is Irvine International Academy. I was very honored to be at their ribbon cutting last Friday, I believe it was. What a great day. They had lots of celebrations. Mayor Farrah Khan from Irvine was there and made some comments. You had Supervisor Don Wagner was there, a lot of local officials. I got to say a few comments on behalf of the Board. It was a great day for them and look forward to them having a great future in Irvine. That's my report.

SPARKS: I'll just add one little bit to the lighting in the buses. I think it's pretty fascinating. What happens is the buses, this lighting is installed in the top of the buses or it could be installed in the top of this room or wherever. Overnight, they sort of charge it and keep them on. The technology is such that it gets rid of all the germs. I'm kind of a germaphobe. I really like this technology. Then, in the morning when they're ready to take the bus, all the germs are gone. No matter if it's COVID, flu, whatever, viruses and bacteria are hanging around.

BARKE: It's the first implementation in a K-12 setting. It's at Cal State Los Angeles. It's at Duke University. It is in other educational settings, but this is the first time that we're seeing it in K-12. It's kind of exciting.

WILLIAMS: Mr. Johnson is here. Do you want to go back to that part of our meeting?

BARKE: Yes. I think that's the end of our board member comments, so we can close this piece out. We're good? Okay. Yes, we will go ahead and go back. Welcome, Mr. Johnson, we have been looking forward to your presentation.

JOHNSON: Good evening. There we go. My apologies for running late. LA rush hour is always an adventure in the greater LA area here. Thank you for your patience and understanding. I just want to introduce myself. I'm Doug Johnson. I'm president of National Demographics Corporation. Looking forward to working with all of you and with the public here on your redistricting project. Just as a bit of background, we have actually been in the redistricting business since 1979. We have done almost 400 projects for local governments in that time period. Our work really picked up, actually about the time I came back when they needed more help, in 2001 with the passage of the California Voting Rights Act and the real start of California, we call it a tsunami sweeping the state. Since 2001, we have worked with 368 cities, counties, school districts, and every kind of fire and other special district you've ever heard of.

We have drawn district lines for airport districts, fire protection districts, everything. You name it. We've been there. We've worked with jurisdictions all over the state. We worked with Imperial Beach. We are currently working with Nevada County and everyone in between on current redistricting and districting projects. We're happy to say that, of those 368 that have finished and that's not counting our current projects, not one of them has been overturned by a court or a judge. We are always very conservative in our approach to legal rules. We have a very strong approach, which is number one, openness and transparency. Number two, we are here to assist you and the community with this process. We're not here to tell you what the line should be. We're not the experts on the neighborhoods and how these areas should be drawn. You and the people who live in them are.

Our goal is to guide you and to provide you the tools and the data and ideas. Then, leave the ultimate decisions up to you. That is always our philosophy, whether it's, you know, Centralia Elementary or San Diego County. We take the same approach and same philosophy to all our projects. For those interested, our current big project is, we've been brought back for the second time, by the state of Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission, which was the country's first ever state Independent Redistricting Commission. They are actually the only state in the country that actually has a competitiveness clause in their constitution. It's a rather unique institution. We're very proud to say that they have brought us back to assist them again.

Happy to talk about the process here. It's similar to all the local jurisdictions. Right now, we are currently working with Anaheim, Orange, Westminster, Brea and then a whole bunch of school

districts as well right here in the area. I know I'm forgetting a whole bunch in that list. Oh, Costa Mesa, but they're all in somewhat the same situation. We're all waiting for data. As everyone's aware, the census data is late because of the COVID that you were just talking about and the impact on the collections of the data. It's a little bit weird in that we're going to get the federal census data August 16th. The Census has promised two different federal judges that they will release it on August 16th. We're very confident that they will release it on August 16th.

The catch is that California is doing something new that other states have done before, which is we're adjusting the census data to count prisoners at their last known home address. The state is going to take that federal data, zero out the prison populations, and move all those folks to their home addresses and count them at their home address. It's still the census count. It's just moving known individuals. That is going to take four to six weeks. From August 16, we're looking at mid to late September to have what will be the official redistricting data. We did get a little bit of clarification. There was a question in the Ed. Code about whether school institutions would use that data or the federal data, but we did just get that clarification from the state a week ago I guess. A week or 10 days ago, saying yes, the schools will all use that same data that the cities and counties are using.

So happy to, you know, get any input that you have at any point in the process. The process will really kick off in detail when that official redistricting data comes out from the state in mid to late September. Then, it's a bit of a sprint for jurisdictions such as the Board that have June elections. We have a December 15th deadline to finish. Hopefully, people will be engaged in following this process. As I always say, we are always open and transparent. Our data is, anyone who wants the data and wants to participate, we're happy to share with them. They can submit their maps as well. We'll all have to sprint together to the finish line on this project. Very excited to be working with you. Looking forward to working with all of you. Happy to answer any questions you have, but that is a quick intro to our firm and this process.

BARKE: You are the lead.

SHAW: Thank you. For those in the public who would want to submit a version of a map, can you explain how that would be done?

JOHNSON: Sure. Once the data's out, if they have their own mapping software, which more and more groups do, we can provide the data so that they're using the same data we're using and we're all on the same page. They can just use it in their system. We also have some tools that we'll be making available, once the data's out, that people can go online and draw either their neighborhood if they want to draw their neighborhood or a whole map if they wish.

SHAW: I think that since I was asked by the Board to kind of lead this. It's very clear to me, you know, if we get the data in mid-September, we have to be done by mid-December. The moment that data is out, we're going to be stepping on the gas here. We are not going to have a lot of time to take public input, to have different, you know, maps out there and finalize one that, you know,

hopefully, we have a broad consensus on. It will be a sprint. I think that's fair to say once this is ready to roll here. Can you talk at all also about the, have we made a plan as far as board meetings and other things that we're going to have as we contemplate that? Didn't we sketch out kind of a calendar or special meetings or how is that normally handled? Is this part of our monthly meeting?

JOHNSON: Yes. School districts have a lot of flexibility. If folks are following the county and the city process, there's a state law that is called the Fair Maps Act. It's very rigorous with how many hearings must be held, the rules for those hearings. The catch is that that law only applies to cities and counties. The original draft actually applied to school entities as well, but the Legislature took them out. Largely, because of the cost of all those hearings. The Legislature clearly and actively removed schools and all school related entities from that bill. You largely have a lot of board discretion in how you want to handle it. Obviously, this will all be done in public, all be done in open meetings with the Board selecting a map, you know, considering options, considering the public input and choosing a map. That will all happen in open board sessions. But the specific dates, it's possible I've forgotten them. I don't think we've set them yet though. We are managing about 100 projects right now. Off the top of my head, I'm not that quick with individual details.

WILLIAMS: I was going to say. I'm just looking at the calendar ahead. Basically, the data will be September 30, let's just say August, excuse me, October 1st. Our board meeting is the sixth. We're going to absolutely do nothing for that first board meeting.

JOHNSON: Right. We wouldn't be able to do anything.

WILLIAMS: Our next board meeting is November 3rd. Is that when you anticipate a public hearing? By the way, how many public hearings do we have to have?

JOHNSON: Well, one of the weird quirks of the Ed. Code is that I don't believe you have to have any. Either schools or special districts don't have to have any, and the other one has to have one. Obviously, we want to have one as a minimum either way. So, yes, I think that would, given the timing and given the challenge, yes, that would be the date at which we'd want to have draft maps available and have the Board consider, you know, the drafts that we put into the mix. Also, any maps that the residents have submitted.

WILLIAMS: I'm just saying these questions out loud for the staff, because the staff is who are planning the agenda for the rest of the year. In the October 6 meeting, we are probably going to be doing nothing.

JOHNSON: Right. We wouldn't have time to process the data.

WILLIAMS: It's only six days. Then, November 3rd, we should plan on having a public hearing, because the next meeting that we have is December 1st.

JOHNSON: Right.

WILLIAMS: Where we have to adopt it, because the data is due in what day in December?

JOHNSON: The map has to be adopted and over to the Registrar on December 15.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Our regular meeting on December 1st is going to be the only, unless we do a special meeting.

JOHNSON: Let's do a special, right.

