

**MINUTES**  
**EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**RIALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**DR. JOHN R. KAZALUNAS EDUCATION CENTER**  
**182 EAST WALNUT AVENUE, RIALTO, CA 92376**

**March 16, 2020**

**A. OPENING**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The emergency meeting of the Board of Education of the Rialto Unified School District was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by President O'Kelley at the Dr. John R. Kazalunas Education Center, 182 East Walnut Avenue, Rialto, CA 92376.

Members present: Nancy G. O'Kelley, President; Joseph W. Martinez, Clerk; Joseph Ayala, Member; and Edgar Montes, Member. Dina Walker, Vice-President, arrived at 10:06 a.m.

Administrators present: Cuauhtémoc Avila, Ed.D., Superintendent; Darren McDuffie, Ed.D., Lead Strategic Agent: Strategics, Congruence and Social Justice; Mohammad Z. Islam, Associate Superintendent, Business Services; Elizabeth Curtiss, Interim Lead Innovation Agent, Education Services; Rhonda Kramer, Lead Personnel Agent. Also present was Martha Degortari, Executive Administrative Agent.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Lisa Lindberg, REA President, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. Comments on the Closed Session Agenda Item. Any person wishing to speak on the item on the closed session agenda will be granted three minutes.

Lisa Lindberg, REA President, shared her concerns for her members who are worried because some have health issues, some are over 65 and have been told to self-quarantine, some have young children and limited child care, and some have family members with health care issues. She said she understands every decision made is supposed to be in the best interest of student, she is requesting that decisions also be made in the best interest of staff. She indicated that she knows Dr. Avila will be part of a conference call with other Superintendents and Mr. Alejandre later today and requested that decisions be made in the best interest of students and

staff. She also indicated that they will submit a demand to bargain on wording conditions.

Tobin Brinker, Frisbie Middle School Teacher, shared his concerns on teachers returning to work when schools have been closed for students through April 6, 2020. He indicated that many teachers were not able to make today's meeting, but he shared comments and concerns on their behalf. Teachers requested to be able to work from home due to personal health concerns, and concerns for the health of their families. Teachers requested the District reconsider sending their employees to work during the period that the students will be out. They asked that the district also consider classified and management staff during this time of uncertainty.

Keith Rubio, Special Education Teacher at Rialto High School, said that he was surprised with the notice sent by the District indicating that staff was to report to their regular work schedule. He is concerned for the welfare of the teachers and staff. He requested that the District reconsider their decision.

Jeannie Appel, Parent and Volunteer, thanked the District for taking the time to hold this meeting and for the excellent job in keeping the parents and community informed via text, phone and updates on the District website. She is concerned with the notification which indicated that all employees are required to maintain their normal calendar. She indicated that the lives of the teachers and staff are as important as the lives of the students and she is requesting that the District show them they are important.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Upon a motion by Vice President Walker, seconded by Member Martinez, and approved by a 5-0 vote, the Board of Education entered into closed session at 10:12 a.m. to consider and discuss the following item:

1. **THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OR FACILITIES**  
Consultation With: (1) District Counsel; (2) District Safety Intervention and Support Services; (3) District Health Services; (4) Risk Management; (5) District Personnel Services; (6) Superintendent

## **ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Upon a motion by Member Ayala, seconded by Vice-President Walker, and passed by a 5-0 vote, closed session adjourned at 11:57 p.m.

## **OPEN SESSION RECONVENED – 11:57 A.M.**

Members present: Nancy G. O'Kelley, President; Dina Walker, Vice-President; Joseph W. Martinez, Clerk; Joseph Ayala, Member; and Edgar Montes, Member.

Administrators present: Cuauhtémoc Avila, Ed.D., Superintendent; Darren McDuffie, Ed.D., Lead Strategic Agent: Strategic, Congruence and Social Justice; Mohammad Z. Islam, Associate Superintendent, Business Services; Elizabeth Curtiss, Interim Lead Innovation Agent, Education Services; Rhonda Kramer, Lead Personnel Agent. Also present was Martha Degortari, Executive Administrative Agent.

## **REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Superintendent Avila reported that no action was taken in closed session.

## **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Upon a motion by Vice-President Walker, seconded by Member Ayala, the Agenda was adopted as amended by a unanimous 5-0 vote by the Board of Education.

**Correction to Agenda Item D-1: Emergency Resolution No. 19-20-48 has been amended to correct and include following language:**

**WHEREAS**, as of March 15, 2020, there are 333 cases reported of COVID-19 in California; ~~although there are no confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) in San Bernardino County, and one case has been detected in San Bernardino County,~~ the extent to which members of the District community may have contracted coronavirus (COVID-19) is unclear.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that schools will be closed from Monday, March 23, 2020, through Friday, April 3, 2020. Schools will reopen on Monday, April 6, 2020.

## **D. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

Upon a motion by Vice-President Walker, seconded by Member Montes, Item D1 was approved by a unanimous 5-0 vote by the Board of Education.

1. Consider and adopt Emergency Resolution No. 19-20-48 responding to Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Vice-President Walker, seconded by Member Ayala, and approved by a unanimous 5-0 vote by the Board of Education, the emergency meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

  
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Clerk, Board of Education

  
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Secretary, Board of Education