



RESCUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

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www.rescueusd.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026 - 6:30 p.m. Open Session
Rescue District Office Board Room

The Public's health and wellbeing are the top priority for the Rescue Union School District Board of Trustees and all are urged to take all appropriate health safety precautions. To facilitate this process, there were two options to view and/or participate in this open session meeting: in person or via Zoom.

DISTRICT MISSION

Rescue Union School District, in partnership with families and the community, is dedicated to the success of every student by providing a challenging, comprehensive and quality education in a safe environment in which all individuals are respected, valued, connected and supported.

PLEASE NOTE:

These are provided as summary minutes. The audio recording of the meeting is available for review at:

<http://www.rescueusd.org/School-Board/Agendas-Minutes/index.html>

CALL TO ORDER: Board President called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

- ✓ Michael Gordon, President
- ✓ Kim White, Vice President
- ✓ Michelle Bebout, Clerk
- ✓ Jamie Hunter, Member
- Michael Flaherty, Member
- ✓ Jim Shoemake, Superintendent and Board Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENT:

(Closed session agenda items only)

There were no comments concerning items on the Closed Session agenda.

CLOSED SESSION:

The Board adjourned to closed session to discuss matters of personnel, security, negotiations, student discipline, litigation, or other matters as authorized by Government Code Sections 3549.1, 54956.9, 54956.8, 54957, and 54957.6 and Education Code Sections 35146 and 48918.

Conference with Labor Negotiator - Discussion with the District's Superintendent, Jim Shoemake, and/or labor negotiators, Lisa Donaldson and Dustin Haley, regarding directions and issues in negotiations with Rescue Union Federation of Teachers (RUFT), California School Employees Association (CSEA), Confidential Staff, and Administrative Management.

OPEN SESSION:

Convened open session in the Boardroom at 6:37 p.m.

Welcome - The Board president provided an introduction to Board meeting proceedings.

Flag Salute - Board president led the flag salute and took roll call.

1. Adoption of Agenda

(Consideration for Action)

Trustee White moved and Trustee Bebout seconded to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion passed 4-0.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION:

Closed Session Report - The Board president stated there was no report from Closed Session.

There were no public comments.

Superintendent's Report - The Superintendent provided a district-related presentation with highlights on the District's Culture of Excellence, reporting on employee survey results on the District's Continuous Improvement efforts being generally positive across departments. Holiday MTSS event. Cathy Avallone spoke on the Cal Fire workers at MVMS for the fundraiser. Superintendent Shoemake mentioned fiscal accountability and the state budget watch. Facilities Management improvements include a partnership with EDH Waterford HOA to update and fix landscaping in the Lake Forest and Marina Village neighborhood.

There were no public comments.

Celebrating Excellence - Rescue Elementary School Principal, Todd McGinnis, provided a site update with information on the school's growth with 525 students and an average class size of 24. PTC events included welcome back line dancing, the autumn harvest festival, the Veterans Day assembly and breakfast, holiday events aligned with the Rescue Fire Department and Santa Claus visits for story reading and photos with students as well as enrichment plays in the school's new multipurpose facility. Rescue Elementary partnered with Folsom Lake College to have performers stage a show for the classes. 4th-5th grade Student Leadership is doing a phenomenal job heading up Spirit Days and Raider Awards at lunch. Principal McGinnis spoke on the school's current efforts to commission a new buildingside mural representing local history.

There were no public comments.

The Trustees commented on the wonderful school events, excitement over the new mural in process with the history of the community, and the fun with which Principal McGinnis presented his report including activities showing the fun the schoolchildren are having.

There were no public comments.