GOMEZ: We may have to.

WILLIAMS: We may need to.

SPARKS: Or we could even bump that one.

WILLIAMS: Yeah.

JOHNSON: We can certainly work with you on figuring out exactly the dates, but yes, special meetings are possible for you.

WILLIAMS: When the data comes out at the end of September/first of October, is it a lot of data? How do we analyze it? I suppose that's your expertise.

JOHNSON: That is, yeah. Kind of the process and the tools are where we're the real experts, yes. It's an enormous database. We pull that all in. We actually add on a bunch of socioeconomic data from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey that's not built in the original data. We'll have all that data. We'll generate it for each of your existing Trustee Areas. That'll show us which ones are overpopulated, under-populated, and the demographics of each of the current Trustee Areas. Then, that'll give folks a good sense of, number one, the areas that have to change because they're out of population balance. Then, also the ability to use that data to draw alternative maps. In addition to the changes that have to be made, there may be communities that want to see a change in how the lines are currently drawn.

SHAW: Can you remind me? When you say, is it equally populated just by human beings? Can you have a map that's equally, have the same number of voters? I mean, what makes our districts equal? Is it just human beings living in them or registered voters or do we have a choice?

JOHNSON: No. It's set by the Federal Government and by the State Government, not by Federal Government, by the Supreme Court. The U.S. Supreme court and by the state, that it is equal population as counted by the census data. It is total people. A lot of people get confused, because the ruling that put that in place is often referred to as one person, one vote. They think it's an equal number of voters. It's actually each vote in the elected body represents the same number of people. Children, citizens, non-citizens, whomever, it's just an equal number of people counted by the census as of on census day.

I haven't looked at the numbers lately. Back in the '90s, when I first checked it. There were huge differences. You may remember John Campbell, the congressman from Orange County. He used to get elected with, he used to take about 230,000 votes to win his seat. Then, there was a seat actually, where I lived, in Pico Union in L.A. that took about 30 to 30,000 votes to win that seat. That was just the difference in, the populations were essentially the same, it's just a difference in the number of eligible voters in each seat. We'll be chatting quite a bit as this process goes forward obviously. We'll be sharing information. Even before those meetings, like before the October 6 meeting, we will get you, we won't be here in person, but we'll get you an update saying we have the data. If we've been able to process the current lines, we'll get that data to you as part of that so that that can be shared with the residents even though we won't have any drafts. We certainly want to have a draft to look at.

SHAW: Give them the current map.

JOHNSON: Exactly. For those interested, you know, as I mentioned, everyone's going through this. Hopefully, the residents who are interested in the process will get involved here, get involved in the county board of sups. As I mentioned, all of their local cities and school boards are going through this, and of course, the state is also going through this as well with our own. California followed Arizona's footsteps and formed our own Citizens Redistricting Commission. They are currently working on the assembly, state, senate, and congressional lines. Hopefully, people will tune into all of them and get involved. Any questions?

SHAW: Thank you for being here.

JOHNSON: Nice to meet you all in person. Again, thank you for your patience. Sorry to be late.

BARKE, SPARKS: Thank you.

BARKE: Next, I'd like to take presidential privilege here, go out of order, and bring up Explore Academy next since they are here. They're probably not that interested in the rest of the things we have to do tonight.

BOYD: Aracely, will come up first and introduce you all.

BARKE: Yes.

CHASTAIN: Good evening President Barke and Trustees. Today, the Board will hold a hearing to consider public input regarding the Explorer Academy countywide charter petition submitted on June 21st. Prior to public comments, representatives from Explore Academy are allotted 15 minutes to address the Board. I now call representatives from Explore Academy to the podium.

ROMERO: Good evening. Thank you so very much for taking this out of order. I love order, but I love when you go out of order at this time. I am former Senator Gloria Romero. It's such an honor to be with you this evening. I'm really excited to introduce to you a really a new team. A new vision of looking at education in the submission of this petition that we have before you. During this past year, I've spent a lot of time looking nationally at some very exciting models that I thought would be really fascinating to bring to California and adapt here in Orange County. In conversation with Robert Giordano, who you're going to meet shortly, I learned about the explore model. It's an exciting model. Together, we worked with the dreamers from Explore Academy to make an adaptation that would be suitable for Orange County.

They will talk more about it, but what I'd like to just say initially is that at Explorer Academy, the way we envision it, our students can take courses across all campuses. This really enhances parent and student choice. I believe education, of course, should always start with the focus on the student. It puts students in the driver's seat on choice. This also brings about what we call cross pollination of classes, teachers, schools, parents. This is really unique, and it enables students to basically benefit from the diversity and for us to really reach and make countywide status real. Also, teachers will be empowered to teach specialized courses at each site. We have an experienced and ethical board of directors, a back-office provider that we want to introduce to you. I did submit to Nina Boyd a packet of letters from local elected officials and parents in strong support of this vision of Explore. I'll step aside now and introduce you to my co-founder, Robert Giordano.

GIORDANO: Thank you very much. Good evening, Madam President, Dr. Vice President Williams, honorable member Gomez. Thank you very much, members Shaw and of course, Dr. Sparks, thank you very much. Real, real briefly, I have been involved in the charter school movement almost since inception - helping school founders start schools, authorizers with policy work, associations with policy work. Helped schools turn around failing schools and assisted authorizers with evaluations of charter applications like ours. I've been involved heavily in school finance as well, so decades of experience working with charter schools. Also, [inaudible] I served about 35 years in the military at senior levels in our armed forces. Just as a quick side

note, neither former Senator Romero or myself will be taking any funds at all from the school itself. We're acting as founders to get this started and to help bring in Explore Academy.

Very quickly, the mission, the vision - Senator Romero made mention to this, but we're really focused on school choice. Looks like this is, okay. We're heavily focused on school choice and options for students and for parents. Explore folks are going to talk a bit more about that. Thank you very much. I'll be followed by Cecilia. Would you make your comments, please?

CECILIA: Yes.

GIORDANO: Thank you.

VARELA: Good evening Board. Thank you. Madam President Barke, Board members, thank you for giving us an opportunity. I just wanted to speak briefly on, you know, our founding members and who we are. As you can see, we have, myself, Mike Tardiff is a businessman. Right now, I want to acknowledge our chairman who's on Zoom. He's watching us, John Phan and also Chairman Mendoza. What we are here in Orange County, we are a group of committed, respected, talented, and diverse board of directors with expertise in education, finance management, governance, and oversight. We are a California nonprofit, which was established in 2021. We have, as you know, retained YMC as our legal firm for guidance. We also have retained Explore Learning Systems for educational, operational expertise. We have, all of us, the board members have undergone Brown Act training for all members, and you know how important that is. We are a complete independent board of directors who will ensure governance policies and oversight of this school. As you know, myself, I've always been about transparency and accountability. As a team, we are going to be dedicated to transparency with the public. I just want to thank you for this opportunity to present to you all.

BAIARDO: Good evening, members of the Board. Thank you for allowing us the chance to speak tonight. In regards to our academic model, it's something both myself and my colleague, Ms. Varela are both passionate about. My name is Justin Baiardo. I'm the founder of the Explore Learning Model. Came here today from Albuquerque, New Mexico, where we founded the original Explorer Academy campus now eight years ago. It has since started to expand based on the intrigue of the model from partners around different states. We were approached by the founders and the board with our model in mind to bring this opportunity to students across Orange County. We're very excited to present to you today. The basic tenant of the Explore Learning Model is that students should have choice. We've heard choice mentioned in abundance tonight over various issues. Our choice is revolving around academic choices that students make.

We feel like more and more students and teachers are being told how to teach, what to teach, and when to teach their material. The Explore Learning Model goes in the exact opposite direction from that. It is based on choice theory, which is an area of study in psychology, which asserts that when a human has choice in whatever they do, they are happier, more successful and more invested in that approach. Just simply given the choice that they're provided. As it adopts itself to

education, we want to provide students choices in how they learn. All students cover the exact same standards as every other student, but the difference is how do their students learn? The basic philosophy, our model is to provide what we call flavors for students. These are different thematic courses that students can choose from to cover the same standards.

