

**MINUTES OF THE
SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SCAC)**

Newark Unified School District

September 15, 2020-6:00 PM held virtually via Zoom

Approved September 24, 2020

A. Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Chair Martinez.
B. Roll Call	<p>Members of the Committee Attendees</p> <p>Chae Marshall, Rachel Bloom, Sue Eustice, Hamilton Baylon, Veronica Medina, Angela Ringlein, Maria Ibarra, Cathreene Ingham-Watters, Christine Dix, Michelle Padilla, Janet Crocker</p> <p>Mark Triplett, Ed.D., Superintendent Elisa Martinez, President NUSD School Board Phuong Nguyen, Member NUSD School Board</p> <p>Absent Vilma Cristina Mendoza, Selena Nevarez</p>
C. Superintendent's Welcome	Dr. Triplett welcomed the committee.
D. Visitor/Public Comment	<p>All speakers addressed the committee.</p> <p>Statements included at the end of the minutes.</p>
E. Approval of September 10, 2020 Minutes	<p>Motion to approve minutes with changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baylon voted no on extension of the meeting Item F: change to 2021-2022 <p>Vote Motion: Crocker Second: Medina Yes: Marshall, Eustice, Crocker, Medina, Ringlein, Ibarra, Ingham-Watters, Dix, Padilla No: 0 Abstain: Bloom, Hamilton</p>
F. Presentation of Capacity Information	Ken Reynolds, President Schoolworks
G. Site Analysis	Brianna García, Director, School Services of California
H. Next Meeting	<p>Next meetings</p> <p>September 24, 2020 - Facilities October 8, 2020 October 22, 2020 October 29, 2020</p> <p>The committee will be presenting their report and recommendations to the Board at</p>

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	the November 5, 2020 Board meeting.
7:59 PM	<p>Motion to extend the meeting 10 minutes</p> <p>Motion: Bloom</p> <p>Second: Ingham-Watters</p> <p>Vote</p> <p>Yes: Eustice, Crocker, Bloom, Ingham-Watters, Padilla, Marshall, Ringlein, Dix, Ibarra, Medina</p> <p>No: Baylon</p> <p>Abstain: 0</p>
I. Adjournment	<p>Motion to adjourn 8:05 PM</p> <p>Motion: Baylon</p> <p>Second: Padilla</p> <p>Vote</p> <p>Yes: Marshall, Eustice, Crocker, Baylon, Medina, Neverez, Ringlein, Ibarra, Ingham-Watters, Dix, Padilla</p> <p>No: Bloom</p> <p>Abstain: 0</p>
Other Attendees	<p>District Personnel Attendees</p> <p>Marie dela Cruz, Chief Business Official</p> <p>Jessica Saavedra, Executive Director of Human Resources</p> <p>Lucia Gutierrez, Executive Assistant to Superintendent</p> <p>Paul Rose, Network Manager</p> <p>Jodi Croce, Business Services Administrative Assistant</p> <p>Other Attendees</p> <p>Facilitator: Brianna García, Director, School Services of California</p> <p>Demographer: Ken Reynolds, SchoolWorks</p> <p>Gilma Guevara, Spanish Translator</p>
Visitor/Public Comment	<p>Hello I am a part of the Musick Elementary School family. All three of my children are currently enrolled in this school. One of my children is special needs and change would not be a good fit. He has a 504 plan currently and speech. Consolidation is NOT an option for us. By doing this would be terrible for these children!</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Sabrina Dalton</p>
Visitor/Public Comment	<p>Musick school should not close! We love our school! My daughter is a second generation Leopard! I went there when I was a kid and now my daughter is there. I have another child that will be starting school next school year and I want her to attend Musick. It is such a great school! The staff is fantastic and we have such a</p>

