



**MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
GOVERNING BOARD OF THE  
SOLEDAD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DISTRICT OFFICE BOARD ROOM  
1261 METZ ROAD, SOLEDAD, CA 93960  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2016**

**I. OPENED BUSINESS – 5:00 PM**

A. Call Public Session to Order

B. Roll Call

Mrs. Marie Berlanga, President

Mrs. Jodi Massa, Vice-President

Mrs. Josie Perez-Aguilera, Clerk

Mr. Jaime Fernandez, Trustee

Mr. Javier Galvan, Trustee – ABSENT

Mr. Jorge Z. Guzman, Interim Superintendent

C. Approval of Closed Session Agenda

**MOTION TO APPROVE CLOSED SESSION AGENDA BY: Jaime Fernandez  
SECONDED BY: Jodi Massa AYES: Mrs. Berlanga, Mr. Fernandez, Mrs. Massa, Mrs.  
Perez-Aguilera NAYS: None ABSENT: Mr. Galvan**

D. Allowed for Public Comment on Closed Session Topics

1. Mr. Christopher Bourke, addressed the Board about the district leadership, the Assistant Superintendent and CBO and hiring a person that has checks and balances instead of hiring someone who has personal loyalty to the superintendent an enabling each other to do things they should not. To hire someone who does not have a friendly relationship and business loyalty to the district and the students of the district.

2. Francisco Pinedo, Teacher, lifelong resident of Soledad and a former student of the district; also addressed the Board and applauded the Board for placing Rupi Boyd on leave. On behalf of the employees who were afraid to come up because something would happen to them, he was speaking up for those that truly care about the students. Hire someone that treat employees in a dignified manner. He said that for three years, employees endured the yelling, bullying, and a hostile work environment. He mentioned that teachers were under so much stress and pressure by local administrators because of the Superintendent. They were pushed to the limit and beyond. He demanded better administrators and said he witness such yelling matches in the offices and at the district. It was more of a Jerry Springer Show. Hire someone that cares about the students and not about personal gains. Keep good teachers that we have and bring back those good teachers that have left.

3. Steve Brusa, Salinas resident, once again addressed the Board on the FCMAT audit. He mentioned the contents and findings of the district. He said that the Governing board and senior administrators were pilfering the district and have allowed this to happen to this district. That all be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law including members of the board that are no longer servicing and demanded the removal of all senior management.

E. Immediately Adjourn to Closed Session – 5:07 p.m.

II. **CLOSED SESSION**

A. Personnel

1. Public Employee Evaluation (Govt. Code 54957) (Title: Assistant Superintendent of Human Capital and Secondary Services)
2. Public Employee (Govt. Code 54957) (Title: Chief Business Official)
3. Public Employee Appointment (Govt. Code 54957) (Title: Interim Superintendent)
4. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (Govt. Code 54957)
5. Assignments/Reassignments/Resignations/Leaves/Terminations/Layoffs

III. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION – 7:15 p.m.**

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Report of action taken in closed session

1. Appointment of Interim Superintendent  
By a vote of 3 to 1; the Board appointed Mr. Jorge Guzman as the Interim Superintendent until further notice.

**Motion by Marie Berlanga, Seconded by Jodi Massa Ayes: Mrs. Berlanga, Mrs. Massa and Mrs. Perez-Aguilera Nays: Mr. Fernandez Absent: Mr. Galvan**

C. Audience Comments: President Berlanga allowed for a public comment:

1. Lucio Rios, Citizen and former Board member said that these were hard times and wanted to express 100% support to the Board. The Board is doing a good job. Everyone talks about moving forward; but he has not heard, “how can I help?” He was there to do that and offer to help if they need him.

- D. The Board gave direction to accept a rental quotation from Rain for Rent to install temporary irrigation lines to maintain moisture levels at ground where the new school will be built. Quote amount: \$4,500. The Board will ratify at their regular meeting of July 27, 2016.

IV. **NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

- A. Trustee Perez-Aguilera would like the district administrator to look at the bringing to the Board a current attorney contract since the one we have has expired. Either with the current firm or a new one and asked for an update at the next board meeting.

Trustee Perez-Aguilera also mentioned the Special Education Audit that was conducted and the presentation on the high costs. She would like a presentation by SpEd staff on the SpEd enrollment, costs, number of instructional aides, support staff and teachers. She also asked for costs per students and comparisons to other districts.

Also, how long students remain in the program and what types of supports are offered. Mr. Vega, CBO, agreed and will follow-up with the SpEd department staff.

- B. Board Retreat: President Berlanga requested input for a Board Retreat Day. It was scheduled for Saturday, August 20, 2016 at Soledad High School Multi to begin at 8:30 a.m. Please send Mrs. Firme any items you want on the agenda. The Board will be visiting the Mission/Vision and Goals of the District.
- C. Update on the status of Superintendent: Mrs. Berlanga will be reporting back to the audience on the status of the Superintendent while on administrative leave at the next meetings. Dr. Boyd will continue on administrative leave.

V. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Board approved August 10, 2016