In the end, any student who graduates will have mastered all of the standards required of them by the state, but the difference is how. What choices did they make? What flavors did they choose along the way? What combination of choices did they make to really build something that is unique? Our motto is: one student, infinite possibilities. When you look at the number of choices that students have, when the program does fully expand to a K-12 offering, the different combinations of choices becomes truly mathematically infinite. We can guarantee that no two students will ever share the same academic experience based on the choices that they make in the different themes they choose along the way. We feel like, by providing that, students then, become more empowered and more invested in their learning, but also enjoy what they're doing.

Coupled to that is the teachers. The teachers create these themes based on - how are they interested? What are they interested in? They got into teaching. They got into teaching science or English or social studies, because they were interested in that subject. How can they engage the students by teaching in ways that interests them, and through their passions, and connect in that way that's more meaningful? Rather than, assigning a student to a random math class or a random English class, these students choose the flavor of math or the flavor of English to connect with other students who share those same interests, but also connect with teachers that teach through that same passion.

We are a college prep model. Our focus is preparation for post-secondary education. That's done through building capacity for students to make conscious choices about their education and driving themselves in terms of both accountability, but also steering their education and direction that place of their own interests. We are a college-esk model, but adapted for younger students. From even down to grade K through grade 12. It is a very college like experience, but adapted to students based on their capacity and their developmental level.

We are strongly supported by really trying to keep our classes small. We are looking at kind of a seminar-based model of learning. Very focused on fewer topics to go into more in depth in those topics. Like I said, through those different flavors and those themes that teachers offer. With that, we are also mastery-based. We do want the students to master every standard set forth before them. In doing so, we know that expectation is a high bar for some students, but with that comes a tremendous amount of support. We are tackling fewer standards at a time. Our classes run only 22 days or even 44 days in length, depending on the age. In tackling fewer academic objectives, we feel like students can go deeper in those areas. The learning is more thorough and will keep with the student moving forward.

The success of our model, I think, it relies on the fact that we are so standard driven. We are very growth mindset driven. We want the students to be able to fail, but also fail forward and know that if they do, within that 22-day term, if they struggle, if it's a topic that they have to repeat or

do again, maybe they do it with a different teacher, different flavor, different approach. It makes all the difference in their learning. By revisiting those standards, that subset of standards, they are more successful, you know, maybe the second or third time around, but they will have mastered it at some point. Moving on, they will not have those gaps or those holes in their education as they proceed through higher areas of study. The success of our learning model is based on the fact that no student can move on until they have that comprehensive foundation of study under their belt. We are not driven by teaching to the test, but we are aligning to the standards so strongly that our students are successful and they grow tremendously. We have exhibited the highest rates of growth in the state of New Mexico within our model. Our students grow more from year to year in math and English than any other school in the state. We feel like it's based on how we teach, but also that we hold them to those high standards.

The model itself, we support through what we call the Explore Learning Systems. That is the group that we have developed from the origination of our campuses that we founded over the years to help provide a system of support to train teachers, to support teachers, to allow teachers to do what they got into the job to do. That's to teach through their passions and their interests. We provide services to schools. We know that charter leaders wear multiple hats, more so than any principal of any high school, middle school, elementary school. What we don't want to do is burn out our administrators and our teachers. We function as our group is to provide them as much service as we can to let them do their job, and let them meet with parents, meet with students, be in classrooms every day. Take some of that district level support off their plates to ensure their operational efficiency is at its peak. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you.

RULEY: Good evening, board members. My name is Janelle Ruley. I'm one of the attorneys with the law offices of Young, Minney and Corr. Great to see you again. I'm glad to be here this evening in support of the petitioners for this really innovative project. I wanted to be sure to address the unique requirements around countywide benefit charters, because they're different from most of what you see, which is an appeal from a denial at a school district. For a countywide benefit, the petitioners have to provide a justification. Then, the Board has to make a finding that - two things, number one, the educational services to be provided will offer services to a student population that will benefit from those services. Not the most artfully written, but essentially, we have to offer some services students will benefit from those services. The second requirement is that students cannot be served as well by a charter school that operates in just one school district within the county.

On the first finding, I find this to be fairly rudimentary, fairly kind of base level. What are the services that the school is going to offer? To what student population are they going to offer them? Are the students going to benefit? Explore has gone into great detail in its charter to explain this, both the population that it will serve, and then, also the services that it's going to offer. Then, as to number two about the charter school, the students not being served as well by a charter school in just one district. The petitioners have explained some of the operational necessities regarding operating multiple sites in the county. As well as the administrative

efficiencies that come from that, which mean, of course, that more of the resources can be directed towards students directly.

It's possible you might've seen a letter that claims that Explore didn't actually meet these requirements. Of course, this will all be settled, I think, in the October meeting when we have a decision. We believe that that particular interpretation was not aligned to the law. The letter, I think, overstates the threshold showing around, students benefiting from the services. I think ultimately, you know, do students benefit from the services? It's about the same inquiry as educational soundness, which is of course the first thing we're looking at in all charter petitions is, do they offer an educationally sound program? The letter also states that the notice was deficient because it wasn't definitive about which school districts the school might locate in, but the law only requires a listing of which districts we are proposing to locate into.

BOYD: One minute.

RULEY: I will wrap it up. We're confident that Explore has met this requirement. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you.

GRAYWALL: Sorry, going to have to rush through this. My name is Cotam Graywall. I am a parent in Orange County, north Orange County. My children have attended Troy High School. I am here to demonstrate the support for Explore Academy. As a parent, I have spoken to numerous families all throughout Orange County about the need for alternatives and options. We have provided Ms. Boyd with those letters. Hope you have an opportunity to look. At the same token, I'd like to share that I'm also a special education attorney. I was a previous prosecutor in Southern California and special ed. attorney here in Orange County.

I represent a slew of students, both in public school districts and in charter school. I have been very involved with Senator Romero in opening their previous charter school here in Orange County. It's been extremely successful. I want to attest to Senator Romero's understanding and advocacy of the Brown Act, the Federal Disability Rights Act. I think these are very important components to have a grasp on.

BOYD: Your time is up.

GRAYWALL: If you're going to open a charter school. With that, I know the Board has tremendous information in front of them. I want to thank the Board, as a parent in Orange County, for an opportunity to have alternatives available for our children, especially in light of the pandemic. [Inaudible]. Thank you so much. Have a wonderful week.

BARKE: Thank you very much for a great presentation.

CHASTAIN: The hearing is now open for 30 minutes of public comment. Associate Superintendent Boyd, are there any public comments for this agenda item?

BOYD: There's only one, Mary Grace. There will be a three-minute timer for this.

GRACE: Excuse me. Thank you. Good evening Board and nice presentation. I'm from the Anaheim Elementary School District. I'm the assistant superintendent of Ed. Services. I'm here on behalf of Dr. Downing, our superintendent and our school board. First of all, I'd like to acknowledge, retired Senator Romero and Ms. Iglesias. We've had a longstanding collaborative relationship and have made it through two openings of charter schools in our district and worked collaboratively on several endeavors. I'm here today to ask you to really look into the countywide proposal, and whether or not they do meet those requirements within the law. In looking at the petition that was submitted and the background information about the other schools in New Mexico in particular, their proposal is very similar to Vibrant Minds Charter School, which operates in the Anaheim Elementary School District.

It's a strength-based program, very similar for elementary students. One of the thresholds, if you will, about a charter school being authorized is that it is not offered in any other educational setting. One of the other areas to consider is, they haven't identified facilities or the cities in which they plan to operate. Within the petition, they do have, I believe it's 10 school districts listed as potential areas where they will operate. Then, in looking at their budget, again, it's Orange County, the cost of facilities, the cost of operating, we didn't feel it was well-represented within the budget knowing the conditions within Orange County. One of the other concerns that we have is, in addition to Explore Academy, on your Agenda tonight, when it was removed, a well-established charter school in Orange County - Scholarship Prep is submitting a material revision to operate in almost the same 10 districts a charter school. We requested from the county their materials. We want to make sure that we're not over saturating a market.

