

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Tamalpais Union High School District**

**April 14, 2020**

<https://zoom.us/j/897848907?pwd=ZU9tU1htVVIXcHVkbHpBVHc2Uk41Zz09>

**Attended on Zoom**

**Trustees**

Leslie Harlander  
Karen Loebbaka  
Dan Oppenheim  
Cynthia Roenisch  
Kevin Saavedra

**Student Trustees**

Kara Kneafsey, Tamalpais High School  
Lauren Steele, Redwood High School  
Matty Darragh-Ford, Drake High School  
Charlotte Pearson, Tamiscal High School  
Devona Times, San Andreas High School

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

A meeting of the Tamalpais Union High School District Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:46 p.m. on Zoom. A quorum was declared present.

**2. Approval of Closed Session Agenda**

M/S/C (Roenisch/Loebbaka), unanimously.

**3. Public Comments on Closed Session Agenda**

There were no comments of on the Closed Session agenda.

**4. Recess to Closed Session in the Superintendent's Office**

**A. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Gov Code 54957.6:**

**B. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Ed Code 35146:**

**1. Approve Waiver of Graduation Requirement (Student A)**

**C. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Gov Code 54956.9(b):**

**1. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation**

**2. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation**

## **5. Reconvene into Open Session**

The meeting was reconvened into Open Session at 6:00 p.m. in an online Zoom format.

## **6. Announcement of Reportable Action Taken in Closed Session**

Ms. Harlander reported that in regards to Item 4. C. 1., the board unanimously approved a settlement in the amount of \$79,500 for OAH Case # 2020-01. In regards to Item 4. C. 2., the board unanimously rejected the claim.

## **7. Approve Agenda and Review Norms**

M/S/C (Loebbaka/Oppenheim), unanimously. The Board will create new norms for meetings held on Zoom.

## **8. Public Comment on the Consent Agenda**

There were no comments on the Consent Agenda.

## **9. Approval of Consent Agenda - ROLL CALL VOTE**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander

Yes Karen Loebbaka

Yes Dan Oppenheim

Yes Cynthia Roenisch

Yes Kevin Saavedra

## **10. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

Mimi Willard, Larkspur resident, thanked the Board for using Zoom as the format for Board meetings during the Shelter-in-Place orders.

## **11. Student Trustee Reports**

Kara Kneafsey, Tamalpais High School, reported that students like the new schedule of online learning, drama One-Acts will be podcasts this semester, and everyone is doing as well as they can under the circumstances.

Charlotte Pearson, Tamiscal High School, reported that the new online curriculum is going well, and students are adjusting.

Devona Times, San Andreas High School, reported that students are settling in to the new program, and miss the physical campus.

Lauren Steele, Redwood High School, reported that some students are upset but working with Leadership to find alternatives to the graduation ceremony and other senior activities. Virtual events are being planned. The Principal sent a survey to gather feedback and ideas.

Matty Darragh-Ford, Drake High School, reported that the new online schedule is a relief to

students, and everyone is finding ways to stay motivated. There will be virtual spirit week activities on Instagram, drama students are doing a radio show, Drake has a new website, and Peer Mentoring is using Zoom.

## **12. Trustee Considerations**

### **A. Measure B Parcel Tax Debrief**

To understand the results and context of the Measure B election, Charles Heath and Sabrina Kochprapha of TBWB spoke to the board. State-wide challenges and national events as well as the stock market plunge prior to the election were factors in the results. Measure B fell short of the two-thirds approval by approximately 3%. TBWB provided data to show results by demographics, types of voters (polling place or by mail), and precincts.

Next, Bryan Godbe of Godbe Research compared the polling survey to the voting results. He showed a breakdown of the turnout and explained the timing of ballot returns.

### **B. Discussion of Next Steps for a Potential Parcel Tax Renewal**

Ms. Harlander directed the Board to discuss next steps in the development of a new parcel tax and options for a timeline. Bryan Godbe provided feedback on the possible election dates, and the pros and cons of each date.

