
**AZUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday, December 21, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

The Azusa Unified School District Board of Education met at the Administrative Offices, located at 546 S. Citrus Ave. for the Special Board Meeting.

To view the entire meeting click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc>

1.0 Preliminary

A) Call to Order

1.1 The Board President will call the Special Board Meeting of the Azusa Unified School District to Order

Board President, Adrian Greer, called the Special Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B) Flag Salute

1.2 Flag Salute

Recommendation: It is recommended that all rise for the flag salute.

Savannah Kendrick, a student at Paramount School, led the audience in the flag salute.

C) Roll Call

1.3 Roll Call

It is recommended the Board President take roll call.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Gabriela Arellanes
Sabrina Bow, Ed.D.
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez
Adrian Greer
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña

2.0 Approval of Agenda

2.1 Approval of Agenda

Recommendation: It is recommended the Board of Education approve the agenda order and content.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Gabriela Arellanes**) Moved, Member (**Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'It is recommended the Board of Education approve the agenda order and content'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 5 - 0**

Gabriela Arellanes	Yes
Sabrina Bow, Ed.D.	Yes
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez	Yes
Adrian Greer	Yes
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña	Yes

3.0 Items from the Floor/Public Comment on Agenda or Non-Agenda Items

3.1 Public Comment on Agenda or Non-Agenda Items

This is an opportunity for the public to address the Board of Education on agenda or non-agenda items. Individual speakers may be allowed up to three (3) minutes to address the Board of Education on any agenda or non-agenda items. When the public wishes to address the Board on an agenda item, they may fill out a blue card, stand at the podium, or raise their hand while in the Zoom attendance. The Board will take blue card requests first, followed in order by speakers at the podium and then those in the Zoom attendance.

Phillip Villa

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=338>

- Requested the Board of Education rebrand the new consolidated high school

Cecilia Ford

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=443>

- Requested the Board of Education rebrand the new consolidated high school

Francisco Duran

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=617>

- Requested the Board of Education to not rebrand the new consolidated high school

Diana Reyes Williams

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=801>

- Requested that Foothill Middle School not be closed
- Expressed that Gladstone High Students should be allowed to graduate from Gladstone

Cecilia De La Torre

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=1007>

- Requested the Board of Education to not rebrand the new consolidated high school
- Suggested the District spend money on programs for students

Alicia Rodriguez

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=1215>

- Requested the Board of Education to not rebrand the new consolidated high school
- Agreed that the District should spend money on programs for students

Marjorie Aveson

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=1406>

- Suggested the District is not competitive in compensation toward employees
- Explained that District employees have not received a COLA for the past two years

Leslie Jones

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=1572>

- Expressed concern regarding the rebranding of the consolidated high school
- Felt rebranding would unite the new high school

Emily Ruiz

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=1696>

- Felt money spent on rebranding would be better spent on student activities and equipment

Griselda Berry

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=1835>

- Concerned about the effect the timeline will have on middle school students
- Questioned the District's bussing plans for middle school students

Michelle Valencia

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=1981>

- Requested the Board of Education not close Ellington

Albert Sanchez

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=2201>

- Requested the Board of Education rebrand the new consolidated high school
- Suggested picking the new school colors, mascot, and school name be a contest

Julie Santisteven

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=2396>

- Expressed concern that the District has not done its homework researching the loss of students to neighboring districts

Nolan Sinclair

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=2485>

- Felt the Board of Education should not change the name of Azusa High School
- Suggested changing the school's mascot would be unifying

Melissa Wilson Perkins

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=2653>

- Concerned about the timeline

Violet Gonzales

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=2803>

- Requested the Board of Education not close Lee

George Ingle

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=2923>

- Requested the Board of Education not close Lee

Anna Valencia

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=3048>

- Requested the Board of Education not close Ellington

Alan French

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=3217>

- Suggested the Board of Education not make a final decision tonight

Selisa Loeza

To view entire comments click here: <https://youtu.be/u8o-mPwuejc?t=3404>

- Concerned about the future of Longfellow

4.0 General Functions

4.1 Discussion and Decision of School Reorganization

To view the entire discussion click here:

Azusa Unified School District has been working on school reorganization as a means to improve and maximize programs and facilities. The Board of Education has received

recommendations from the School Reorganization Team and will discuss and decide next steps.

- Board President Greer reviewed the items the Board of Education would vote on.
 1. Secondary Decisions
 2. Elementary Decisions
 3. Branding
 4. Longfellow
 5. Programs
 6. Funds
 7. DSA Approval

MOTION

Member (**Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez**) Moved, Member (**Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña**) Seconded to approve the **MOTION** 'It is recommended the Board of Education agree to consolidate both high school campuses at the Azusa High School Campus and consolidate middle school campuses at the Gladstone High School campus to include 6th – 8th grade'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **(5)** Nay: **(0)**. The motion (**Carried**). **(5) - (0)**

Gabriela Arellanes	Yes
Sabrina Bow, Ed.D.	Yes
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez	Yes
Adrian Greer	Yes
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña	Yes

MOTION

Member (**Sabrina Bow Ed.D.**) Moved, Member (**Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez**) Seconded to approve the **MOTION** 'It is recommended the Board of Education agree to the following timeline for secondary grades: For the 2022-2023 school year Azusa High School will serve Grades 9-12 and Gladstone High School will serve Grades 10-12 and in the 2023-2024 school year Azusa High School will continue to serve grades 9-12 and Gladstone High School campus will transition to being a middle school serving grades 6-8'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **(4)** Nay: **(1)**. The motion (**Carried**). **(4) - (1)**