The two charter schools that do operate within the Anaheim Elementary School District, they are very successful. They are providing programs that are serving families in a capacity that we were not able to. We're very excited that there are opportunities for our families to have educational choices within the Anaheim Elementary School District. I see my time's running out, so I will wrap up. I just look at the recommendations from the staff, but look forward to continued collaboration with the retired Senator Romero and her group. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you.

CHASTAIN: Thank you to all the speakers. This concludes the public hearing. The Orange County Board of Education Staff Report will be published by September 21st. The Board will take action at the October 6 board meeting. Representatives from Explore Academy are available in person and via video conference to answer questions. President Barke, I now close the public hearing and turn the meeting back over to you.

BARKE: Thank you, Aracely. I will start to my left.

SPARKS: I guess, I'd like to call up Senator Romero and whoever of the group want to come up. I'd like to hear your response to this idea of oversaturation in terms of a charter school and learning. I've never heard of that before. I think the whole purpose of charter schools is to provide more choices, so I'd just like to hear your response to that comment.

RULEY: I think I'll jump in first. Yeah, I mean, there's nothing in the law that says that a charter school has to be new and different. I think probably at the beginning, that that was the expectation, but the law doesn't say that particularly. In terms of saturation, again, there's nothing in the law. Ultimately, families vote with their feet, right. Charter schools provide one opportunity. I'm not personally familiar with the other proposal, so I don't know. I haven't done any market studies, so I think that's as much as I can say on that.

BARKE: Thank you.

SPARKS: Thank you.

ROMERO: Thank you for the question. I think too, it's ultimately, we vote with our feet. I think if anything, what we've seen from this pandemic is that parents are looking for more options, more choices. I mean, from online, Zoom, homeschooling, so I think if anything, we have seen more of the demand for parents to just say, give us more options. That's what this school, if you were to approve it on a countywide basis, would provide just an additional, high quality choice option.

SPARKS: Thank you.

VARELA: Hi, I didn't speak before. Alicia Varela, Trustees, Madam President. I can speak just a little bit more. Programmatically speaking, Vibrant Minds is a great school. It's one of the schools that we looked at when we were looking out and making sure that we weren't, even though our model is extremely unique, we also wanted to do our due diligence when the founders approached us and make sure that there wasn't something very similar already in Orange County, because that would be silly. Having a TK-12, where there is no drop off at a specific grade level where the kids then have to look for a new school is something that's really important to us. Vibrant Minds is a TK-6 school. Programmatically speaking, there might be similarities as far as elementary is go, but the model itself is pretty vastly different. I think our model definitely offers something extremely unique in the integration of student choice that is layered with really rigorous standard based, you must understand the standards before you can move on, and here's a million support systems to make sure that that happens. Just programmatically speaking, I think that the comparison there probably isn't as directly linked as it was portrayed.

BARKE: Thank you.

SPARKS: Thank you. I know I've done a lot of that at the university level. You know, meeting the kids where they are. Lifting them up in a variety of different ways. I like the way you described the different flavors of ice cream. That's really, I mean, that's a brilliant, easy way for us all to understand. Thank you all for your hard work. That's all I have.

WILLIAMS: Lieutenant Carl, if you can come up here? I want to quickly talk to you about a few things.

CARL: Yes, sir.

WILLIAMS: Charter schools exist with a unique purpose. They fill a unique role, but I think the success of a charter school is dependent upon the leadership. I know you don't like to brag because you're a very humble man, but will you tell them about who you are? If you don't, I will.

CARL: Yeah. I don't like to talk too much about it, but I served just under 35 years. I started as a private. I enlisted during high school. I was a very at-risk student, family was fairly poor. Anyway, the military was an opportunity to grow. I enlisted, went to college, and was commissioned through an ROTC program at a university. Then, served at company grades, lieutenants, and captains and company command. I was fortunate enough to have several commands and a battalion command. I was a military police commander. I responded in the hours and days after 9/11. I was a task force commander at Ground Zero in the days and months and weeks following that disaster. Then, was deployed to Iraq on the height of the insurgency in '04 and '05. I came back, commanded some units, did division level operations. I headed anti-terrorism for New York state's military forces. I think all that and \$4.50 cents will get me a drink at Starbucks. Anyway, there you go. Really the services in mind, it's my families and friends and supporters. Thank you, sir for asking.

WILLIAMS: Your leadership and service to this country is deeply appreciated. The other individual who -

AUDIENCE: [Applause].

WILLIAMS: Yes. The other individual for this charter school who I want personally thank is Senator Gloria Romero. She has been a real leader for educational choice for the last couple of decades. She has been someone who's been an inspiration. I want to thank you for your leadership, for what you have done to Orange County to break open charter schools and to expand parental choice. On behalf of those who care about education and care about children, I want to thank you for what you're doing. You've been through a lot, and you have my deepest respect.

BARKE: Trustee Shaw.

SHAW: Oh, well, Ken, you took the words right out of my mouth. I was going to mention, you know, when I got sworn in last year, you saw my old boss and mentor, Senator Huff doing the swearing in. For years, Senator Huff was the ranking member on the Senate Judiciary or Senate Education Committee with Senator Romero as the chair. They coauthored a whole bunch of education bills and really a model of bipartisanship. I'm not always super impressed with what I see in Sacramento, but Senator Romero, you really stood out to me as a great leader, someone who could get things done, and work in a great bi-partisan manner. I echo what Ken said, you've done great for us. Can you speak at all about your facility? That was mentioned as a possible challenge for you. How you coming on that?

GIORDANO: That's a fair point. We know that facilities costs keep on going up, especially after the pandemic. Facility costs are going up. That's a real challenge, not only here in California, but nationally. On the other hand, there are available facilities. We've visited five of them just in the last couple of days that are affordable. Now, we still have to negotiate all those and get the best prices on them, but the pandemic has actually made some opportunities available for facilities that can be turned, with tenant improvements, into appropriate and high-quality school facilities. It's not, you know, there's still a lot of work to be done, but we have several options across the board that we're starting to negotiate. The prices are going up. They certainly are, but I think it's also providing some opportunities there. I hope that answers your question.

SHAW: If I heard you right, you don't have a facility in mind, but you think there are options for you to work with?

GIORDANO: Yes, sir.

SHAW: Okay, great. I guess that's it for me.

GOMEZ: I was also going to ask about the facilities, so thank you for that response. I haven't finished reading the petition. I'd like to hear about the subject flavor. I don't know what kind of flavor of math would interest me, but you know, I'm sure there's something out there. That kind of intrigues me, so I'll be looking at that. Thank you. That's all I have.

BARKE: Well, I don't have much to add. I think my questions have been answered, and I just know you have an incredible team. I won't reiterate what Trustee Shaw said, but Senator Romero has an impeccable reputation and has been fighting for children for years. Mr. Giordano is new to me, but from what I understand and what I hear, I'm very, very impressed. I think it's an incredible team. I love who you've teamed up with, with Janelle, with Ceci, and with everybody else. I can't remember your name right this minute, but you're all very impressive. As always, nice to see Miles here to speak on your behalf. That always says a lot, that he comes down and does that, so we appreciate that as well. I appreciate everybody's time tonight and look forward

to having you back in October. We'll come up with a few more questions by then, I'm sure, but great job and looking forward to it. Now, I'd like to continue out of order and bring ISSAC up next.

CHASTAIN: The Board requested representatives from International School for Science and Culture or ISSAC return today to provide an update regarding concerns addressed at the June 2nd, June 16th, and July 7th meetings. Present today are ISSAC Principal, Dr. Kimberly Saguilan; Board member, Dr. Sally Chou; counsel from Young, Minney and Corr., Janelle Ruley and Arturo Garcia representing the back-office provider ICON.

BARKE: Sorry, Gary Davis. I should have acknowledged you as well. We appreciate your presence, too.

SAGUILAN: Good evening. Actually, Dr. Sally Chou is going to be with us via Zoom. She wasn't actually feeling good. She had a little bit of fever, but she wanted to attend. She should be in the waiting room.

BOYD: She's not in the waiting room.

SAGUILAN: She's not? Okay. Let me just text her real quick.

BARKE: Okay.

GOMEZ: Can we maybe take a five-minute break then, while that's happening?

