


# TWIN RIDGES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

16661 Old Mill Rd., Nevada City, California

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2023 4:00 PM GRIZZLY HILL SCHOOL

	<b>1.</b>	<b>CALL TO ORDER 4:07PM</b>		
	<b>2.</b>	<b>ROLL CALL</b>		
		Malik Goodman Aubrey Puetz Mindi Morton Lorien Whitestone Jonathan Farrell	President Clerk NCSOS Representative/Timekeeper Member Member	present not present present not present present
	<b>3.</b>	<b>ATTENDEES:</b> Superintendent Scott Mikal, CBO Sunshine Bender, Morgan Street		
<i>Action</i>	<b>4.</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 8th, 2023 REGULAR AGENDA – Malik Goodman</b>		
		Add Peter Owens report after PRC report. Move 6b and c up (above reports). All approve.		
	<b>5.</b>	<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b> The Board of Trustees welcomes comments and suggestions from the public. While no action may be taken by the Board concerning items not on the agenda, comments are important for District information and for possible future action. Due to time considerations, the chair may request that comments by an individual be limited to two minutes. Suggestions and comments from the public regarding items listed on this agenda should be raised during the comment period for the specific agenda item. (Education Code 35145.5; Bylaw 9322, Government Code 54954.3)		
		Comment by parent to delay Interdistrict transfer to accommodate absent Trustees, Superintendent states that transfers are rarely denied by sending district.		
<i>Action</i>	<b>6.</b>	<b>CONSENT ITEMS.</b> <i>These items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. The Board will act upon them at one time without discussion. Any Board member, staff member or interested party may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.</i>		
<i>Action</i>	<b>A.</b>	Approval of the July 11th Board Retreat Minutes		
		Mindi Morton makes a motion to approve, Jonathan Farrell seconds, motion carries at follows (3/0/2/0)  Malik Goodman - YES Aubrey Puetz - ABSENT Mindi Morton - YES Lorien Whitestone - ABSENT Jonathan Farrell - YES		






Action	<b>D.</b>	Approval of the July Warrants	
		<p>Lorien Whitestone arrives at 4:08</p> <p>Mindi Morton makes a motion to approve, Jonathan Farrell seconds, motion carries as follows (4/0/1/0).</p> <p>Malik Goodman - YES  Aubrey Puetz - ABSENT  Mindi Morton - YES  Lorien Whitestone - YES  Jonathan Farrell - YES</p>	
	<b>C.</b>	Personnel Change Report	
		<p>Scott Mikal presents PCR.</p> <p>Debate over whether Board members were included in the hiring process, note that PCR should be in the action items section. Mindi Morton: In the past Board had to approve hires. Malik Goodman: It doesn't make sense to have it as an approval before an action item. Could also be considered a closed session item. Scott Mikal: This is a larger discussion.</p> <p>Mindi Morton makes a motion to approve PCR with a note to include further discussion to Sept meeting, Lorien Whitestone seconds, motion carries as follows (4/0/1/0).</p> <p>Malik Goodman - YES  Aubrey Puetz - ABSENT  Mindi Morton - YES  Lorien Whitestone - YES  Jonathan Farrell - YES</p>	
	<b>7.</b>	<b>REPORTS</b>	
Discussion	<b>A.</b>	Family Resource Center Report - <i>Diana Pasquini</i>	
		Diana Pasquini reports on summer camp programming, Board and Superintendent requests GH numbers and campership numbers, identification of potential ELOP funding overlap in future.	
		<b>PETER OWENS REPORT</b>	
		<p>Discussion to have printed reports available in future meetings.</p> <p>Peter Ketchand reports on investments. Performance over the last 3 years is looking especially good. 575k maturing in Sept</p> <p>Scott Mikal: We may need matching funds for a TK/K grant. Can give more info on patterns regarding investments and withdrawals. Can provide a best guess on withdrawals, likely spring, perhaps next month we can have info. ADD TO SEPT AGENDA what to do with 575k.</p> <p>Peter Ketchand reviews graphs and takeaways.</p> <p>Jonathan Farrell makes a request to examine where we are investing and if it is in line with values of the school and the community. Malik Goodman suggests starting in committee. SEPT AGENDA ITEM REPORT BACK ON THIS MEETING AND FINDINGS/LIST OF COMPANIES</p> <p>Malik Goodman begins a discussion of rated bonds and what the school standards are, discussion of all Board members.</p>	


