



**CITY OF NEWARK – NEWARK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
LIAISON COMMITTEE**



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NUSD Boardroom  
5715 Musick Ave., Newark, CA 94560

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Wednesday, March 2, 2022  
6:00 P.M.

**A. ROLL CALL**

Members present:

Chair Nguyen  
Vice Chair Hannon  
Committee Member Collazo  
Committee Member Grindall

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm.

**B. MINUTES**

**B.1** Approval of the October 18, 2021 minutes

Action: To approve the October 18, 2021 minutes.

Motion by Member Collazo, second by Vice Chair Hannon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Member Grindall, Member Collazo, Vice Chair Hannon, Chair Nguyen

**C. OLD BUSINESS**

**C.1** Sanctuary Village (Area 3) NUSD Feasibility Study Update  
[Superintendent Dr. Mark Triplett]

Public comments were made available and no requests were made. Dr. Triplett provided an update. The District met with the developer to review the timeline of the construction project and more meetings will be scheduled in the future.

Questions were asked by the members. Vice Chair Hannon asked about the deadline, and Member Grindall stated the date is 2025. City Manager provided clarity stating the date is August 8, 2025, and “construction must commence.” Vice Chair Hannon asked about the

factors involved with the District deciding to build, and Dr. Triplett stated factors include items based on the feasibility study in addition to geographical factors. Member Grindall added the aging of the buildings as a potential factor.

## **D. NEW BUSINESS**

### **D.1 Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Action: Chair Nguyen nominated Vice Chair Hannon as the next Committee Chair..

Motion by Chair Nguyen, second by Member Collazo.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Member Grindall, Member Collazo, Vice Chair Hannon, Chair Nguyen

Action: Chair Nguyen nominated Member Grindall as the next Committee Vice Chair..

Motion by Chair Nguyen, second by Vice Chair Hannon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Member Grindall, Member Collazo, Vice Chair Hannon, Chair Nguyen

### **D.2 COVID Vaccination and Testing Efforts from the City and District & Facility Closures [City Manager David Benoun & Superintendent Dr. Mark Triplett]**

The information and presentation was provided by the Superintendent, Dr. Triplett, who discussed the vaccination clinics held at Coyote Hills Elementary on every Sunday. In addition, there was a pop-up vaccine clinic at Schilling Elementary in Feb, and the District is working with the County to help identify the community where rates are low in vaccinations. The District also partnered with BACH and the city for a vaccination event at Newark's firehouse, Station 28.

Questions and comments were made the following committee members:

Member Collazo thanked the District for making the vaccines available for the residents.

Vice Chair Hannon asked about the flyer distribution and the availability of English and Spanish flyers. City Manager Benoun mentioned the network connection with hundreds of families through the Promotores organization. Vice Chair Hannon thanked the District and the city for their efforts and Chair Nguyen and Member Grindall echoed his sentiments.

### **D.3 Middle School Design at the NJHS Update [Superintendent Dr. Mark Triplett]**

The information and presentation was provided by the Superintendent, Dr. Triplett, and address the work done by the District's Middle School Design Team, which incorporates students, teachers, principals, counselors, parents. The team meets twice a month, and is currently mapping out what a day in the life of a 6<sup>th</sup> grader would look like. Academics will include an advisory period, a humanities block, physical education, and math/science block,

an elective or flex class, and a separate lunch period. There will also be after school programs.

Members asked questions, including Member Collazo who asked for clarity regarding the 5<sup>th</sup> graders also transitioning to the middle school, and Dr. Triplett confirmed it was only the 6<sup>th</sup> graders and the school will be comprised of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Member Collazo asked if the current 5<sup>th</sup> graders would be attending science camp and Dr. Triplett confirmed in the affirmative.

Vice Chair Hannon asked if the students would be in semesters or quarters, and Dr. Triplett answered both, adding that the elective classes would change quarterly. Vice Chair Hannon asked about the structure of the Math and Science classes, and opportunities for students to utilize Ohlone College to help them advance.

Member Grindall thanked the design team and staff for their work.

Chair Nguyen asked about the location placement of the 6<sup>th</sup> graders, and Dr. Triplett stated that the logistics are still being worked out with the team.

Member Collazo asked how many 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are going to the middle school and Dr. Triplett stated about 347 students.

Member Hannon asked about other languages for the dual language immersion program and Dr. Triplett stated the District is currently only offering Spanish.

**D.4** Snow Elementary School Facility Use Proposals  
[Superintendent Dr. Mark Triplett]

Dr. Triplett stated that there are no immediate plans for the vacant school, but will get community input.

Member Collazo thanked Dr. Triplett for having the Snow fields mowed.

**D.5** Musick Elementary Consolidation Update  
[Superintendent Dr. Mark Triplett]

Dr. Triplett discussed the timeline of the school consolidation and stated that a lot of work has taken place, such as engaging the families and Musick community to help select their new school and working with staff and labor partners with the transition.