Gabriela Arellanes	No
Sabrina Bow, Ed.D.	Yes
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez	Yes
Adrian Greer	Yes
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña	Yes

MOTION

Member (**Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez**) Moved, Member (**Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña**) Seconded to approve the **MOTION** 'It is recommended the Board of Education agree to the following timeline for middle school grades: In the 2022-2023 school year, Center Middle School, Foothill Middle School, and Slauson Middle School will remain open with 7th and 8th grades and 6th graders will remain at the elementary schools. In the 2023-2024 school year, Center Middle School, Foothill Middle School and Slauson Middle School will be

closed and consolidate to the Gladstone High School campus'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **(5)** Nay: **(0)**. The motion **(Carried)**. **(5) - (0)**

Gabriela Arellanes	Yes
Sabrina Bow, Ed.D.	Yes
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez	Yes
Adrian Greer	Yes
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña	Yes

ORIGINAL Motion

Member **(Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez)** Moved, Member **(Sabrina Bow Ed.D)** Seconded to approve the **MOTION** 'It is recommended the Board of Education agree to keep Hodge, Valleydale, Paramount, Murray, Magnolia, and Lee open'.

AMENDED Motion

Member **(Gabriela Arellanes)** Moved to amend the Original motion, Member **(Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña)** Seconded to approve the **AMENDED MOTION** 'It is recommended the Board of Education agree to keep Hodge, Valleydale, Paramount, Murray, Magnolia, and Dalton open'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **(2)** Nay: **(3)**. The motion **(Failed)**. **(2) – (3)**

Gabriela Arellanes	Yes
Sabrina Bow, Ed.D.	No
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez	No
Adrian Greer	No
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña	Yes

AMENDED Motion

Member **(Sabrina Bow Ed.D.)** Moved to amend the Original motion, Member **(Gabriela Arellanes)** Seconded to approve the **AMENDED MOTION** 'It is recommended the Board of Education agree to keep Hodge, Valleydale, Paramount, Murray, Lee, and Dalton open' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **(3)** Nay: **(2)**. The motion **(Carried)**. **(3) – (2)**

Gabriela Arellanes	Yes
Sabrina Bow, Ed.D.	Yes
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez	No
Adrian Greer	Yes
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña	No

MOTION

Member **(Sabrina Bow Ed.D.)** Moved to amend the Original motion, Member **(Gabriela Arellanes)** Seconded to approve the **MOTION** 'It is recommended the Board of Education agree to keep Hodge, Valleydale, Paramount, Murray, Lee, and Dalton open'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **(3)** Nay: **(2)**. The motion **(Carried)**. **(3) – (2)**

Gabriela Arellanes	Yes
Sabrina Bow, Ed.D.	Yes
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez	No
Adrian Greer	Yes
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña	No

MOTION

Member (**Gabriela Arellanes**) Moved, Member (**Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña**) Seconded to approve the **MOTION** ‘It is recommended the Board of Education agree that for the 2022-2023 school year, Paramount, Valleydale, Murray, Lee, Dalton, and (Hodge pending state approval) PS – 6 will remain open. Magnolia and Powell 1-6 and Ellington 1-8 will remain open. In the 2023-2024 school year, the designated schools to remain open will be PS-5 and the designated sites to be closed will be closed’. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **(5)** Nay: **(0)**. The motion (**Carried**). **(5) – (0)**

Gabriela Arellanes	Yes
Sabrina Bow, Ed.D.	Yes
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez	Yes
Adrian Greer	Yes
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña	Yes

MOTION

Member (**Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez**) Moved, Member (**Sabrina Bow Ed.D.**) Seconded to approve the **MOTION** ‘It is recommended the Board of Education agree to keep Azusa High School as the consolidated high school to be named Azusa High School and Gladstone High School as the consolidated middle school to be named Gladstone Middle School.’ Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **(5)** Nay: **(0)**. The motion (**Carried**). **(5) - (0)**

Gabriela Arellanes	Yes
Sabrina Bow, Ed.D.	Yes
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez	Yes
Adrian Greer	Yes
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña	Yes

MOTION

Member (**Gabriela Arellanes**) Moved, (**Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña**) Seconded to approve the **MOTION** ‘It is recommended the Board of Education agree to extend the Board Meeting to 10:55 p.m.’ Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **(5)** Nay: **(0)**. The motion (**Carried**). **(5) - (0)**

Gabriela Arellanes	Yes
Sabrina Bow, Ed.D.	Yes
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez	Yes
Adrian Greer	Yes
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña	Yes

MOTION

Member (**Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña**) Moved, (**Gabriela Arellanes**) Seconded to approve the **MOTION** ‘It is recommend the Board of Education agree to discuss the change of the

mascot and colors of the new consolidated high school at a future Board Meeting.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **(4)** Nay: **(1)**. The motion **(Carried)**. **(4) - (1)**

Gabriela Arellanes	Yes
Sabrina Bow, Ed.D.	Yes
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez	No
Adrian Greer	Yes
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña	Yes

5.0 Adjournment

5.1 Adjournment

Recommendation: It is recommended the Board of Education approve adjournment of the Special Board Meeting.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Gabriela Arellanes)** Moved, Member **(Sabrina Bow Ed.D.)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'It is recommended the Board of Education approve adjournment of the Special Board Meeting'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **(5)** Nay: **(0)**. The motion **(Carried)**. **(5) - (0)**

Gabriela Arellanes	Yes
Sabrina Bow, Ed.D.	Yes
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez	Yes
Adrian Greer	Yes
Yolanda Rodriguez-Peña	Yes

The Special Board Meeting adjourned at 10:41p.m.

Clerk