BARKE: Sure.

GOMEZ: I need a stretch break.

BARKE: Five minutes.

SAGUILAN: Thank you.

[The Board takes a five-minute recess.]

BARKE: Okay. We're back.

SAGUILAN: Yay. Thank you for that break. It was a nice stretch break. Sally, is there, Dr. Sally Chou. First of all, I want to say thank you. We appreciate your time and the opportunity to share on our updates. From the last meeting, my name again is Dr. Saguilan, so you think saggy pants and a lawn of grass and you put that together. That's the educator in me, so saggy lawn. I have worked K-12 with charter schools in Los Angeles, Compton, Santa Ana was my last school district that I was in. It's an honor to be working with kids again.

I think I am echoing. [Audio echoes previous statement]. Sally, can you mute yourself? Awesome. There we go. Thanks, Sally. I've been around charter schools. Right now, I'm jumping in running, actually, maybe sprinting. We just said, in heels. That's always a good thing. We're working - I have to thank our Aracely. I have to thank Teresa. I have to thank Ana. They've been really great with helping me come on board quickly, understanding all of the issues at hand and having a lot of clarity. A lot of collaboration thus far and communication. Really, my vision of really elevating student learning, we understand there has been an extreme loss because of COVID. But this time, we're going to be running to get them onboard and elevated.

We're going to provide a great teacher support. We're going to use every moment as a teachable moment. We're going to be operating effectively and as efficiently as possible. It's in the slides if you want to take a look there. We're going to be building great relationships as a community partner. We're here to work together. We're here to get the community to really shine, because we have some great students. If you'd like to go ahead and turn the page right here. I'm going to be on the budget update. Currently, and this is kind of the updates continued from the last meeting, we are holding our material revision. That kind of puts us at - what does that mean? All right, so for the 2020-21 school year Charter Impact, which was our previous back office, gave us our end of the year actuals that actually show \$175K operating income with a net fund balance of \$83K.

In our upcoming school year, our 21-22 budget updates are ongoing. We're using current enrollment right now. ISSAC is projected positive operating income at \$338K in the 21-22 school year. Therefore, we will be submitting an updated budget at our first interim so that's great. Great news. For the next part, our facility update right now, we are going to be focusing 100% on our Prop 39 facility. We're really excited to get in there. We have eight classrooms that will hold a maximum of 27 students each. We will be sharing the MPR room, lunch space, play areas, and have a parking for our teachers and staff. Our current enrollment is at 100 or two, sorry, 202 with our max capacity being at 216 for the school year.

The CUP update, our timeline has been extended as the material revision has been postponed to 2022. Then, we have hired a consultant for permitting and development entitlements. Thus, we're really searching out to make sure we have expert support in this area to make sure that everything is done well.

Lastly, even though we still believe it was in our rights, our refunds are being actually distributed and have been distributed for the 2019 and 2020 school year. In order to appease OCDE staff, we have decided to refund in good faith. Out of the 27 families that participated, 16 we're paying.

All 16 families have been contacted. Sixteen out of the 16 families have responded. Checks for 11 families have been sent out by FedEx as of today. Five families fully donated, and one family did a partial donation. For the 19-20 and 20-21, childcare issue is completely resolved.

Then, the fun stuff. Yay. Okay, so what's new? We're going to be moving into our Prop 39 facility August 9th so that's coming up. It's actually Monday. Then, we actually start Monday - Teacher professional development. Because we're moving in on that day, we're actually going to have an offsite team building day at Corona Del Mar. You're welcome to join if you'd like to.

First day of school is going to be August 23rd. Lastly, yay, save the date. We're having a school year kickoff. It is on there. August 27, 2021, from 3-6 PM. We're going to be celebrating food, family, and a great school year. I hope you guys can come. Now, we'll be opening this part to any questions that you may have. That is a good silence. I like that.

BARKE: You know, I appreciate your presentation. It's uplifting this time of day. We need that. It's like, you know, watching the cheerleading squad.

SAGUILAN: That's good. You should see how I am with teachers.

BARKE: The other thing I really have to compliment you on is the parent comments. They come to this Board. They're so inspiring. To hear the way, you are taking care of their children. It just warms my heart. I just applaud you for that, for really, the attention you give to your children.

SAGUILAN: I can't take full credit, but I will continue it this school year.

BARKE: I appreciate everything. I appreciate your optimism and just your energy and all of that. I'll open it up to questions.

SPARKS: Parents are super excited and happy, kids are super happy and learning a lot. We're just really proud of what you guys are doing.

SAGUILAN: Thank you.

BARKE: You know, I'll just make one more comment. I don't know, a week or two ago, some person that I don't know very well but I've met her once or twice, and she moved to Texas. She's moving back. She said, you know, Mari, I called this charter school. What do you think? I said, well, who is it? They said, ISSAC. I said, well, if they have a spot, you better take it. I think they're going to be full very soon.

SAGUILAN: Thank you. Thank you. I appreciate that.

GOMEZ: Just a couple of questions. On your 19-20 or your 2019 and 2020 refunds, I thought that had all been accomplished already. This is saying that you've got, 11 families got their refunds as of today.

SAGUILAN: In our last update, we actually only refunded the 2020-2021 childcare. In preparing for this meeting, we've decided to move forward with doing all of it, so we did the 2019-2020.

BARKE: I think you had reached out to them, but not solved it or something. I thought all of them had been contacted is what I remember from the last meeting.

SAGUILAN: Originally, last meeting, was only the 2020-2021.

GOMEZ: I know that there was supposed to be a contract with a consultant, Michelle. Do we have that contract and when was that signed? What's the scope of services for her?

SAGUILAN: Oh, Michelle's contract. We actually, put in an extension for our contracts to be turned in. We are having legal look over for privacy issues and that extension was given by staff. We have 20 days. Michelle's contract will definitely be in there.

GOMEZ: Okay. At the last board meeting, it was indicated that we already had the contract in place. Now, you're saying that it's not in place?

SAGUILAN: No, there is the contract in place. It is being held. She is fully contracted with us. When requested the documents, they requested all of our contracts from January to June, I believe, so that's more than 20 plus contracts that we wanted to make sure our legal had support in us giving it to you guys.

GOMEZ: Okay. When you say they requested, you're talking about OCDE?

SAGUILAN: OCDE staff. Yes.

GOMEZ: Okay.

SAGUILAN: We were granted a 20-day extension by Teresa.

GOMEZ: Okay, when is that? When is that 20 days up?

SAGUILAN: I believe we have 13 more days. Oh, okay. There we go.

CHASTAIN: I think we're sort of conflating two different things. While this has been going on, we've continued with our regular oversight. Part of our regular oversight is requesting contracts from all of our charter schools. That's what she's talking about, where there's been an extension. That isn't really related to this particular item. That's just us continuing on with our regular oversight practices, but that makes sense why we haven't seen the contract, then, for the consultant if you're kind of putting it in with all the other contracts. If, you know, if the Board wants that contract sooner, that would be, you know, kind of an ask for the school.

GOMEZ: Well, the reason I raise it is because we had some concern about oversight and getting some support for you. We were assured at that time that Michelle Anderson had a contract. Now, we're saying that we do, we don't.

SAGUILAN: We do. We do. One hundred percent, Michelle is contracted with us.

GOMEZ: When was that contract effective?

SAGUILAN: Michelle, you have to come up with that date. Approved in the June board meeting.

GOMEZ: At your board meeting? Okay. Okay.

SAGUILAN: If you would like a copy of that, we can get that to you.

GOMEZ: I just want to be sure that, you know, what we were told is actually what happened because we have seen that obviously. Then, the CUP, can you talk a little bit about that, because the Costa Mesa Planning Commission has met twice? They met on July 12th and July 26th. The CUP for you folks was not on their agenda.

SAGUILAN: Yes. We're looking at different aspects of what can be done. Our consultant has actually provided us with different routes of going in it. We've been in constant contact with the actual committee to talk about - can we move it in a certain way? Does this fit? We're still, which is why we've actually extended the timeline, is because we're still learning and understanding more of what is actually required and necessary for the CUP to go through.