Discussion	<b>B.</b>	Superintendent/Principal Report - <i>Scott Mikal-Heine</i>																							
		<p>Introduction of new District Executive Admin Assistant and Special Ed Aid, 30 day temp.</p> <p>New paraprofessionals added in August (ON SEPT AGENDA as action/discussion items) .</p> <p>Additional students added from the county, TRESA has been very proactive about getting students back when appropriate, offering services close to home.</p> <p>New teacher in grade 7.</p> <p>Spec Ed teacher position hiring is still in process, 3rd round of applicants. 30 day sub hired (see above). Cindy Browning speaks to stability in the classroom for spec ed kids. She would be involved with assessments and support throughout the year. The 30 day sub would essentially be her assistant.</p> <p>Beginning of school overview. Professional development includes: SEL in class, bullying, Tier 2 PBIS, trauma sensitivity, reliability, communication with families, academic performance (I-Ready), student attendance vs. chronic absenteeism, intervention scheduling, schedules, ERP, teachers coming to board meetings once a year to report.</p> <p>CSBA board eval is closed. Scott Mikal requests an action item to re-open, revisit. There is a cost. Malik Goodman states there is no specific reason we need to do it through the CSBA or digitally. Mindi Morton offers to do research and bring in new evaluation tool options. SEPT AGENDA ITEM-BRING NEW EVAL OPTIONS.</p> <p>Cal Solar will give a tiered comprehensive quote for repairs. Could be worth dipping into funds, FEMA and SIG options as well. The quote is the first step.</p> <p>Williams and Associates met over the summer and went to all 3 sites. We expect an end of Aug master plan report and we will ask for an in-person report.</p> <p>Preschool license has been submitted.</p>																							
Discussion		<p>Current Enrollment</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="386 1150 1295 1249"> <thead> <tr> <th>Grade</th> <th>TK/K</th> <th>1</th> <th>2</th> <th>3</th> <th>4</th> <th>5</th> <th>6</th> <th>7</th> <th>8</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Students</td> <td>3/12</td> <td>7</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>15</td> <td>12</td> <td>14</td> <td>7</td> <td>9</td> <td>104</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Discussion of potential additional ASES program for TK only (half day) if more students enroll in TK to capacity.</p> <p>Lorien Whitstone requests adjustment of enrollment packets to avoid redundancies and excessive paperwork.</p> <p>Mindi Morton requests listing teacher names on current enrollment reports.</p>	Grade	TK/K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total	Students	3/12	7	12	13	15	12	14	7	9	104	
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Discussion	<b>C.</b>	Little Acorns Preschool (15 Students, more enquiring) - <i>Pam Langley</i>																							
		<p>Pam Langley not in attendance, Scott Mikal presents on enrollment.</p> <p>M/W/F is full, T/TH still has openings but not many.</p>																							
Discussion	<b>D.</b>	Teacher's Report/Field Trip - <i>Scott Mikal-Heine/Staff</i>																							
		<p>Nothing to report.</p>																							
Discussion	<b>E.</b>	Parent Teacher Club Report - <i>Sunshine Bender</i>																							
		<p>Nothing to report.</p>																							
Discussion	<b>F.</b>	Student Services Report - <i>Cindy Browning</i>																							

