

**APPROVED MINUTES
ALUM ROCK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
2930 Gay Avenue
San Jose, CA 95127**

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
of the Alum Rock Union School District
Held on Tuesday, March 30, 2021, 6:30 p.m. at the Alum Rock Union School
Board Members and Superintendent participated via Zoom Meeting
Meeting #17-20/21**

1. OPEN SESSION

1.01 Call to Order / Roll Call/ Pledge of Allegiance

President Ernesto Bejarano welcomed everyone. President Ernesto Bejarano called the Board Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. followed by Roll Call.

Board Members Present:

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|----------------------|----------------|
| Corina Herrera-Loera | President |
| Andrés Quintero | Vice-President |
| Ernesto Bejarano | Clerk |
| Linda Chavez | Member |
| Minh Pham | Member |

Administrative and Support Staff Members Present:

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| Dr. Hilaria Bauer | Superintendent |
| Rene Sanchez | Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services |
| Carlos Moran | Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources |
| Kolvira Chheng | Assistant Superintendent, Business Services |
| Maribel Carrillo | Sr. Executive Assistant, Superintendent's Office |

1. OPEN SESSION *(continued)*

1.01 Call to Order / Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance

President Corina Herrera-Loera said there is a quorum.

2. Public Members Who Wish To Address The Board

2.01 Requests To Address the Board

Public Comments:

- 1) Danielle De Ambrosio said she has been a teacher at Lyndale for the past thirty years. She said teachers are not being heard.
- 2) Sherri Duarte said she has been a teacher for the past twenty-five years. She said it is not alright to have someone come back in an environment where they do not feel unsafe.
- 3) Abby Harris said she has been a teacher for eleven years. She said other districts informed their staff of their plan to come back to school in advance.
- 4) Dina Lopes said she has been a teacher for the past twenty years. She said she misses her classroom.
- 5) Jessica Lavoti said she is a teacher at Linda Vista. She said if the district wants teachers to come back it should be on a volunteer basis.
- 6) Brenda Zendejas said she is concerned about the plan to return to school. She thanked all the teachers.
- 7) Beatrice Prado said she is a teacher at Painter. She commented that teachers have made sacrifices for students.
- 8) Adriane Vane said she is an eighth-grade teacher at Joseph George. She said she has an illness that the vaccine may not protect her from COVID 19.
- 9) Laura Solis said she has been a teacher for the past twenty years. She said if she goes back to the classroom her health is at risk.
- 10) Mr. Jaeger said he has been a teacher for the past twenty years. She said the district should have planned the reopening of schools a long time ago.
- 11) Shawn Swiss said he is a teacher at Dorsa Elementary. He asked how was he suppose to teach children both online and in person.

2. Public Members Who Wish To Address The Board *(continued)*

- 12) Ms. Lowy said she has been teaching for fourteen years. She said she is concerned about COVID 19 cases impacting all over the world. She said she does not want to put kids at risk.
- 13) Alma Mendoza said she is a teacher at Ryan Elementary. She said she is ready to come back where the district has a plan in place.
- 14) Nancy Flores said she is a teacher. She said she went to her class and there was nothing set up to come back to in-person learning.
- 15) Mrs. Hasban said that teachers' health is at risk.
- 16) Steven Lynch said the plan to return to school is putting everyone's health at risk.
- 17) Julie Arroyo said she is a teacher at Ocala for the past eleven years. She said she is worried about returning to school.
- 18) Sandra Rivera said the plan that was presented last week does not give the teacher enough time for planning their lessons.
- 19) Claudia Coello said the Board needs to set an example and hold Board meetings at the Boardroom.
- 20) Lee Pruett said she is a school psychologist. She said she participated in an IEP meeting the student and his entire family tested positive to COVID 19.
- 21) Jessie Montano said she is a teacher at Painter. She said she believes it is not safe to return to school right now.

3. Closed Session

3.01 Recess to Closed Session

President Corina Herrera-Loera announced the items that would be discussed in Closed Session. There were no public comments from the audience at this time.

4. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

4.01 Report of Action Taken in Closed Session.

The Board reconvened to Open Session at 9:23 p.m. President Corina Herrera-Loera welcomed everyone and said there was a quorum.

4. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION *(continued)*

President Corina Herrera-Loera said there was nothing to report.

5. Superintendent/ Board Business

5.01 The Board will consider the plan for School Reopenings in Alum Rock Union School District.

MOTION #01-17 by President Corina Herrera-Lorea to approve Action Item 5.01 as presented. MOTION #01-17 was seconded by Clerk Ernesto Bejarano.

Superintendent Bauer read a recommendation for the Board to consider.

Public Comments:

- 1) Brenda Zendejas asked how would the reopening work.
- 2) Adriane Vane said she is concerned about her safety. She asked how is she suppose to do distance learning if there is no plan.
- 3) Veronica said she is concerned about the reopening of schools. She mentioned stakeholders were not involved with the reopening plan.
- 4) Abby Harris said teachers have not been able to set up their classrooms. She asked that the district give teachers enough time to set up their classrooms.
- 5) Dilza Gonzalez asked what is the plan to reopen schools. She said schools cannot be opened if the district is not ready.
- 6) Lee Pruett said teachers are giving less than two weeks to come back and some need to arrange child care.
- 7) Erica Grant said she is a teacher. She said the spread of COVID 19 has not been controlled.
- 8) Kathy Lowey said cases of COVID 19 have been raised around the country. She said CDC has warned everyone of another wave of COVID 19.
- 9) Diana Albert said she is a teacher at Hubbard. She said she feels that teachers are overlooked.
- 10) Sherri Dorthy said she has worked twenty-five years at the district. She asked the staff was going to have their temperature checked daily.

5. Superintendent/ Board Business *(continued)*

Public Comments:

11) Jessica Livoti said she is scared of returning to school. She said the district is making decisions on teachers' lives, not their profession.

12) Ms. Bisaccia said she is a teacher at Joseph George. She said some of her students have lost family members due to COVID 19.

President Corina Herrera-Loera asked Superintendent Bauer to speak to some of the concerns mentioned.

Superintendent Bauer said there was a school reopening plan presented during the Special Board Meeting last week. She said the district has been planning for months the return back to school.

Clerk Ernesto Bejarano thanked Superintendent Bauer for clarifying that safety is a priority. He said he is empathetic with everyone's feelings being expressed. He said his job is placing children in foster care and there is a risk of him being exposed to COVID 19.

Member Linda Chavez said her concern is the safety of everyone. She said if there could be a public forum regarding the school reopening plan would be better. She mentioned that parents would be more at ease.

Member Minh Pham thanked Superintendent Bauer and the administration for all their work. He said whatever happens tonight he hopes everyone can work together.

President Corina Herrera-Loera asked if the motion passes what are the next steps.

Superintendent Bauer replied the parents that opted to continue in distance learning are going to stay in distance learning. She said there is a lot of parents that want their children to come back to school and for those students, the district will have a schedule for them.

Vice-President Andr s Quintero said he had COVID 19 and as a result, it has affected his lungs. He said he will not base his decision based on his personal experience. He said the district was told that the county is in the orange tier and it is safe to reopen to schools. He said he understands there is a lot of concerns. He asked Counsel Rogelio Ruiz to speak about the county being in the orange tier.

Counsel Rogelio Ruiz said Santa Clara County remains in the orange tier and schools may reopen.

5. Superintendent/ Board Business (continued)


**Roll call vote: Ayes: Vice-President Andrès Quintero, President Corina Herrera-Loera, and Clerk Ernesto Bejarano Noes: Member Minh Pham and Member Linda Chavez.
Vote: 3/2; Motion Carries**

6. Adjournment

6.01 President Adjourns the Meeting

President Corina Herrera-Loera adjourned the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:

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Clerk Ernesto Bejarano
Board Clerk