NOVATO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR Meeting of the Board of Trustees
October 15, 2019 6:00 PM
Novato Education Center - 1015 Seventh Street, Novato, CA 94945

Attendance Taken at 6:00 PM:

Present:
Ms. Maria Aguila
Mrs. Debbie Butler
Mr. Thomas Cooper
Mrs. Diane Gasson
Mr. Derek Knell
Mr. Gregory Mack
Mr. Ross Millerick

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL - 6:00 p.m.
President Butler called the Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

3. CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT/RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION - 6:02 p.m.

3.a. ANNOUNCEMENT: Prior to adjourning into closed session, a representative of the legislative body must orally announce items to be discussed. Individuals may address the Board on these items of the agenda.

3.b. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Gov Code 54957 and 54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiators (Jonathan Ferrer, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources) Employees Organization: Novato Federation of Teachers (NFT)

3.c. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Gov Code 54957: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

3.d. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Gov Code 54957 and 54957.6: Public Employee Evaluation - Superintendent

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION AGENDA - 6:05 p.m.
None

5. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL - 7:00 p.m.
President Butler called the Board meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

5.a. Pledge of Allegiance

6. ANNOUNCEMENT OF REPORTABLE ACTION/CLOSED SESSION - 7:02 p.m.
6.a. Board Action in closed session must be reported in open session
Vice-President/Clerk Aguila reported on action taken in closed session:

b. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to
Gov Code § 54957 and §54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiators (Jonathan Ferrer,
Assistant Superintendent; Human Resources) Employees Organization: Novato
Federation of Teachers (NFT) - Gave direction

c. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to
Gov Code § 54957: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release - Information only

d. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to
Gov Code § 54957 and § 54957.6: Public Employee Evaluation - Superintendent -
Information only

e. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to
Gov Code § 54956.9: Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation -
Information only

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - 7:04 p.m.

7.a. a. The Board reserves the right to change the order in which agenda items are
discussed and/or acted upon at this meeting. Subject to further action by the Board,
the agenda for this meeting is to be approved as presented. Items may be added to
this agenda for discussion or action only as permitted by the Brown Act.

President Butler requested the Agenda be approved.

President Butler will adjourn the meeting in honor of Mary Ann Sinkkonen who recently
passed away. Mary Ann served as a teacher and principal with NUSD and most
recently served as an interim principal at Rancho Elementary.

Motion Passed: A motion to approve the Agenda passed by a vote of 7-0. Passed with
a motion by Mr. Thomas Cooper and a second by Mr. Gregory Mack.
Yes Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes Mrs. Debbie Butler
Yes Mr. Thomas Cooper
Yes Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes Mr. Derek Knell
Yes Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes Mr. Ross Millerick

8. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT AGENDA - 7:06 p.m.

8.a. Individuals may address the Board in accordance with the Public Comment
statement on the last page of the agenda.
None

9. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - 7:08 p.m.
9.a. All Consent items approved by a single action
President Butler asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion Passed: A motion to approve the Consent Agenda passed by a vote of 7-0. Passed with a motion by Mr. Ross Millerick and a second by Mr. Derek Knell.
Yes Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes Mrs. Debbie Butler
Yes Mr. Thomas Cooper
Yes Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes Mr. Derek Knell
Yes Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes Mr. Ross Millerick

After approval of consent agenda, President Butler acknowledged NUSD’s Human Resources team member Lillian Rincon’s upcoming retirement as noted on the Personnel Actions under Consent. Lillian has worked for NUSD for 27 years and she has been a welcoming presence at the District Office.

10. STUDENT PRESENTATIONS - 7:10 p.m.

10.a. Lu Sutton Elementary School: Culture of Caring
Lu Sutton Elementary School teacher Lauren Hinixmann introduced their site’s Culture of Caring initiative classroom "Zen Zones." 5th grade students explained how the Zen Zone helps calm them down during the school day with familiar objects such as pillows, rugs, stuffed animals, kinetic sand, glitter jars, Mandala coloring pages, yoga positions, books, and journals. When students are given the opportunity to use these areas, they are supported with becoming more independent in their ability to engage in self-regulation, emotion management, and problem solving.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS: BOARD, SUPERINTENDENT, & STUDENT PRESENTATIONS - 7:20 P.M.

TRUSTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS
- Joint Legislative Action Committee (JLAC) Committee met. Facilities Bond will be on the State ballot which includes a new process on how facilities funds will be used. After years of opposition from School Boards, legislature passed a "Late Start" bill. Per legislation, high schools will start at 8:30 AM by the 2022-2023 school year. Middle schools will start no later than 8 AM.
- The California State University system is talking about increasing qualifications for acceptance by adding quantitative reasoning.
- Attended First Five Vaping forum which provided a good overview of what is happening at the county level.
- Visited San Marin High School with Superintendent Cosca to see classroom and construction.
- Attended Not in Our Town general meeting.
- October 17th is last "Gab with Gasson" at 5:30 PM at Vintage Oaks Starbucks.
- Attended San Marin lights presentation at the football game. Impressed by students, families, grandparents, and all who attended. Thank you to San Marin families for helping to bring the project to fruition. Thank you to District staff and San Marin staff who made it a successful event.
- Attended Golden Bell meeting to plan our appreciation to teachers and staff.

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• Attended Marin School of the Arts Divine Wine fundraiser.

SUPERINTENDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS
• Continuing to visit all classrooms at each site. Thank you to the teachers for doing great work for our students.
• Teacher Leadership Team members led professional training this week. Thank you to the presenters for leading this new training initiative.
• Students who have had tragedies continue to be in our thoughts as they are still fighting to get back to school.
• Impressed by the San Marin Stadium Lights team and those working together to be respectful of the community.

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS:
• DJ Straiten, a Marin Oaks High School senior, shared that they began student leadership through the Youth Leadership Institute, students attended a play at the Marin Theatre Company about the Cherokee Nation and the Trail of Tears. Students are working towards finals, new students arrive on Monday, October 21st which brings the population to approximately 90 students. Students are making adjustments with the larger school size as 90 students is more than they’ve had in the past.

• Eva Gogas, a Novato High School junior, shared that many groups are holding fundraisers: JROTC pie fundraiser, the boys basketball car wash on Saturday, October 19th, a Cross Country fundraiser starts on October 23rd, and this year’s annual Dine & Donate at Italian Delite will be a “One Town” drive and all proceeds will go to the three San Marin families affected by the car crash. Bite of Reality and PSATs are this week (week of October 14th). In Homecoming news, ticket sales started and floats are underway, October 27-31st is Spirit Week, the parade is November 1st, and the game and dance are November 2nd. Many Novato High students went to San Marin’s night football game under the lights. Winter Sports start on November 4th and Buzz the Novato High mascot has been attending NHS games. The Big Band Dance is Friday, October 25th, and MSA’s Rock Band’s first concert is at Sweetwater in Mill Valley.

• Elizabeth DeRuvo, a San Marin junior, shared that the Debate Team placed in the quarterfinals, the Homecoming parade will be on Thursday, Oct. 17th, Homecoming Game will be on Friday, Oct. 18th, and the Homecoming Dance will be on Saturday, Oct. 19th. San Marin’s spirit has increased thanks to the lights at the last game. ASB’s barbeque was held to raise money for Homecoming activities, and leftovers from the ASB barbeque went to the Novato Police Department.

12. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT - 7:30 p.m.

12.a. Individuals may address the Board in accordance with the Public Comment statement on the last page of the agenda.
• NUSD teacher spoke about Special Education teachers feeling unrepresented in the union contract.
• NUSD teachers commented on: teacher salaries as being less than other professions, high Novato rent rates and how they compare with teacher
compensation, and crowded classrooms and split classrooms as not being in the best interest of students and teachers.

- NUSD teachers shared a positive experience wherein students worked collaboratively on a field trip.
- NUSD teacher praised her own children’s NUSD teachers and classified staff as being amazing individuals.
- Novato parent spoke in support of teachers.

13. DISTRICT ELECTIONS - 8:00 p.m.

13.a. Public Hearing #4
- Public Hearing opened at 7:49 p.m.
- Public Hearing closed at 7:50 p.m.

13.b. District Elections/Proposed Trustee Area Maps
Kris Cosca, Superintendent, opened the discussion with regards to Trustee maps for District elections. At the last Board Meeting, District Maps 1-4, 5 and 6 were removed from consideration. Mr. Cosca introduced Larry Ferchaw from Cooperative Strategies to answer Trustee questions. Trustees agreed to remove maps 4a, 4b, and 7 from consideration. Map 7a will be brought back for discussion at the next Regular Board meeting on November 5, 2019. Trustees recommend Sequencing Option 3 for election cycle. Action will be taken at the November 5, 2019 Regular Board meeting regarding District Election maps.