		<p>Cindy Browning presents a shift in intervention model. I-Ready program year-at-a-glance. Training will be part of PD before school and during ongoing staff meetings.</p> <p>Sept 18th start date.</p> <p>Overview of staff roles.</p> <p>Roughly 30 min/day 5 days/week.</p> <p>Cindy emphasizes the team aspect and support tools for staff throughout the year.</p> <p>Malik Goodman requests clarification at what point we will know levels of students. Cindy Browning affirms she will have check-ins with teachers to assess what they need to reach goals. Malik Goodman requests clarification on when we know where the benchmarks are and how to set them. Cindy Browning affirms benchmarks are built into the program, yearly flow will include: team meetings, refocusing overall priorities, identifying students of higher need and allocating support as required. Mindi Morton and Malik Goodman request ongoing reports to the Board.</p>	
Discussion	<b>G.</b>	Board Report - <i>Malik Goodman</i>	
		<p>Mindi Morton would like CPR for all staff, especially PE and playground staff. Scott Mikal adds that a PE instructor was hired and CPR is required for all certificated staff.</p> <p>Malik Goodman notes the sports schedule has been posted. Discussion about sports recruitment this fall.</p>	
	<b>6.</b>	<b>DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS</b>	
Discussion/Action	<b>A.</b>	Declarations of Need: Multiple Subjects & Special Education Teacher - <i>Scott Mikal-Heine</i>	
		<p>Scott Mikal presents Dec of Need.</p> <p>Lorien Whitestone makes a motion to approve, Mindi Morton seconds, motion carries as follows (4/0/1/0).</p> <p>Malik Goodman - YES  Aubrey Puetz - ABSENT  Mindi Morton - YES  Lorien Whitestone - YES  Jonathan Farrell - YES</p>	
Discussion/Action	<b>B.</b>	California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act - <i>Sunshine Bender</i>	 
		<p>Sunshine Bender presents CUPCCAA. Mindi Morton asks for clarification: no need for three bids? Sunshine Bender explains it is a different bidding process. Mindi Morton asks about conflict of interest. Sunshine Bender clarifies there is no conflict of interest, we have a list of approved vendors, it's about keeping work local. Malik Goodman clarifies that this does not change the Board approval process. Lorien Whitestone clarifies that staff still has to bring the bid to the Board for approval. Sunshine Bender clarifies that CUPCCAA essentially speeds up the process.</p> <p>Mindi Morton makes a motion to approve, Jonathan Farrell seconds, motion carries as follows (4/0/1/0).</p> <p>Malik Goodman - YES  Aubrey Puetz - ABSENT  Mindi Morton - YES</p>	

		Lorien Whitestone - YES Jonathan Farrell - YES	
Discussion/Action	<b>C.</b>	Authorization to Approve Scott Mikal-Heine to sign contracts from \$60k-\$200k <i>-Sunshine Bender</i>	
		<p>Sunshine Bender explains the motion and how it is a part of CUPCCAA.</p> <p>Malik Goodman I want to see it at 6k needing board approval. Scott Mikal: threshold for signing is coupled with CUPCCAA. Malik Goodman: Regardless, what would it look like uncoupled? Lorien Whitestone: The verbiage is funny.</p> <p>Sunshine Bender clarifies the process.</p> <p>Mindi Morton: Authorization to sign upon board approval, Sunshine will get more info. Malik Goodman: We still want board approval from 6k upwards. Sunshine Bender: Board policy is 10k, this is just for construction costs, not general purchases. Malik Goodman: What about \$0-\$60k? Mindi Morton: Can we change it to \$10k-\$200k? Sunshine Bender clarifies that \$60k-\$200k is part of CUPCCAA, additional verbiage can be added.</p> <p>Scott Mikal clarifies this proposal retains the policy for general spending. This resolution truncates the bidding process. Board can still request bids. Sunshine Bender adds that additional bids could still be acquired, any project and final quote will still be brought to the Board for approval.</p> <p>Proposed amendment to be added to include any contract over \$6k.</p> <p>Mindi Morton makes a motion to approve, Lorien Whitestone seconds, motion passes as follows (3/1/1/0).</p> <p>Malik Goodman - NO Aubrey Puetz - ABSENT Mindi Morton - YES Lorien Whitestone - YES Jonathan Farrell - YES</p>	
Discussion/Action	<b>D.</b>	WA After School Program Operation	
		<p>Scott presents documentation and refers to MOU.</p> <p>Malik Goodman, requests more accurate numbers outlining cost breakdown.</p> <p>Scott Mikal: Staff is recommending we close the program, seeking Board opinion. Attendance speaks louder than cost in this case, there's just not enough students. 2.8 kids average per day. 6 kids in town. 3hrs a day open. ELOP/FRC funding etc isn't out of the picture but they take into consideration attendance numbers for those funds.</p> <p>Mindi Morton proposes we close the program, keep utilities on, not internet. Malik Goodman: But how much will it be to turn that stuff on if it is needed again? We have a new parent enquiring and potentially 8 kids interested in the future. It's easy to wash our hands of it, but it's important to consider the constituents, especially because they aren't represented on this Board. Jonathan Farrell: Can we cut some of these costs? Use Starlink? Mindi Morton: But for who? Malik Goodman: 3 kids that are there every day. Malik Goodman requests transparency on numbers.</p> <p>Scott Mikal: Efficiency of space is the question. Unless we have a grant it is not cost efficient.</p>	