Board meeting attendee Kelley Nalewaja offered a public comment and spoke on educating parents about the increase of fentanyl marketed to youth through online video networks and other black market avenues. Pills can be delivered as counterfeit Amazon packages. An upcoming Town Hall will be hosted and attended by local community members from BUSD, EDUHSD, law enforcement, assemblypersons, and officials. Mrs. Nalewaja shared experiences of multiple youth deaths due to single-use pills or drugs laced with fentanyl. She encouraged RUSD leadership to participate in the Town Hall and provided a flyer with details and information.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:

2. California School Dashboard Update for 2025

(Information Only)

The Superintendent recommended the Board receive information regarding the Rescue Union School District's Status for the state indicators. Assistant Superintendent Dustin Haley presented information on the California School Dashboard update for 2025.

There were no public comments.

3. 2025-2026 Library Plan

(Consideration for Action)

The Superintendent recommended the Board receive updated information and consider action to approve the District's 2025-2026 Library Plan. Assistant Superintendent Dustin Haley presented information on the District's Library Plan.

There were no public comments.

Trustee Bebout moved and Trustee White seconded to approve the District's Library Plan. Motion passed 4-0.

BUSINESS AND FACILITIES:

4. Auditor's Report/Financial Statements

(Consideration for Action)

To comply with Ed. Code 14503, each year an independent audit must be conducted. Stephen Roatch Accountancy Corporation completed the financial audit for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. The Superintendent recommended approval of the Auditor's Report on the 2024-2025 financial statements. Assistant Superintendent Lisa Donaldson delivered a presentation on the Auditor's Report for the 2024-2025 year.

There were no public comments.

Trustee Hunter moved and Trustee Bebout seconded to approve the Auditor's Report for 2024-2025. Motion passed 4-0.

5. Budget Guidelines for 2026-2027

(Consideration for Action)

The Superintendent recommended the Board receive a report to review and approve the Budget Guidelines for 2026-2027. Assistant Superintendent Lisa Donaldson provided a report on the Budget Guidelines.

There were no public comments.

Trustee Hunter moved and Trustee White seconded to approve the Budget Guidelines for 2026-2027. Motion passed 4-0.

CONSENT AGENDA:

All matters listed under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine or sufficiently supported by prior or accompanying reference materials and information as to not require additional discussion. A motion as referenced below will enact all items. The Board President called for public comment on any of the items on the consent agenda. There were no public comments. The Board President called to pull consent item #7 for separate vote, with Trustee Bebout abstaining. Trustee White moved and Trustee Hunter seconded to approve item #7. Motion passed 3-0 with 1 abstention from Trustee Bebout. The Board President then requested to pull item #15 for possible future consideration. Trustee White moved and Trustee Bebout seconded to pull this item from the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 4-0. Trustee White then moved and Trustee Hunter seconded to approve all remaining consent items. Motion passed 4-0.

6. Regular Board Meeting Minutes - December 9, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes (Materials Provided)
7. Study Session Minutes - January 13, 2026 Study Session Minutes (Materials Provided)
8. Human Resources - the District's long-range goal is to recruit a diverse, high quality staff with student focused goals and philosophies. Staffing changes occur periodically due to need for additional positions, resignations or leaves of absence. All positions listed are within current budget allocations (Materials Provided)
9. District Expenditure - Warrants must regularly be presented to the Board of Trustees for ratification. Detailed warrant order listings are available at the District Office. The included supplement reflects expenditures from Dec. 1, 2025 - Dec. 31, 2025 (Materials Provided)
10. District Purchase Orders - Purchase orders must regularly be presented to the Board of Trustees for ratification. The supplement reflects expenditures from Dec. 1, 2025 - Dec. 31, 2025 (Materials Provided)
11. Administrative Regulation/Board Policy 6163.2 Update: Animals at School (Materials Provided)
12. Board Policy 5141.5 Mental Health (Materials Provided)
13. National School Counseling Week Proclamation - Rescue Union School District recognizes the first full Week of February as National Counseling Week (Materials Provided)
14. Revised 2026-2027 RUSD School Calendar to move start date of all-day Kindergarten (Materials Provided)
15. AB 49: Board Proclamation - Mandated by the State of California (Materials Provided)

ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee White moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Michelle Bebout, Clerk

Date



3-10-20

Michael Gordon, President

Date