14. DISCUSSION/ACTION - 8:20 p.m.

14.a. Review and Approve Business and Operations Related Board Policy Update (1) Second Reading
Yancy Hawkins, Assistant Superintendent, Business & Operations, brought forward for the second time Board Policy 7310 regarding Naming of Facility. No changes were made to the Board Policy between the first and second reading. The updated policy includes a new section on “Naming Rights” which authorizes the board to enter into a written agreement granting any person or entity the right to name any district building or facility. In addition, a section on “Memorials” expanded to include commemorative trees, monuments, or other district facilities. Trustees discussed adding Reconsideration dates to all named facilities.

Trustees approved the Board Policy with minor revisions.

Motion Passed: A motion to approve Business and Operations Related Board Policy Update (1) - Second Reading passed by a vote of 7-0 with the following changes:
- Paragraph one, insert language to read: The Governing Board shall name "new and existing district school facilities"
- Under Naming Rights, bullet #2, update to read: State the roles and responsibilities of the parties to the agreement. The Board shall retain the power to approve any proposed name

Passed with a motion by Mr. Thomas Cooper and a second by Ms. Maria Aguila.
Yes  Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes  Mrs. Debbie Butler

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14.b. Approve Novato Unified School District’s (NUSD) Initial Proposal to Reopen Contract Negotiations with the California School Employees Association (CSEA) for 2019-2020


**Motion Passed:** A motion to approve Novato Unified School District’s (NUSD) Initial Proposal to Reopen Contract Negotiations with the California School Employees Association (CSEA) for 2019-2020 passed by a vote of 7-0. Passed with a motion by Mr. Ross Millerick and a second by Mr. Gregory Mack.

Yes  Mr. Thomas Cooper
Yes  Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes  Mr. Derek Knell
Yes  Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes  Mr. Ross Millerick

15. STAFF REPORTS - 8:40 p.m.

15.a. Staff Report: NUSD Crisis Response Team

Amie Carter, Assistant Superintendent, Education Services, gave a presentation on NUSD’s Crisis Response teams. Student Threat Assessment team protocols were also shared. Communications were sent to parents by Superintendent Cosca including resources and links regarding student safety. Dr. Carter introduced Katie Cobb-von Husen, Prevention Coordinator, to discuss the School Crisis Intervention Team action plan. Ms. Cobb-von Husen used recent examples of NUSD student crises at our sites to share how the School Crisis Intervention Team works together to help students and staff. The new STOPit app to identify and stop bullying on campuses was also highlighted. The STOPit app is supported through the Peter E. Haas, JR. Family Fund.

Trustees requested larger print of the Incident Command System Team chart.

16. CONSENT: All items approved by a single action

16.a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 1, 2019

**Motion Passed:** A motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 1, 2019 passed by a vote of 7-0. Passed with a motion by Mr. Ross Millerick and a second by Mr. Derek Knell.

Yes  Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes  Mrs. Debbie Butler
Yes  Mr. Thomas Cooper
Yes  Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes    Mr. Derek Knell
Yes    Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes    Mr. Ross Millerick

16.b. Approval of Personnel Actions of October 15, 2019

Motion Passed: A motion to approve the Personnel Actions of October 15, 2019 passed by a vote of 7-0. Passed with a motion by Mr. Ross Millerick and a second by Mr. Derek Knell.
Yes    Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes    Mrs. Debbie Butler
Yes    Mr. Thomas Cooper
Yes    Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes    Mr. Derek Knell
Yes    Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes    Mr. Ross Millerick

16.c. Approve Quarterly Report for Williams Uniform Complaint - Quarter Ending September 30, 2019

Motion Passed: A motion to approve the Quarterly Report for Williams Uniform Complaint - Quarter Ending September 30, 2019 passed by a vote of 7-0. Passed with a motion by Mr. Ross Millerick and a second by Mr. Derek Knell.
Yes    Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes    Mrs. Debbie Butler
Yes    Mr. Thomas Cooper
Yes    Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes    Mr. Derek Knell
Yes    Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes    Mr. Ross Millerick

16.d. Approval of Change Order #1 to the 3 School Re-Roof & Skylight Replacement Project Contract at Novato HS, San Jose MS and Lynwood ES

Motion Passed: A motion to approve the Change Order #1 to the 3 School Re-Roof & Skylight Replacement Project Contract at Novato HS, San Jose MS and Lynwood ES passed by a vote of 7-0. Passed with a motion by Mr. Ross Millerick and a second by Mr. Derek Knell.
Yes    Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes    Mrs. Debbie Butler
Yes    Mr. Thomas Cooper
Yes    Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes    Mr. Derek Knell
Yes    Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes    Mr. Ross Millerick