Vice Chair Hanon thanked Dr. Triplett for being able to place all the students in their first choice school for the following school year, and asked if there has been a reduction in staff due to the transition. Dr. Triplett stated there has been a reduction on enrollment but not

related to the consolidation, and added the same process will be followed as the vacant Snow facility.

**D.6** Omicron Impact on NUSD Schools  
[Superintendent Dr. Triplett]

Dr. Triplett share the recent data regarding positive COVID cases and address the reduction in the positive cases in January as compared to the December data. The District will continue to monitor the data of positive cases and is optimistic that the numbers will level or reduce. NUSD will continue to work with Alameda County and follow their guidance.

Vice Chair Hannon asked if the positive cases were tracked if positive only at school, and Dr. Triplett stated that the case is tracked if positive while in school or if the person was on campus during their contagion period or were in contact with someone that tested positive. NUSD also conducts contact tracing to track positive cases outside of the school.

Vice Chair Hannon asked if the contact tracing result in insolation, and Dr. Triplett stated that guidelines have changed over time, but initially if a student was in close contact they needed to quarantine. At this point, vaccinated or not, as long as the students are testing regularly without symptoms they can continue to stay on campus.

Member Collazo asked about student testing dates, and Dr. Triplett stated that testing is being conducted five days a week.

## **E. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comment was made available and requested by the following:

Miriam Mendez, who made a statement on the topic of thanking the committee members and staff for these meetings and made herself available as a member of the community to help where needed.

Lorena Talavera, who made a statement on the topic of needing more Spanish translators and thanked the committee members for their partnership.

## **F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**F.1** **April Meeting:** Crossing Guards Update and Possible addition to NJHS  
[City Manager David Benoun]

Added requests included:

Vice Chair Hannon requested information on the academic loss in students due to COVID-19 and how parents can be helped if their child has fallen behind. Requested this for April or June.

Member Grindall requested an update on the Middle School and COVID Vaccination and Testing Efforts from the City and District & Facility Closures.

## **G. ADJOURNMENT**

Action: To adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Chair Nguyen, second by Vice Chair Hannon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Member Grindall, Member Collazo, Vice Chair Hannon, Chair Nguyen

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING MEETING**

Newark Unified School District has opened its boardroom for in-person meetings, and is following the State's and Alameda County's safety guidelines for public gatherings. The Liaison Committee meeting will be held in-person, and in order to view this meetings you must be present at the meeting.

#### **Public Comment Information:**

The public will have the opportunity to address the Committee Members regarding non-agendized matters and agendized items by making a public comment in the following manner:

**1. Live In-Person Comment:**

If you wish to address the Board on an agenda item or non-agendized matter, please fill out a speaker card and present it to the Executive Assistant as soon as possible and prior to the item being called. Speaker cards are available at the entry of the boardroom.

**2. Written Comment**

In order to submit a written public comment, please send an email to [PUBCOMMENT@newarkunified.org](mailto:PUBCOMMENT@newarkunified.org). Written public comments are due by 5:00 PM on the day preceding the meeting. Please label your email as "LIAISON COMMITTEE - WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT" and include your name, phone number, email address, and the agenda item number related to your comment. The written comments submitted via email will be shared with the members and notice will be made to the record, however, these will not be read out loud during the meeting.

The Committee Members may exercise its discretion regarding the amount of time for each public comment depending on the number of comments received. Public comments shall not exceed five (5) minutes, or such other time as the Committee may provide, consistent with all applicable laws. Matters brought before the Committee that require Committee action may be either referred to staff or placed on a future Committee agenda

Committee members or staff may not respond to statements made or questions posed by the public, and any additional materials presented at the meeting will be copied and provided to all members after the meeting. No person shall use vulgar, profane, loud or boisterous language that interrupts a meeting. Any person who refuses to carry out instructions given by the Chair for the purpose of maintaining order may be guilty of an infraction and may result in removal from the meeting.

Committee Members will be attending this meeting in-person. All votes conducted during the meeting session will be conducted by roll call vote.

#### **Committee Meeting Materials:**

The agenda packet is available for review <https://www.newark.org/departments/city-manager-s-office/agendas-minutes> and [www.Newarkunified.org](http://www.Newarkunified.org). The packet is typically posted to the city and school district websites no later than 72 hours before the meeting.

Pursuant to Government Code 54957.5, supplemental materials distributed less than 72 hours before this meeting, to a majority of the Committee, will be made available for public inspection at this meeting and will be posted, if time allows, at <https://www.newark.org/departments/city-manager-s-office/agendas-minutes>. Materials prepared by City/School District staff and distributed during the meeting are available for public inspection at the meeting or after the meeting if prepared by some other person. Documents that are exempt from disclosure will not be made available for public inspection. For those persons who require special accommodations, please contact the NUSD Committee Secretaries at least two days prior to the meeting at [Lgutierrez@newarkunified.org](mailto:Lgutierrez@newarkunified.org) or 510-818-4112.