Public Comment:

Mimi Willard commented that the \$190 increase to the current tax did not poll well in the prior survey. She also referred to a letter that COST sent to the board, in which they recommend not having a special election.

Laura Effel, resident, commented that the voters want to know why the District needs more money.

The board discussed the need for a poll to make data-driven decisions. M/S/C (Roenisch/Oppenheim), unanimously, to direct Godbe Research to develop a new survey for public feedback on a future parcel tax.

### **C. Discussion of Release Periods**

Dr. Taupier provided a breakdown of teacher release periods currently in use in the district. She answered board questions about what these periods provide, and what alternatives are possible without them. She made a recommendation to remove all release periods except for English Language Learner Coordinators.

Jack Watson, Redwood HS student, commented on the effectiveness of release periods, and suggested evaluations to determine the need for them.

Josie Spiegelman, Tamalpais HS student, commented on the benefits of release periods for Journalism magazine production.

#### **D. Determination of Essential Construction Services**

Mr. Christensen explained the need to deem projects as essential in order to continue work, because of a new law related to Shelter-in-Place orders.

M/S/C (Roenisch/Loebbaka), unanimously, to declare the five projects listed as essential.

#### **E. Update on COVID-19 Response and Distance Learning**

Dr. Taupier reported on the Extended Distance Learning Plan which was developed using research and feedback from a survey of parents and students. The plan includes a new school schedule, and acknowledges the many health and economic challenges for all. Student trustees commented that the new plan was an improvement, and the board discussed the possibility of changing the grading policy to credit/no credit for this semester.

Public Comment:

Ann Jaime, Redwood HS teacher, commented that the Monday prep time was very helpful and needed.

### **13. Consent Agenda**

#### **A. Approve Minutes from the BOT Meeting on March 24, 2020**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander  
Yes Karen Loebbaka  
Yes Dan Oppenheim  
Yes Cynthia Roenisch  
Yes Kevin Saavedra

#### **B. Approve Personnel Summary for April 14, 2020**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander  
Yes Karen Loebbaka  
Yes Dan Oppenheim  
Yes Cynthia Roenisch  
Yes Kevin Saavedra

**C. Ratify Purchase Orders Over \$40,000**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

- Yes Leslie Harlander
- Yes Karen Loebbaka
- Yes Dan Oppenheim
- Yes Cynthia Roenisch
- Yes Kevin Saavedra

**D. Approve Course of Study for Graphic Design I**

**Motion Passed:** Approve Course of Study for Graphic Design I Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

- Yes Leslie Harlander
- Yes Karen Loebbaka
- Yes Dan Oppenheim
- Yes Cynthia Roenisch
- Yes Kevin Saavedra

**E. Approve Course of Study for Graphic Design 2-3**

**Motion Passed:** Approve Course of Study for Graphic Design 2-3 Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

- Yes Leslie Harlander
- Yes Karen Loebbaka
- Yes Dan Oppenheim
- Yes Cynthia Roenisch
- Yes Kevin Saavedra

**F. Accept Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints - No complaints filed (April 2020 Quarter)**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

- Yes Leslie Harlander
- Yes Karen Loebbaka
- Yes Dan Oppenheim
- Yes Cynthia Roenisch
- Yes Kevin Saavedra

**G. Approve Waiver of Graduation Requirement (Student A)**

**Motion Passed:** That the Board of Trustees approves the graduation requirement waiver as discussed in Closed Session. Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

- Yes Leslie Harlander
- Yes Karen Loebbaka
- Yes Dan Oppenheim

Yes Cynthia Roenisch  
Yes Kevin Saavedra

**14. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Taupier thanked everyone for their outstanding work in adjusting to online teaching and learning. She also read a paragraph from an article by Aisha Ahmad.

**15. Trustee Reports**

There were no trustee reports.

**16. Conclusion**

**17. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

  
Clerk

  
Date