16.e. Approval of Notice of Completion (NOC) for the 3 School Re-Roof & Skylight Replacement Project at Novato HS, San Jose MS and Lynwood ES

Motion Passed: A motion to approve the Notice of Completion (NOC) for the 3 School Re-Roof & Skylight Replacement Project passed by a vote of 7-0. Passed with a motion by Mr. Ross Millerick and a second by Mr. Derek Knell.
Yes    Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes    Mrs. Debbie Butler
Yes    Mr. Thomas Cooper
Yes    Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes    Mr. Derek Knell
Yes    Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes    Mr. Ross Millerick
Re-Roof & Skylight Replacement Project at Novato HS, San Jose MS and Lynwood ES passed by a vote of 7-0. Passed with a motion by Mr. Ross Millerick and a second by Mr. Derek Knell.
Yes   Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes   Mrs. Debbie Butler
Yes   Mr. Thomas Cooper
Yes   Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes   Mr. Derek Knell
Yes   Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes   Mr. Ross Millerick

16.f. Approval of Education Services Related Board Policy and Administrative Regulation Updates (2)

Motion Passed: A motion to approve the Education Services Related Board Policy and Administrative Regulation Updates (2) passed by a vote of 7-0. Passed with a motion by Mr. Ross Millerick and a second by Mr. Derek Knell.
Yes   Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes   Mrs. Debbie Butler
Yes   Mr. Thomas Cooper
Yes   Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes   Mr. Derek Knell
Yes   Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes   Mr. Ross Millerick

16.g. Approval of Field Trip Requests of Overnight Field Trips and Trips Exceeding 100 Miles per Board Policy 6153

Motion Passed: A motion to approve the Field Trip Requests of Overnight Field Trips and Trips Exceeding 100 Miles per Board Policy 6153 passed by a vote of 7-0.
1) Lu Sutton Elementary, 5th Grade, Alliance Redwoods, April 14-17, 2020
2) Lynwood Elementary, 5th Grade, Walker Creek, March 31, 2020-April 3, 2020

Passed with a motion by Mr. Ross Millerick and a second by Mr. Derek Knell.
Yes   Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes   Mrs. Debbie Butler
Yes   Mr. Thomas Cooper
Yes   Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes   Mr. Derek Knell
Yes   Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes   Mr. Ross Millerick

16.h. Approval of Gifts or Donations to the District per Board Policy 3290

Motion Passed: A motion to approve the Gifts or Donations to the District per Board Policy 3290 passed by a vote of 7-0. Passed with a motion by Mr. Ross Millerick and a second by Mr. Derek Knell.
Yes   Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes   Mrs. Debbie Butler
Yes   Mr. Thomas Cooper

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Yes  Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes  Mr. Derek Knell
Yes  Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes  Mr. Ross Millerick

16.i. Approval to Dispose of Obsolete Textbooks/Instructional Materials

Motion Passed: A motion to approve the Disposal of Obsolete Materials passed by a vote of 7-0. Passed with a motion by Mr. Ross Millerick and a second by Mr. Derek Knell.
Yes  Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes  Mrs. Debbie Butler
Yes  Mr. Thomas Cooper
Yes  Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes  Mr. Derek Knell
Yes  Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes  Mr. Ross Millerick

16.j. Ratify Warrant Register for Warrants Issued September 26, 2019 Through October 9, 2019

Motion Passed: A motion to ratify Warrant Register for Warrants from September 26, 2019 through October 9, 2019 passed by a vote of 7-0. Passed with a motion by Mr. Ross Millerick and a second by Mr. Derek Knell.
Yes  Ms. Maria Aguila
Yes  Mrs. Debbie Butler
Yes  Mr. Thomas Cooper
Yes  Mrs. Diane Gasson
Yes  Mr. Derek Knell
Yes  Mr. Gregory Mack
Yes  Mr. Ross Millerick

17. ADJOURNMENT - 9:00 p.m.

17.a. The Board believes that late night meetings deter public participation, can affect the Board’s decision-making ability, and can be a burden to staff. No new item of business, except the consent agenda, will be considered after 10:00 p.m., unless it is determined by a majority of the Board to extend to a specific time. The meeting shall be extended no more than once, or may be adjourned to a later date.

President Butler announced the next Regular Board meeting will be November 5, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

WITNESSED: ____________________

Vice President/Clerk of the Board of Trustees

Attested to on this 5th day of November 2019.