

The Tamalpais Union High School District Board of Trustees met on Zoom on Tuesday, July 14. Here are some of the Highlights from the meeting.

WELCOME NEW ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Ms. Harlander welcomed our new Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, **Dr. Kimberlee Armstrong**. Dr. Armstrong brings with her a wealth of knowledge in Curriculum and Instruction, and she will also oversee Wellness and Student Services in the District. Dr. Armstrong has served in public schools since 2002. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communication from California State University East Bay. She later pursued degrees in Education and Business at City University of Seattle where she currently serves as an online adjunct faculty in the College of Education. She continued study in Education Administration at Seattle University and earned an Education Specialist Degree with a Washington State Principal Certification in 2010. In 2012, she earned her Doctor of Education Degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies with a Washington State Superintendent Certification from University of Washington. For a full professional biography, please click [here](#).

PROPOSED PARCEL TAX RESOLUTIONS

Dr. Taupier presented slides to review the options available for proposed parcel tax measures and the assumptions used in the budget that drive the need for a renewal and increase. The Board discussed the options and considered the uncertainties in the economy and the thin margin of support from taxpayers. With a general election in November 2020 being the most favorable time for voter turnout, and the greatest concern being a straight renewal, the Board decided to put only the straight renewal measure on the ballot, and therefore adopted only [Resolution 20-2](#) with amendments to remove all references to the companion measure.

FALL PLANNING FOR SCHOOL OPENING

Dr. Taupier presented updated information on the latest plans for opening school in August, including Senate Bill 98 which requires in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible. Given that COVID-19 cases in Marin have increased recently, the situation continues to be fluid and unpredictable. Multiple scenarios have been created to adjust instruction as allowable in a safe manner, and a detailed plan will be sent to parents on July 27. The Board asked questions and thanked the staff for the continuous work on a very difficult challenge to safely deliver instruction. The Board favors a cautious approach to school re-opening using distance learning, and a hybrid schedule if possible.

DISCUSSION OF PROCESS FOR DRAKE NAME CHANGE

Dr. Taupier and Drake High School Principal Liz Seabury provided slides to outline the process and timeline required to change the name of the school. Dan Freeman, Alison Leist, and Kendall Galli, members of a staff committee who initiated the name change, read a statement signed by 112 of 118 Drake staff. Following Board Policy 7310, the site committee will engage students, staff and the community in the process to select a new name for the school. In order for the name change process to be complete by August 2021, the Drake Leadership Council will need to provide the superintendent with a recommendation for a new name in time for the Board to vote on it at the October 27, 2020 meeting.

RESOLUTION FOR ANTI-RACIST EDUCATION

Dr. Taupier introduced a Resolution to establish a District-wide commitment to support students of color and promote equity work in the District. There was much public comment on the resolution. The Board took no action at this meeting, but will consider the feedback received and will bring the resolution back for a second reading in August.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Until further notice, Board meetings are held online, using a Zoom webinar platform. Please see the district website homepage for a link to published agendas. The Zoom link and password is found under Item 5., Reconvene into Open Session. For past meetings, please see the website for agendas, [minutes, videos, and highlights](#).

August 3, 2020: Governance Board Workshop on Self-Evaluation

August 11, 2020: Regular Board Meeting on Zoom

August 25, 2020: Regular Board Meeting on Zoom

Board Members: Leslie Harlander, President; Cynthia Roenisch, Clerk; Karen Loebbaka, Dan Oppenheim, and Kevin Saavedra

Superintendent: Tara Taupier

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services: Kimberlee Armstrong

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Facilities: Lars Christensen

Chief Financial Officer: Corbett Elsen

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