GOMEZ: Okay. Well, I would like to see us have an update on that, because again, these are things we were told had already taken place or were going to take place. Now, we're being told they're not quite yet.

SAGUILAN: Yes. We want to make educated decisions. That's why we brought in the subject matter expert on this. We want to make sure everything goes smoothly with the city. We want to be wise with what we do. Our main focus right now, is to focus on the students this year, which is why we're taking extended time to address the matter.

GOMEZ: Okay. That subject matter expert, you have a contract with that person? When was that contract signed?

SAGUILAN: Yes, we do have a contract with this person. I have to get the actual date, also in June, July, July, sorry.

GOMEZ: That was approved at the ISSAC Board's July meeting? Well, again, I'm just trying to be consistent with what we were told to make sure that we've got the things in place that we were told. This is something different than what we were told before that it was going to go to the Planning Commission.

SAGUILAN: Right. Right. I think your comments are well said. Again, we're coming in to make wise decisions. That means taking our time and not rushing through something that is not done well. I want to do things well. I want to make sure that this person can provide us with the best information possible to move forward with the CUP.

GOMEZ: This consultant's contract, that was budgeted and that will be reflected in your budget update?

SAGUILAN: Yes. Actually, Arturo could.

GARCIA: Part of the ongoing budget updates are, one, updating the new state revenues, kind of [inaudible.] We were updated as well and these additional costs, so making sure that we added in the cost for the consultant for the CUP.

GOMEZ: Okay. Maybe when you come back if you could highlight that for us? That would be great so it doesn't get buried and then, we can't find it.

SAGUILAN: Yes. Yes.

BOYD: Maybe I can make a comment with regards to that that would help. ISSAC did submit their request for a CUP. The city deemed that it was incomplete. As a result of that, they determined that they needed to hire a consultant to look at options that were available to them. They did comply, initially, but now what they're saying is that they want more time to really evaluate whether or not they move forward with the conditional use permit in the manner they were initially thinking or whether they pursue some additional options that that consultant is

going provide to them. I just want to make sure the Board understands. They did submit the initial request for the CUP in the timeframe that was identified with the board.

GOMEZ: Okay. Well then, that's made a lot clearer, then. Okay. All right. Thank you.

SAGUILAN: Yeah, any other questions? Oh yeah. Then, we just have Sally. Yeah.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Great job.

SAGUILAN: Thank you.

WILLIAMS: You are a spark plug - a source of energy, refreshing energy. Thank you for your professionalism in addressing the issues. I look at this, that we started this process about three months ago with this potential notice of violation. We had to question it. We brought it to the Board. We did our due diligence. We worked hard with Padmini and the staff. We worked with our attorney who worked very closely with Janelle. I just don't think we need to bring you back here every single month. I think it's a waste of our time. If any board member wants to know specifics, I would recommend to our board members that you can go to Nina to get that.

I would like to get a consensus here within the Board that we'll continue the oversight, which is a duty and responsibility of the Department. Otherwise, I don't think we need to see you for quite some time. I'd like to drop you off our agenda and let you do what you do best, which is to take care of kids and educate kids. Instead, of having to come up here and pay all the money for your consultants and your attorney and come before us. I would like to seek a consensus, if everyone agrees with me, that we can just let them do what they do best and that's educate kids?

BARKE: I would agree. Do you want to make a motion?

BOYD: It's not an action item, so there's nothing.

WILLIAMS: It's just a consensus to give direction to the staff and to us as the Executive Committee in making up the agenda that we know we're going to go forward with us. Unless red flags come up by the staff, I just don't see a need for you guys to come back. This is the third month in a row, I think, that you've been here. I am very satisfied with what you have done. You, Padmini, Michelle, and Janelle have done a Herculean effort to overcome a lot of questions. Thank you for making me feel comfortable. I was the one who was actually going to actually make the motion for the notice of violation, but you totally resolved my concern.

SAGUILAN: Thank you. Thanks for the opportunity. I have to say, I have a great team. I know these people are here, but there's a lot of people that were behind the scenes, too. They also did a lot to support the school, so thank you.

WILLIAMS: Get the consensus.

BARKE: Tim?

SHAW: That sounds fine with me.

BARKE: Beckie?

GOMEZ: I'm fine with that, but I would like to see a staff update when they have it available.

BARKE: Okay. All right.

SPARKS: Yeah, I'm satisfied.

BARKE: Okay. Well great.

BOYD: Could we have Aracely make a closing comment?

CHASTAIN: We don't really have any more updates to give on this. They withdrew their material revision to add this additional location. Until they resubmit that with all of the documentation, we'll relook at that all over again. For us, that point is, you know is kind of moot right now. They'll do whatever they're doing in the background. We reviewed their first interim budget. There were some inaccuracies in the budget, but when she was able to sort of move numbers around and look at it, it looks like they are fiscally solvent and will have prudent reserves at the end of their budget. As they mentioned, they did agree to refund the 2019-20 fees, which was what we were sort of still asking questions about the legality of those. In order to just wipe that out, they're working to refund those fees, so those three items that we were concerned about it, basically have been resolved at this point.

WILLIAMS: I have a question for you, Aracely.

GOMEZ: I wasn't done.

WILLIAMS: This conditional use permit, is it being delayed or is there any politics at the city level that you see or know about, because you have a lot of enemies out there. You know, there's a lot of politics. It's not fair. It's not right. Aracely, do you know anything about that? I've heard a lot of rumors. It really upsets this board, especially me.

CHASTAIN: I have not. I know that it's, you know, it's a lengthy process pretty much in every city, but no. I've not heard anything specific. We've not received any phone calls or any requests for any information or anything like that.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Thank you.

GOMEZ: Can I ask one more question? What is your projected enrollment for the fall?

SAGUILAN: Right now, we're at 202. We would like to get to 216, because that would be our max number for the location.

GOMEZ: Okay. Thank you.

SAGUILAN: Actually, I think Sally would like to speak. She's our board president if you have time?

BARKE: Of course.

BOYD: She needs to unmute.

SAGUILAN: I think there's a delay. Sally, can you unmute? Oh, there we go.

CHOU: Board president and members of the [audio is echoing]. There is something going on with the echoing of the conversation. Everything is delayed by the way. I don't know if you're aware. I wanted to thank you, the Board, for, you know, working with us as always. There's a delay [audio is echoing].

CHASTAIN: Does she have the YouTube video on? There is a delay in the YouTube video.

BOYD: If she can turn the YouTube off and just do the Zoom that she's on.

CHOU: I'm going to try again.

GOMEZ: There we go. That is better.

CHOU: Thank you, again. I'm sorry. I should have been there a couple of times. However, I've had some health challenges the last several months. I am on the mend. Hopefully, I'll come and see you all in September. I just wanted to thank OCDE staff, because they were willing to meet

with Kimberly. Kimberly is new. Dr. Chastain and Ms. Johnson both have met with Kimberly. I've asked the staff to be much more collaborative with OCDE staff. Also, I know there was a question about, does the board know what's going on? We do, but not everything. One of the things I've learned to do is not to micromanage, but I am on the phone or through email every week with the school staff, so that will continue.

The other thing I've asked the staff to do is to make sure that everything that we have been working with OCDE, that we clarify what it is that OCDE needs from us so there's no confusion or misunderstanding or misinterpretation of what documents we're looking for. I want us to continue to make sure that we're doing what we needed to. Thank you very much for hearing us out. We really need to move forward to provide the best education to our children. As you can see the parents, you know, the last time the parents came, I actually watched YouTube, and the parents came. I really appreciate what the parents have done. I appreciate what the other board members have done. We're constantly in contact, short of micromanaging. I just want you to be aware. Again, I am very grateful to what you've done to make sure that ISSAC is being compliant and doing what we need to do. If you have any questions for me, I'll be happy to answer.

BARKE: Any questions? Thank you. We appreciate your explanation and your managing, but not micromanaging.

CHOU: Correct. I've been in districts for too long, and we know how that goes.

BARKE: Well, thank you. Thank you for your time today. We appreciate it.

CHOU: Thank you very much.

WILLIAMS: Thank you.

SAGUILAN: All right. Thank you. Just remember the kickoff. We would love to see you.