		<p>Jonathan Farrell: Don't we have the responsibility to provide this if there is a need? Mindi Morton: They're home study kids. Malik Goodman: Use of the internet too.</p> <p>Lorien Whitestone makes a motion to approve closure of the after school program, Mindi Morton seconds, Malik Goodman and Jonathan Farrell abstain. Motion dies as follows (2/0/1/2). WA after school program will remain open.</p> <p>Malik Goodman - ABSTAIN Aubrey Puetz - ABSENT Mindi Morton - YES Lorien Whitestone - YES Jonathan Farrell - ABSTAIN</p>	
<i>Discussion/Action</i>	<b>E.</b>	WA Request to Install Backflow Device- <i>Sunshine Bender</i>	
		<p>Scott presents documents.</p> <p>Malik Goodman: We cannot have a facility with no water, not an option, for fire protection and landscaping at minimum. Mindi Morton: Can we contact them and tell them we are in debate about running the after school program? Scott Mikal: quote is roughly \$3k, we cannot do it in-house.</p> <p>Lorien Whitestone requests a new quote.</p> <p><b>NO ACTION TAKEN</b></p>	
<i>Discussion/Action</i>	<b>F.</b>	WA Tractor Request	
		<p>Scott Mikal proposes a trade tractor for the backflow device install. Reminder that the tractor was donated by a community member.</p> <p>Mindi Morton: Do we want to donate or loan? Lorien Whitestone wants a contract that details that they should be responsible for maintaining the tractor and require notification on status.</p> <p>Jonathan: We should have a contract and contingency to fix the backhoe device.</p> <p>Lorien Whitestone makes a motion to approve, Malik Goodman seconds. Motion passes as follows (3/0/1/0).</p> <p>Malik Goodman - YES Aubrey Puetz - ABSENT Mindi Morton - YES Lorien Whitestone - YES Jonathan Farrell - YES</p>	
<i>Discussion/Action</i>	<b>G.</b>	Immunization Policy and Special Ed Status Update - <i>Scott Mikal-Heine</i>	
		<p>No action, just an update on TRESA regarding the subject of immunization and special ed status.</p> <p>Scott Mikal presents the need for a unified front, immunization enforcement for our school has increased since our audit. TRESA asked to make progressive steps toward compliance, we are in process. A letter was drafted to give families options to show progress. Minimal families had strong opposition, most families are moving forward but are still in process. 1/3rd of the total student population are incomplete on vaccinations.</p> <p>Mindi Morton: Perhaps we should have a clinic here? Lorien Whitestone: We do a lot of outreach. Jonathan Farrell: Are families able to comply by taking these steps? Scott Mikal: Families can show effort. The new exclusion letter says they cannot</p>	

