

Oakland Unified School District

Board of Education
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Meeting Minutes Long - Final

Monday, January 3, 2022

11:00 AM

Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board of Education

**Concurrently: Virtual - Via Zoom and Granicus Live Manager and Broadcasted -
Via KDOL-TV (Comcast Channel 27 and AT&T Channel 99)**

Board of Education

President Shanthy Gonzales,

Vice President Benjamin "Sam" Davis

***Directors: Aimee Eng, VanCedric Williams, Gary Yee, Mike Hutchinson, Clifford
Thompson***

Student Directors: Samantha Pal, Natalie Gallegos Chavez

Staff: Kyla Johnson-Trammell, Superintendent & Secretary

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Những người nào cần thông ngôn hay phiên dịch hay một sắp xếp hợp lý nào để tham gia các buổi họp phải thông báo Văn phòng của Hội đồng Giáo dục bảy mươi hai (72) tiếng đồng hồ trước buổi họp, số điện thoại [\(510\)879-8199](tel:(510)879-8199) (VM); hay là boe@ousd.org (E-Mail); hay là [\(510\)879-2300](tel:(510)879-2300) (eTTY/TDD); hay là số [\(510\)879-2299](tel:(510)879-2299) (eFax).

សេវាបកប្រែភាសា និងការអនុលោមតាមច្បាប់ជនជាតិអាមេរិកាំងពិការ

អ្នកណាដែលត្រូវការសេវាបកប្រែភាសាដោយផ្ទាល់មាត់ ឬជាលាយលក្ខណ៍អក្សរ ឬត្រូវការការជួយសម្រេចសម្រួលយ៉ាងសមរម្យ មួយ ដើម្បីចូលរួមក្នុងកិច្ចប្រជុំសាធារណៈ ត្រូវផ្តល់ដំណឹងទៅកាន់ទីការិយាល័យនៃក្រុមប្រឹក្សាអប់រំ ឱ្យបានចិតសិចពី (72) ម៉ោង មុនកិច្ចប្រជុំ តាមរយៈទូរស័ព្ទលេខ [\(510\)879-8199](tel:(510)879-8199) ឬតាមរយៈអ៊ីមែល boe@ousd.org ឬទូរស័ព្ទ eTTY/TDD លេខ [\(510\)879-2300](tel:(510)879-2300) ឬទូរសារលេខ [\(510\)879-2299](tel:(510)879-2299)។

الامتثال لقانون الأمريكيين ذوي الإعاقات (ADA) وتوفير الخدمات اللغوية

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NOTICE – EXCLUSIVELY VIRTUAL MEETING

NOTICE – EXCLUSIVELY VIRTUAL MEETING (CONTINUED)

MEETING RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

MEETING PROCEDURES

A. Call To Order - 11:00 A.M.

President Shanthi Gonzales called the January 3, 2022 Annual Organizational Meeting to order at 11:04 A.M.

B. Roll Call

- Present** 6 - Director Aimee Eng
Director VanCedric Williams
Director Gary Yee
Director Clifford Thompson
Vice President Benjamin "Sam" Davis
Director Shanthi Gonzales
- Absent** 3 - Student Director Samantha Pal
Student Director Natalie Gallegos Chavez
Director Mike Hutchinson

C. Public Comment on All of Today's Agenda Items and Any Non-Agenda Items Within the Subject Matter Jurisdiction of the District - 15 Minutes

[22-0001](#)

Public Comment on All of Today's Agenda Items and Any Non-Agenda Items Within the Subject Matter Jurisdiction of the District - January 3, 2022

Public Comment on All of Today's Agenda Items and Any Non-Agenda Items Within the Subject Matter Jurisdiction of the District - January 3, 2022.

None

Roll Call (Secretary's Observation)

Director Mike Hutchinson present at 11:08 A.M.

- Present** 7 - Director Aimee Eng
 Director VanCedric Williams
 Director Gary Yee
 Director Mike Hutchinson
 Director Clifford Thompson
 Vice President Benjamin "Sam" Davis
 Director Shanthi Gonzales
- Absent** 2 - Student Director Samantha Pal
 Student Director Natalie Gallegos Chavez

D. Nomination(s) for President, Governing Board - 2022 Term

President Shanthi Gonzales opened nominations for President, Board of Education

Director Clifford Thompson nominated Gary Yee for President, Board of Education. Director Gary Yee accepted the nomination.

Director Mike Hutchinson nominated himself for President, Board of Education.

President Shanthi Gonzales, having received no additional nominations, closed nominations for President, Board of Education.

Director Gary Yee gave an up to two minute speech regarding his candidacy for President.

Director Mike Hutchinson gave an up to two minute speech regarding his candidacy for President.

E. Election, President, Governing Board - 2022 Term

Upon the Roll Call for the election of the President, Board of Education, each member was asked to state the name of the nominee for whom they are voting for President. The results of the single Roll Call vote is reflected in legislative files 22-0002 and 22-0002A below:

22-0002

Election of the President, Governing Board - 2022 Term

Shall Gary Yee be elected President, Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District for the 2022 Term?