BARKE: I will put it in my calendar.

SAGUILAN: Thank you. Thank you again.

BARKE: Okay. We'll get back on track here.

WILLIAMS: [Inaudible] Public hearing now.

BARKE: Sure. Yeah. Why not? There's nobody waiting.

WILLIAMS: Yeah. Okay.

BARKE: Thank you for everyone who came and hung out all day with us. We appreciate it. All right. I believe we have finally made it to number 11.

BOYD: Yes, Ma'am.

WILLIAMS: I'd like to make the motion to approve the Executive Committees board policy on approving legal counsel invoices.

SPARKS: Second.

BARKE: Any discussion?

SPARKS: Yes.

WILLIAMS: Yeah, I'll start off the discussion. It became acutely knowledgeable to us a few weeks ago, that since there is completion of the closed session on the general council issue and litigation, that we had no ability to approve invoices in a way that provided the attorney client privilege of this board. In discussion and with our counsel, we created a policy that would allow any Board member to have active eyes on the unredacted invoices and allow the public to have eyes on the redacted invoices. Mr. Rolan, if you can come and help the public as well as other Board members who are not of the Executive Committee to understand the process.

ROLEN: The idea behind this new policy is simply to normalize the new normal relationship. To allow the Board to review the unredacted legal bills, but to create efficiencies in the process that allows staff to process the bills more easily and allow board members to review the bills if they so choose. We have, I just thought about this. I've been coming to these meetings now for over two years, and our bills have always been approved. If there's any issues, we're happy to address them. We just wanted to make the process more like a standard vendor, part of the family if you will.

BARKE: Welcome to the family.

ROLEN: That's the idea. There has been some lag in the payment of the bills, but my office is in part to blame for that. We have not communicated the bills as clearly as we should have, and I'm taking full responsibility for that. Staff has been very receptive to my constant calls.

BARKE: Any discussion?

GOMEZ: I don't agree with this. I don't think that there should be a delegation to the Executive Committee. I think it should be the full board.

WILLIAMS: Well, it is the whole board. The whole board has total access to all of the unredacted invoices. It's just an efficiency that we're creating in a process going forward. There's no restrictions to the Board at all.

GOMEZ: I don't agree.

SHAW: What's being delegated? Maybe I didn't understand.

ROLEN: What's being delegated is it just allows the Executive Committee, both committee members, to convey to staff that the bills have been approved. Every board member can look at the bill and ask questions if they wish and bring it back to the full board. It's just eliminating a step.

WILLIAMS: We used to do this in closed session, but, since there's no closed session on GC litigation, this is the only option.

ROLEN: Right.

BARKE: Unless we want to create a closed session every meeting to go in and do that?

ROLEN: That's what we're trying to avoid.

BARKE: Right. Exactly.

SPARKS: I'm all about efficiency.

SHAW: I just want to understand Trustee Gomez, what your objection is. You object to that process?

GOMEZ: I object to the Executive Committee approving the bills.

WILLIAMS: How else will we approve the bills?

GOMEZ: Just as we've been doing. We should all be able to see them.

WILLIAMS: In closed session?

GOMEZ: Sure. It's not that long of a closed session; but, if we didn't have outside counsel, we wouldn't be doing that either.

WILLIAMS: We don't have outside counsel. Greg Rolen is our counsel. We've had a settlement on the issue. We don't have closed session on GC litigation. That's where we were approving them up until last month when we were told that that was going to be the last GC litigation. If you want to suggest another vehicle for approving the invoices from Mr. Rolen, please tell us now?

GOMEZ: I don't think there should be any change as to what we've been doing.

SPARKS: Let me ask a question. Every time we have closed session, does that incur additional expenses, because people have to be here that otherwise wouldn't have to be here?

ROLEN: Not necessarily, I'm going to be here anyway. It's just an extra step. Every time there's a delay of approving the bills, a month or two months or three months because of the press of business before the Board. The bills get delayed exponentially. This is simply an efficiency measure.

WILLIAMS: You've done this with other?

ROLEN: Every one of my other clients does it this way.

SPARKS: Okay.

WILLIAMS: Every other client you've done this policy with?

ROLEN: Yeah. I haven't had to create a policy, but we thought it would just be -

WILLIAMS: We create policies because -

ROLEN: You like your policies.

WILLIAMS: We like our policies.

SPARKS: Okay. Well, if this is best practices with, you know.

ROLEN: It's a practice. Trustee Gomez is right. We could continue to do it the way we're doing it.

SPARKS: But all of your other clients do it the way -

ROLEN: Right.

SPARKS: This way, you're suggesting?

ROLEN: Somebody approves the bills. Yeah. This way would be multiple levels of bill review.

WILLIAMS: Here's the practicality. We're done with the GC litigation. That's of the past.

SPARKS: Yeah. As long as all of our eyes can be on it, you know and we can ask questions, then, I have no problem with it.

BOYD: Could you just put it on consent calendar for approval?

ROLEN: We could. We could do that as well. All these options were discussed with the Executive Committee.

SPARKS: Is that best practice? Do people normally do that?

ROLEN: Some times. They don't normally do it.

WILLIAMS: Can I just say a word on that? If it goes on consent calendar, that may be disincentivizing the Board from looking at the totality of the unredacted invoices. I want the Board to look at the the unredacted invoices and ask you and go to it. You can do that by simple conversations with the Board.

ROLEN: I can do that, undo, yeah.

WILLIAMS: This is creating an efficiency here. We're not going to be calling. I mean, how would we put this on closed session? What government code would allow us to put this under closed session?

ROLEN: That's one of the complications. We don't have general counsel litigation anymore, but I'm providing general counsel type services unrelated to that particular agenda item. It was

completely feasible and legal to do it under that agenda item when we had the open litigation. Now, we'd have to have an agenda item to approve bills in closed session.

WILLIAMS: What government code would allow that?

ROLEN: Nothing springs to mind immediately.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

ROLEN: Because, it's not pending litigation. It's not existing litigation. Sometimes there's personnel, sometimes there's this, that, or the other. There's not a Brown Act for approving Greg's bills.

WILLIAMS: Right. Best practices, as we've talked about before in creating this policy, we make the policy only because I think it's good to put it in writing. You've done this with other government agencies.

ROLEN: Right.

WILLIAMS: The very similar method that we're talking about in this policy, just simply, we put it in written form.

ROLEN: Right.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

SPARKS: Yeah. If it's best practices, I think, and more efficient, I really don't see any reason why we shouldn't move forward on this.

WILLIAMS: You want to call the question?

SPARKS: I'll make a motion that we move forward on.

WILLIAMS: You want to call the question?

SPARKS: Yeah.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

SPARKS: Call the question.

WILLIAMS: You have to call the question, and I second it.

BARKE: Okay. All right.

WILLIAMS: That is the A B C of parliamentary.

BARKE: Okay. All right. All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, SHAW: Aye.

BARKE: All those opposed?

GOMEZ: Opposed.

BARKE: Okay. Motion passes 4-1.

WILLIAMS: Number 12.

BARKE: Okay. Moving on to number 12, a public hearing, Renee.

HENDRICK: Yes. At this time. I'd like to call the public hearing for this efficiency of materials for textbooks and instructional materials for the alternative education program and special schools. Do we have any public comments? Hearing no public comments, I'd like to close the public hearing, please.

BARKE: Okay.

WILLIAMS: I'll make the motion to adopt item number 13 and Resolution 13-21.

BARKE: I'll second that. Any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, SHAW: Aye.

BARKE: All those opposed? Okay.

GOMEZ: I'm going to abstain. There's something here. Unfortunately, I don't have my glasses today. There's a note I have. I can't read it, so I will just abstain.

BARKE: Okay. Do you want to borrow some glasses?

GOMEZ: That's okay.

BARKE: All right. Okay. Motion passes 4-0-1. We'll recess.

WILLIAMS: You can recess, yeah.

BARKE: We will recess the regular board meeting to a meeting of the Orange County Department of Education Facilities Corporation.

WILLIAMS: What you are going to do is you are going to call to order.