		<p>attend school unless they are fully compliant. Lorien Whitestone: It's the law. Scott Mikal: We aren't the only outlier but all schools need to start complying. Jonathan Farrell: What is the risk financially? Scott Mikal: We receive money through the state, we would lose roughly 30% of that money if we aren't in compliance.</p> <p>Scott Mikal explains that special ed status does not exempt from immunization compliance. There is heightened awareness due to a recent hearing in the area. School has a duty to pursue students who are chronically absent. An Exclusion letter was sent to families explaining that school also has a duty to inform families that students cannot attend if they do not have immunizations.</p> <p>Jonathan Farrell: Are we liable? Scott Mikal: No, we are doing our due diligence in the eyes of the law and EdCode. This update is an effort to keep the Board up to date on our actions.</p> <p>Updated 9/12/23 Jonathan Farrell requests additional language to be added regarding the issue of liability, specifying what liability is for. Jonathan Farrell states that he asked if we were liable for not providing the services of education to said students.</p> <p>Jonathan Farrell: As a parent I struggle with how to explain this to my kid? I can't be the only one. As a board member we have to come up with a home study program that allows for this flexibility. We have a responsibility as a school board to deal with this and be responsible for constituents. Malik Goodman suggests a 3rd option (home study) needs to be investigated, requests research, Forest Charter as an example.</p> <p>Scott Mikal agrees to talk to Forest Charter and TR Home School Charter about models and REPORT BACK IN SEPT AND OCT.</p>	
Discussion/Action	<b>H.</b>	Interdistrict Transfer #1	
		Interdistrict Transfers represented by the same parent, see below (I)	
Discussion/Action	<b>I.</b>	Interdistrict Transfer #2	
		<p>Superintendent clarifies that approval on the sending district is open, the receiving district can deny. Charter schools do not require interdistrict transfer requests.</p> <p>Reasons for transfer recognized, identified as valid points.</p> <p>Mindi requests that the Board take into account the grievances and reasons for interdistrict transfer request. Parent acknowledges the work of the Board.</p> <p>Mindi Morton makes a motion to approve both Interdistrict Transfers, Jonathan Farrell seconds. Motion passes as follows (4/0/1/0).</p> <p>Malik Goodman - YES Aubrey Puetz - ABSENT Mindi Morton - YES Lorien Whitestone - YES Jonathan Farrell - YES</p>	
Discussion/Action	<b>J.</b>	Review Governance Calendar	
		Postponed until SEPT 2023 meeting.	

Discussion/Action	K.	Election Timeline Adopt Resolution / Declaration of Candidacy	
		Postponed until AUG 2024.	
Discussion/Action	L.	Williams Law Quarterly Report	
		Document presented, no claims.  Mindi Morton makes a motion to approve, Lorien Whitestone seconds, roll call. Motion passes as follows (4/0/1/0).  Malik Goodman - YES Aubrey Puetz - ABSENT Mindi Morton - YES Lorien Whitestone - YES Jonathan Farrell - YES	
	<b>8.</b>	<b>PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS</b>	
	<b>9.</b>	<b>CLOSED SESSION</b>	
	A.	Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Gov. Code § 54957[b]) SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION - REPORT OUT	
	<b>10.</b>	<b>RECESS /RECONVENE - Report Out on Closed Session – Malik Goodman</b>	
	A.	Reportable Action Taken Regarding Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Gov. Code § 54957[b]) SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION - REPORT OUT	
		Accepted with a positive rating.	
Discussion	<b>11.</b>	<b>FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSION</b>	
		Committee to discuss withdrawals and maturing investments with Peter Ketchand, present at Sept 2023 meeting. Committee to discuss investment portfolio, identifying overlap and conflict with community values, will present at Sept 2023 meeting. (Jonathan Farrell, Mindi Morton, Sunshine Bender, Scott Mikal)  PCR including new paraprofessionals added in August. Present at Sept 2023 meeting. Add discussion of the hiring process. Request for personnel breakdown, position control document: job descriptions, location of assignment, work stations.  Committee to conduct research on alternative board evaluation tools, will present at Sept 2023 meeting.  Scott Mikal will research home study models and resort back to the Board in Sept or Oct 2023.  Add review of the Governance Calendar to the Sept 2023 meeting.  Election Timeline Adopt Resolution / Declaration of Candidacy added to Aug 2024 meeting.	
	<b>12.</b>	<b>UPCOMING MEETINGS: September 12, 2023</b>	
	<b>13.</b>	<b>ADJOURNMENT 7:47 PM</b>	



**NOTICE:**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to access the Board meeting room or to otherwise participate at this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, contact the Twin Ridges Elementary School District office at 530.265-9052 ext. 201 at least 48 hours before the scheduled Board meeting so that we may make every reasonable effort to accommodate your needs. {G.C. §54953.2, §54954.2(a) (1); Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, §202 (42 U.S.C. §12132)}

8/8/2023

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Malik Goodman, Board President

Date

8/8/2023

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Scott Mikal-Heine, Superintendent/Principal

Date