Director Yee was elected President of the Governing Board for the 2022 Term.

Shall Gary Yee be elected President, Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District for the 2022 Term? The Roll Call results are:

- Ayes:** 5 - Aimee Eng
Gary Yee
Clifford Thompson
Benjamin "Sam" Davis
Shanthi Gonzales

- Absent:** 2 - Samantha Pal
Natalie Gallegos Chavez

- Non-voting:** 2 - VanCedric Williams
Mike Hutchinson

Enactment No: 22-0001

22-0002A

Election of the President, Governing Board - 2022 Term

Shall Mike Hutchinson be elected President, Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District for the 2022 Term?

Shall Mike Hutchinson be elected President, Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District for the 2022 Term? The Roll Call results are:

- Ayes:** 2 - VanCedric Williams
Mike Hutchinson

- Absent:** 2 - Samantha Pal
Natalie Gallegos Chavez

- Non-voting:** 5 - Aimee Eng
Gary Yee
Clifford Thompson
Benjamin "Sam" Davis
Shanthi Gonzales

F. Nomination(s) for Vice President, Governing Board - 2022 Term

President Shanthi Gonzales opened nominations for Vice President, Board of Education.

President Shanthi Gonzales nominated Vice President Benjamin "Sam" Davis for Vice President, Board of Education. Vice President Benjamin "Sam" Davis accepted the nomination.

Director Mike Hutchinson, nominated himself for Vice President, Board of Education.

President Shanthi Gonzales, having received no additional nominations, closed nominations for Vice President, Board of Education.

Vice President Benjamin "Sam" Davis gave an up to two minute speech regarding his candidacy for Vice President.

Director Mike Hutchinson gave an up to two minute speech regarding his candidacy for Vice President.

G. Election, Vice President, Governing Board - 2022 Term

Upon the Roll Call for the election of the Vice President, Board of Education, each member was asked to state the name of the nominee for whom they are voting for Vice President. The results of the single Roll Call vote is reflected in files 22-0003 and 22-0003A below:

[22-0003](#)

Election of the Vice President, Governing Board - 2022 Term

Shall Benjamin "Sam" Davis be elected Vice President, Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District for the 2022 Term?

Vice President Davis was elected Vice President of the Governing Board for the 2022 Term.

Shall Benjamin "Sam" Davis be elected Vice President, Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District for the 2022 Term? The Roll Call results are:

- Ayes:** 6 - Aimee Eng
VanCedric Williams
Gary Yee
Clifford Thompson
Benjamin "Sam" Davis
Shanthi Gonzales

- Absent:** 2 - Samantha Pal
Natalie Gallegos Chavez

- Non-voting:** 1 - Mike Hutchinson

Enactment No: 22-0002

[22-0003A](#)

Election of the Vice President, Governing Board - 2022 Term

Shall Mike Hutchinson be elected Vice President, Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District for the 2022 Term?

Shall Mike Hutchinson be elected Vice President, Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District for the 2022 Term? The Roll Call results are:

- Ayes:** 1 - Mike Hutchinson
- Absent:** 2 - Samantha Pal
Natalie Gallegos Chavez
- Non-voting:** 6 - Aimee Eng
VanCedric Williams
Gary Yee
Clifford Thompson
Benjamin "Sam" Davis
Shanthi Gonzales

H. President's Address - 5 Minutes

Prior to newly elected President Gary Yee's address:

Director Aimee Eng, recognized by President Gonzales, and Directors VanCedric Williams, Clifford Thompson, and Vice President Benjamin "Sam" Davis, recognized by President Yee, acknowledged Former President Shanthi Gonzales for her service as President, Board of Education, 2021 Term.

Director Thompson also expressed his appreciation for the relationship he and VP Davis developed over the last year; acknowledged that while members of the Board have individual views he said he learned over the last year that he and his colleagues can work together; and congratulated Yee and Davis on election.

Director Mike Hutchinson, recognized by President Yee, expressed his view that the cultural relationship on the Board over the last year has been "toxic,," citing, among other things, that he received a lot of disrespect, lack of his phone calls being returned by his colleagues, community denial of access, lack of in-person meetings, and viewed Board as dysfunctional. He appealed for personal improvement of relationships between himself and his colleagues in coming year and expressed a hope, under President Yee's leadership, that Yee will move the Board back to some of the more traditional relationships and practices prior to the last five years and make a greater effort to bring the community, which he and his colleagues represent, on board.

Vice President (VP) Benjamin "Sam" Davis, having been recognized by President Yee, in addition to his tribute to former President Gonzales, said that he agreed with Director Hutchinson that school board meetings are not always the highest functioning form of human interaction, not easy to figure out improvements ; that people are very passionate about their kids, schools, impossible situations arise where Board members are making decisions and balancing VP Davis, having cited things he learned from President Gonzales, stated he looks forward to continuing to learn under the leadership of President Yee.