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	<p>great school experience and want that to continue!</p> <p>Keep Musick school open!</p> <p>Sincerely, Claudia T</p>
Visitor/Public Comment	<p>I am writing in regards to Musick. We just heard sad news that one elementary school has to close in the district. I really hope that you guys consider keeping music elementary open. They do have smaller class sizes but it's for what the children need. My daughter has suffered from major anxiety and the amount of attentiveness, discipline and follow through that the school has exhibited to help her through this process has been outstanding. Communication and overall professionalism of the staff there speaks volumes to what our children need. Musick is a very special school with special children that need that type of love and attention they they give us! Please consider them as being a school that will remain open and not one that you would consider closing.</p> <p>We love Musick!!!!</p> <p>Ashley Cowan-Wolcott</p>
Visitor/Public Comment	<p>Dear Committee Members,</p> <p>It is clear this committee is an instrument to rush the closure of Newark schools around the election timeframe. By forcing the chair and co-chair positions, the board and administration has total control over the number of meetings, the agenda, what material is presented, what can and cannot be voted on.</p> <p>Last time this committee rightfully complained about not getting information with enough time to properly review, but again the information for this meeting was provided less than 24 hours in advance. It demonstrates a lack of respect for your needs and validates the whole process is being rushed; the administration is not even capable of providing documents as you have requested.</p> <p>The bias is clear, look at the observation page in the slide presentation. What does the writer mean 2 or 3 schools could be closed? Why did they even appoint an advisory committee, if they are already telling you what could be done under their provided scenario?</p> <p>I would strongly suggest this committee put the brakes on the forward motion the district is pushing this committee towards. Restart and slow down the pace, allowing for a reasonable timeframe. I am certain the chair and vice-chair will strongly resist because their agenda is clear.</p>

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	<p>If you don't, I fear, you will be used as a scapegoat for other people's political goals.</p> <p>Signed, Kelly Hopkins</p>
Visitor/Public Comment	<p>I am disappointed that the slide presentation in regards to the school closure study was distributed so late. It did not provide a reasonable amount of time for evaluation nor an appropriate response.</p> <p>Noel Doot</p>
Visitor/Public Comment	<p>Good Morning Jody, I believe you are the contact for public comment and or questions for the school consolidation committee. I am not sure if some of these questions have been asked or addressed but here goes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With closures, will the district be realigned and if so what are the guides lines for realignment (high density housing developments vs single home areas) ? 2. When addressing student placement what are the guidelines, exactly how far are we asking will students to travel to their new school. Many students currently walk to school with an older adult. 3. How will the district maintain class size when combining schools? Will trailer be brought in to handle the overflow? 4. Will there be more combination classes and if so what are the guideline for forming those classes. 5. Will the district consider forming more BGI/BGP partnerships (primary and intermediate sites) <p>Thank You,</p> <p>Ramonia Polillo</p>
Visitor/Public Comment	<p>I have seen during the previous meetings and on the presentation for this week's meetings, that the idea of 2 or 3 elementary schools might be closing. I understand the need to close schools to save money, however, why can't you start with closing only 1 school with the agreement that the topic will be revisited in a few years to see how the community, students, parents, teachers, etc are doing after 1 closure. The impact to students, families and teachers of just 1 school closing is going to be large and jumping to 2 schools will only double that impact. Impacts such as increased traffic at remaining school sites (resulting in less road safety), overcrowding of</p>

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	<p>cafeterias and lunch service, gym capacity for events, children not being able to walk to school, just to name a few. Many families have purchased homes near a school that we wanted our children to attend, so the thought of any of them closing is distressing. But at the very least, shouldn't more of an effort be made to close only 1 to have the least impact on the community as possible while still obtaining the fiscal results desired?</p> <p>Thank you, Sarah Guerra</p>
Visitor/Public Comment	<p>The following comments came from Kennedy PTA email address:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Why is the focus on merging elementary schools when we have a large site McGregor with very little use?2. Has the data from the school site visits been reviewed and corrected? If so please share the updated data.3. Why is the district even considering closing elementary schools when we are trying to increase enrollment?4. Has a developer approached the district about purchasing any school sites?5. Do we have any data on how many new students Shilling has based on the sale of the new homes?6. Why is the district rushing this process? Was it not supposed to be a 9 month process now rushed into 2?7. It seems heartless to even discuss moving the 6 graders to the junior high next year. Those children will have walked out of elementary school after two quarters in 4th grade and then walk into middle school. <p>Kennedy Community</p>