

**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 23, 2021, 6:00 p.m. at the Alum Rock Union School
Board Members and Superintendent participated via Zoom Meeting
Meeting #16-20/21**

1. OPEN SESSION

1.01 Call to Order / Roll Call/ Pledge of Allegiance

President Corina Herrera-Loera welcomed everyone. President Corina Herrera-Loera called the Board Meeting to order at 4:33 p.m. followed by Roll Call.

Board Members Present:

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

Administrative and Support Staff Members Present:

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

Clerk Ernesto Bejarano said the Board cannot answer any questions asked by the public. He asked Counsel Rogelio Ruiz to clarify his role at the Board meetings.

Counsel Rogelio Ruiz said the Board cannot have discussions regarding questions asked in public comment. He said his role at the Board meetings is to provide guidance should any legal issues arise.

Public Comments:

- 1) Becky McGuire said she is concerned about the Homeless Encampments at Sheppard Middle School.
- 2) Kristine asked how the public would know when they need to rejoin the Board meeting.

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 7:30 p.m. President Corina Herrera-Loera welcomed everyone and said there was a quorum.

5. Superintendent/ Board Business

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

MOTION #01-16 by Member Linda Chavez to approve Action Item 5.01 as presented. MOTION #01-16 was seconded by President Corina Herrera-Loera.

Assistant Superintendent Carlos Moran, Principal Maria Martinez, Director, Barbara Campbell, Director Anthony Colonna, Director Tereasa Smith, Principal Jackie Montejano, Director Norma Flores, Director Dennise Mendez, and Assistant Superintendent Rene Sanchez gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Plan for School Reopenings in Alum Rock School District.

Public Comments:

- 1) Christina said she had concerns regarding the homeless encampments located at Rough & Ready Road. She asked if the district had any thoughts on how to address this issue.
- 2) Kari Gonzalez asked if the district had a date to reopen schools.

Superintendent Bauer made the following recommendation to the Board. She asked Counsel Rogelio Ruiz to speak about Santa Clara County moving from red to orange tier.

Counsel Rogelio Ruiz said Santa Clara County moved from red to orange tier today.

Recommendation: Beginning the week of April 12, 2021, ARUESD will open up grade levels Pre-K to 8 on a phased basis to provide in-person instruction for students who have elected to opt-in to return to in-person instruction in District schools.

President Corina Herrera-Loera asked if this motion would allow parents to change their minds on whether or not they want to send their children to school.

Superintendent Bauer replied that parents are aware of the cut-off date if they decide to send their children back to school.

AMENDED MOTION #02-16 by Member Linda Chavez to approve, beginning the week of April 12, 2021, ARUESD will open up grade levels Pre-K to 8 on a phased basis to provide in-person instruction for students who have elected to opt-in to return to in-person instruction in District schools. MOTION #02-16 was seconded by President Corina Herrera-Loera.

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5. Superintendent/ Board Business *(continued)*

Public Comments:

- 1) Eddie said he is concerned about the illegal encampments located at Sheppard Middle School.
- 2) Delia said she is concerned about letting her child return to school without her not being fully vaccinated.
- 3) AREA President, Jocelyn Merz, said she was surprised by the motion made.
- 4) Steven Lynch said he is a teacher and the air filtration is not good in his classroom.

Member Minh Pham said he would like to ask Business Services what is going on with the air filtration.

Assistant Superintendent Chheng replied the concerns about air filtration are being addressed.

Clerk Ernesto Bejarano thanked the staff for the presentation. He said things change all the time. He commented on how the county has gone from red to orange tier.

President Corina Herrera-Loera said she is aware that teachers are working hard. She said, for her daughter, it is best that she returns to school. She asked Superintendent Bauer what can be done if parents are not ready to return their children to school due to safety reasons.

Superintendent Bauer said the district will work around the situations parents have.

**Roll call vote: Ayes: Vice-President Andrès Quintero, President Corina Herrera-Loera, Member Minh Pham, Clerk Ernesto Bejarano and Member Linda Chavez.
Vote: 5/0; Motion Carries**

5.02 The Board will consider actions to address the issue of Unhoused Encampments next to Alum Rock schools.

Superintendent Bauer said she has sent two letters to the city staff. She said the city needs to announce abatement at Mathson. She commented that City Council will be addressing the unhoused encampments today.

Member Linda Chavez asked that the district reach out to the mayor of San Jose and ask for a municipal code. She mentioned the school district of Watsonville closes certain streets during school hours.

5. Superintendent/ Board Business *(continued)*

Public Comments:

- 1) Jennifer Dorty said she is a teacher from Sheppard Middle School. She said she has seen numerous encampments. She said she has made a lot of calls to the city to address the issue.
- 2) Delia said she is a part of the neighborhood association and they work with Terry McLaughlin who works for the Santa Clara County Office of the District Attorney's Office. She said that Terry McLaughlin has always said to the neighborhood association that if they see unhoused encampments set up near the schools, to let her know.
- 3) Michael Frubus said that McKee Road has a lot of unhoused encampments and it is bad. He asked if Sheppard Middle School has a safety officer on site.
- 4) Brenda Zendejas said the safety of children is a priority. She said the unhoused encampments near the schools have been happening for some time.
- 5) Rufina Diaz said she is a mother at Sheppard. She commented on how she has seen a lot of aggressive individuals. She said she is willing to help in whatever the district needs to address this issue.

Clerk Ernesto Bejarano thanked parents and staff for taking part in addressing the issue at hand. He said there are mental health issues that affect the children directly. He said Superintendent Bauer has been sending communications in order to try to clean up the creek at Mathson.

Vice-President Andr s Quintero said when he worked for the city, he used to work with unhoused individuals. He said it is unacceptable that society allows unhoused individuals to decay in the street.

President Corina Herrera-Loera said she is aware that unhoused individuals need a lot of resources. There needs to be pressure put on the mayor and city officials to address the issue at hand.

Superintendent Bauer thanked all the parents who attended the Board meeting. She said the district does not have the authority to address the issue of the unhoused encampments. She said she can see the frustration of the parents and the community.

President Corina Herrera-Loera said the district stands with the API community against hate crimes.

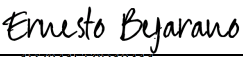
Vice-President Andr s Quintero said he would like to adjourn in memory of those individuals who lost their lives in Georgia, Colorado, and the man who was killed in Fresno, CA while selling ice cream.

6. Adjournment

6.01 President Adjourns the Meeting

President Corina Herrera-Loera adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:


Clerk Ernesto Bejarano
Board Clerk