President Gary Yee then gave the following address:

"Colleagues:

Thank you for the nomination and votes that led to my election today. Director Hutchinson made a strong case for his candidacy, and he and others have called for more in depth sessions- retreats- to discuss the big bucket items that are within our legislative responsibility. I hope that he will join me and staff in planning out an agenda for those to happen in the future. I look forward to partnering with Vice President Davis in forming the new leadership team for 2022.

I thank Shanthi for her leadership over the past year. She has steered us with a steady hand through narrow straits and rocky shoals, and with the Superintendent and her Leadership team along side of her, we have taken

some detours, because there have been no easy answers, but we have kept our north star in view. I intend to continue much of the direction and momentum of this past year's decisions, knowing that circumstances in implementation will require a revisit, like it did with our vaccine requirement at the end of the year.

Each of us is personally and professionally committed to an effective and efficient and equitable school district that cares for every student under its care, and my goal as the President is to be sure that we clearly articulate to our staff - the Superintendent and our chief governance officer - what our policy direction is. I seek an inclusive leadership style that takes into account the perspectives and individual leadership of each board member, while at the same time moving us to clear and well defined actions that reflect the direction of the majority with each vote.

Equally, my responsibility is to be sure that the Superintendent and her leadership team have the opportunity to give us their best professional judgment as to the ongoing efforts they have taken to implement the policy direction that we have given in the past. Our duty as a board is to ensure public accountability for our policy decisions as well as the Superintendent's implementation of those policies. But accountability to me means continuous improvement, it doesn't mean blame.

We are fortunate to have a locally invested Superintendent who has risen through the ranks, had four years to build her leadership team from the ground up, and in her fifth year, developed a concrete three year Strategic Plan, which we adopted last June, which incorporates Board Resolution 2021-0037 to take all necessary steps to eliminate the Black Student Opportunity Gap. Just as a reminder the strategic plan has four goals or pillars:

- 1) Ensuring Strong Readers by 3rd Grade;*
- 2) Supporting Powerful Graduates;*
- 3) Creating Joyful Schools; and,*
- 4) Growing Diverse and Stable Staff*

It's hard to keep focused on these goals when we start the year with COVID still present in a highly contagious variant; we live in a city which has seen 134 homicides in the past year; we have declining enrollment which leads to reduced LCFF funding and excess capacity, and concerns by the County Board Superintendent. We have budget pressures which require clear response to the County; we need to settle our labor negotiations to ensure a diverse, stable, and talented professional staff; and we have staff and students who have lived with and through two years of remote learning, hybrid class structures, quarantines and uncertainty. I thank them for their courage, tenacity, and commitment.

Through it all, we have persisted as a board. We each have spent at least 300 hours together this past year, getting to know each other, feeling each other out, arguing, and disagreeing but learning how to work together. I have seen that each of us brings skills, values, and a political perspective to this

leadership table called the Oakland Board of Education. As President, I accept the responsibility of facilitating communication and policymaking in a predictable and transparent manner, with personal accountability. We have important and difficult policy decisions to make and votes to take this coming year, as we did last year, with no easy answers. I trust that when this year is finished, we can look back on it, knowing that each of us was heard, that each of us was treated with respect and fairness, that different policy perspectives were discussed and debated, and that we can agree together that formal votes express to the community, and to our staff, our current collective investment in the Mission, Vision, and Commitments we make as a District, to the families and residents of Oakland. Thank you for your vote and I look forward to working with you this coming year."

I. New Business



[22-0004](#)

2022 Annual Organizational Meeting - Governing Board - Compliance With Legal Requirements and Other Items of Business Necessity Except Governing Board Member Increased Compensation

Adoption by the Governing Board of Resolution No. 2122-0151 - Adopting, Consolidating, Complying With 2022 Annual Organizational Meeting Requirements, and Other Items of Business Necessity, Except Governing Board Member Increased Compensation.

Attachments: [22-0004 2022 Annual Organizational Meeting - Governing Board - Compliance With Legal Requirements and Other Items of Business Necessity Except Governing Board Member Increased Compensation](#)

Directors Shanthi Gonzales, Mike Hutchinson, VanCedric Williams, Vice President Benjamin "Sam" Davis, and President Gary Yee discussed Resolution No. 2122-0151.

A motion was made by Director Thompson, seconded by Vice President Davis, that Resolution No. 2122-0151 be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

- Ayes:** 7 - Aimee Eng
- VanCedric Williams
- Gary Yee
- Mike Hutchinson
- Clifford Thompson
- Benjamin "Sam" Davis
- Shanthi Gonzales

- Absent:** 2 - Samantha Pal
- Natalie Gallegos Chavez

Enactment No: 22-0003

J. Adjournment

President Gary Yee adjourned the January 3, 2022 Annual Organizational Meeting at 11:45 A.M.

Prepared By: _____

Approved By: _____