BARKE: Okay. Sorry. All right. Okay. I'm going to call to order, for the benefit of the record, this regular meeting of the Facilities Corporation is called to order. Nina, roll call.

BOYD: Trustee Shaw?

SHAW: Here.

BOYD: Trustee Gomez?

GOMEZ: Present.

BOYD: Trustee Sparks?

SPARKS: Here.

BOYD: Vice President Williams?

WILLIAMS: Here.

BOYD: President Barke?

BARKE: Here.

WILLIAMS: I'll make a motion for adoption of the Agenda for the August 4th Facilities Corporation.

SPARKS: Second.

BARKE: Alright. All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, SHAW, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: All those opposed?

BARKE: That passes 5-0.

BOYD: The Board took action after the last meeting in Octobers, you're just receiving these. We noted on the Agenda that you had already approved these minutes at the October meeting.

BARKE: Excellent.

BOYD: We received no public comments for the Facilities Corporation, so there's none for that.

WILLIAMS: Okay. We're going to call for a motion to appoint the officers.

BARKE: Okay.

WILLIAMS: I'll make a motion for number one here. For the appointment of the officers that would be consistent with past practices, the president of the Board Mari Barke would be president; vice-president would be myself. I think currently, we have Beckie Gomez as the secretary.

BOYD: She had consented to continue.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

BARKE: Okay. Excellent.

WILLIAMS: That's my nomination for the officers of our Facilities Corporation.

BARKE: All right. I'll second that. All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, SHAW, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: All those opposed? Okay. Passes 5-0.

WILLIAMS: We've received this -

BARKE: Okay. We have received. There is no action for the Esplanade Project Operational Report for the fiscal year 2020-21. Now, I will call for a motion to approve number three.

WILLIAMS: I'll make the motion to receive and approve the Esplanade Project Operational Budget for the 2021-22 year.

SPARKS: Second.

BARKE: All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, SHAW, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: All right, the ayes have it. All right. Now, we will adjourn the regular meeting of the Facilities Corporation and resume our regular board meeting. Do I need any second on that?

WILLIAMS: No.

BARKE: Okay. All right. We are adjourned.

WILLIAMS: Very good.

BARKE: Okay.

WILLIAMS: We're going to go back to the consent calendar. I'll make a motion for the consent calendar.

GOMEZ: I'll second.

BARKE: Excellent. All right. All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, SHAW, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: All those opposed? All right, passes 5-0. Motion for 13.

WILLIAMS: We've already had 13.

BOYD: There were no charter submissions.

WILLIAMS: Yeah, we are on 16 now.

BARKE: Okay.

WILLIAMS: No charter submissions, Nina?

BOYD: Correct.

BARKE: All right. We've done 17.

SHAW: We removed 18.

BARKE: We removed 18.

SPARKS: We are on 20.

BARKE: We just did 19.

SHAW: I think we are at 20.

BARKE: Yes.

SHAW: Roll.

GOMEZ: Oh, my god.

SHAW: I want to go.

BARKE: I don't blame you.

WILLIAMS: We are at 20, now.

BARKE: I think we were going to get a recap on the professional organizations.

BOYD: Okay. Do you want to take a motion on that first, or do you want me to just to give you the update that you had requested?

BARKE: You can give us the update.

BOYD: Okay. Previously, you had asked about the different organizations and what you receive for your dollar value and so forth. Last month, there were a couple of others on here that were carried over that had been removed. We took those off. ACSA it's an administrators' group that the Board has never participated in, so we removed that from this one. California Charter Schools Association, you get reduced rates for their conference registration and professional development. That's what that \$500 membership gets you. CSBA, that is all together. Again, we remind you that your participation in CCBE, the Legal Alliance and CSBA as the parent organization is all inclusive. You can't pull one out of there. What you get there, again, is updated communications on advocacy, what they are doing as an organization for both CSBA and CCBE participation and delegate position. With CCBE you also get reduced rates for conference, professional development opportunities that are offered throughout the year, advocacy, and periodicals - their updates that they send out. In the past, they were monthly. They sometimes now, because of COVID and so forth, they were doing more frequent updates and we would pass that along to the Board.

Then, the National School Boards Association, those membership dues provide you monthly and quarterly updates and reduced rate for their conference. Last year, you did not participate in the annual dues for that. You opted if any board member wanted to go, we would just pay the registration.

BARKE: Right.

BOYD: That was prudent for what you wanted to do. The Orange County School Boards Association, that provides advocacy, countywide support efforts, and participation on the board for OCSBA. Then, PTA membership is just support for advocacy and a member rate for events.

WILLIAMS: Very good. Thank you for that, Nina. I'm going to make the motion for number 20, minus the almost \$13,000 for the National School Board Association dues. That would bring-

BOYD: We would just remove the NSBA.

WILLIAMS: Yeah. Remove the NSBA. The total for that would be like 20.

BOYD: We will just reduce.

WILLIAMS: Yeah, \$21,000. That's my motion.

SPARKS: I'll second it.

WILLIAMS: Okay, second.

BARKE: All right. Any discussion? It's what we did last year, and I think it was acceptable. If I'm hearing no discussion, we'll call for the vote.

GOMEZ: Well, I think it just might. Yeah, I'm okay with doing that for this year, because again, who knows how many of these things are going to be in person. We might be able to, you know, attend remotely and not incur the travel costs at this point; but, I would like us to maybe revisit it next year, and just see how that pans out for us.

BARKE: Okay.

GOMEZ: I'm okay with this year.

BARKE: All right. All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, SHAW, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: All right, 5-0.

WILLIAMS: Item number 21, I want to make a motion for the approval of registration and travel for the 2021-22 fiscal year.

BARKE: I'll second that. Any discussion? All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, SHAW, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: Okay. That passes 5-0. At this point, do we have a recommendation to end the meeting?

BOYD: Prior to ending the meeting, can I just remind you all? We communicated with you all about CSBA's conference in December. Tim has already informed us he's going to participate virtually, but they are asking us about rooms. They want to make rooms available for people who are attending in person. If you all could let us know? I know that you were trying to wait for the agenda in terms of the workshops and so forth. They have communicated, they may not have that for another 60 days. They're still gathering, putting together, and approving workshops. I just wanted to update the Board with regards to that.

GOMEZ: That was San Diego?

BOYD: Yes, it is in San Diego. You can attend that virtually or online. Excuse me, virtually that is online. Virtually or in-person, at the present time now. Things may change. I mean, we keep seeing constant things changing.

BARKE: I'll think about that. If you get to the point where you need to know, just ping me again. I'll think about if I want to do that.

BOYD: Okay. We told them that, you know, we probably won't know for another month. Maybe, by the time CCBE, they'll have more information. They'll be trying to get, you know.

BARKE: Right. That's a good idea.

GOMEZ: That's the second weekend in December, usually.

BARKE: Is it, or is it the first?

GOMEZ: Or the first weekend?

BOYD: It's the first weekend.

GOMEZ: Yes, you're right. Yeah, I plugged it into my calendar already.

BARKE: All right. Yeah. If you find it anything?

BOYD: December 2nd and 4th for the in-person. The virtual is being offered a week later, December 9th.

BARKE: Kind of interesting, they are not at the same time.

BOYD: They are not going to do it simultaneously. They're going to go back and then, do.

GOMEZ: I think they will have recorded sessions, I think.

BARKE: Oh, you are right. That is exactly what they will do. Gotcha.

BOYD: Yeah.

BARKE: Gotcha. Okay.

GOMEZ: You will get second hand information, Tim. Or, you will be like our participant today. You will just hear it.

BARKE: They made me laugh.

BOYD: They may be able to answer more questions. Questions that they can't answer right on the 2nd-4th, they will have answers for 9th-10th.

BARKE: Is there a reduced rate if you want to attend both?

BOYD: No.

SHAW: No. They are in business.

GOMEZ: If you couldn't attend in person maybe on one day, it would be nice if you were to attend the second.

BARKE: Or, I can just sneak over to Tim's house and watch it on his screen.

GOMEZ: There you go.

SHAW: Come on over.

BARKE: All right. No, I would not cheat CSBA out of that. Okay. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: I make a motion that we adjourn.

BARKE: Okay. We can adjourn.