



Board Meeting Summary / October 2025

STUDENT SHOWCASE



Ghidotti Early College High School Mathematics

Ghidotti Early College High School students show off their mathematical talents. (Pictured from left to right: Larry Davenport, Trustee Pritchett, Trustee Willoughby, Student Trustee Howe, Baren Ozer, Clara Rose, Trustee Clark, Trustee Klein, Trustee Johnson.)

NJUHSD Academic Achievements

2025/2026 Students taking Advanced Placement or Honors courses:

- Total: 804

2025/2026 Students taking more than one Advanced Placement or Honors courses:

- Total: 421

2025/2026 Students Dual Enrolled (Fall Semester Only)

- Total: 256

REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS

NJUHSTA President, Kelly Good provided a written update that included meetings with board members and administrators to strengthen communication and collaboration within the district. It also included her participation in the recent staff development day that supported department PLC work and added that four union members' attended a CTA leadership conference. Her report expressed optimism about the upcoming negotiations meeting and confidence in a positive, productive year ahead.

CSEA Chapter President, Kayla Bardsley reported that members voted to pass the MOU regarding Fund 20, which supports a salary schedule adjustment and provides a one-time check for classified staff based on years of service. The increases affect 12 positions and more than 30 staff members, including paraeducators, custodians, and accountants. She noted this as a significant step forward. The health benefit and salary agreements are nearly complete and expected to be presented at the next board meeting following the 610 process. She thanked the district negotiations team for collaboration and responsiveness throughout the process.

Superintendent Frisella reported that the district held a successful Staff Development Day, which included a morning focused on “upstander” training and site-specific breakout discussions focused on campus culture. The afternoon sessions included Google Workspace training for classified staff and certificated staff engaging in a collaborative review of assessments rigor and depth of knowledge. He shared that the feedback from the day was positive. He also shared that the 2x2 budget meetings with trustees concluded successfully and will resume in the spring. He reported on the Trades Expo which hosted 50 vendors and over 700 students, receiving positive feedback from participants and the community. He shared appreciation to the Nevada County Contractors Association, the County of Nevada and staff for their efforts in connecting students from classroom to career. A recent safety incident was discussed during which law enforcement partnered with district staff to evaluate and respond appropriately. He shared excitement with the upcoming *Rays of Change* film event and concluded by noting positive relations with both labor units.

District Safety - Assistant Superintendent, Levirt Griffin provided a report on “All Things Safety,” that included Safety Week, Title IX training for administrators, Catapult, Raptor, consistent reporting practices, and discipline dispositions.

Career Technical Education - Luke Browning, Director of CTE/State&Federal Funding provided a CTE Overview report that included updates on Pathways, Dual Enrollment offerings, Counseling, Grants, Work Based Learning, community events and outreach, and The Ranch.

District Facilities Update - Matt McColloch, Director of Facilities and Maintenance provided an update on the district facilities that included project updates for Silver Springs, Nevada Union, Bear River, 112 Nevada City Highway, and the Bond Projects.

BOARD REPORTS



Trustee Michael Howe (Student Representative) provided a report that included recent visits to Ghidotti and Bear River. He shared that at Ghidotti, students described a strong sense of community and appreciated the required weekly planner that helps keep them organized and expressed an interest in more districtwide events to connect with students from other schools. He shared that Bear River students raised concerns about how racism, bullying and dress code issues are handled as well as substitute teacher shortages. He noted that at Nevada Union, the Campus Culture Club held its first meeting and he plans to visit Silver Springs and North Point next.

Trustee Olivia Pritchett (Area 1) noted the importance of kindness and community connections. She highlighted the success of recent events including homecoming and the firewood service project that engaged over 100 high school students in giving back to local seniors. She also commended the Trades Day event and shared that it felt like a community fair with strong collaboration between schools, students, and local businesses. She expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming *Rays of Change* film event and the Teacher of the Year dinner.

Clerk Wendy Willoughby (Area 2) reflected on recent district and community events, highlighting Trades Day as an outstanding success that showcased strong partnerships among district staff, the Nevada County Contractors Association, the County of Nevada, and the fairgrounds. She also described the professional development day as inspiring and a reminder of the importance of lifelong learning for educators and board members. She encouraged attendance at the upcoming CSBA conference to strengthen teamwork and a shared understanding and concluded with a proposal to add a regular monthly agenda item focused on school culture to keep attention on addressing harassment and bullying districtwide.

Trustee Kelly Clark (Area 3) shared her reflections on school climate and the lasting impact of kindness. She encouraged everyone; students, staff and community members, to model kindness and emphasized that small gestures can have a profound effect. She shared a story about a student whose day was changed by a simple friendly greeting, illustrating how small acts can make a lasting impression.

President Andrew Klein (Area 4) commended the success of Trades Day, noting the strong participation and enthusiasm from students, staff and community partners. He thanked Luke Browning and the Nevada County Contractors Association for organizing it and praised the interactive demonstrations that engaged the students. He also thanked Sierra and Dan for their leadership and fiscal stewardship and noted positive media coverage regarding the district budget.

Vice President Ken Johnson (Area 5) shared that upon reflection on the proposed Discipline committee, he feels that creating it would place additional burdens on staff and delay needed action. Instead, he communicated the need to fully utilize existing policies and procedures which are aligned with CA Ed Code and expressed full confidence in Dan and Levirt in this matter. He also noted his office hours at BR and NU, open to students and staff to confidentially share concerns.

ITEMS OF INTEREST/ACTION TAKEN

- The Board accepted donations from Penn Valley Community Rodeo Association, Nevada City Elks Lodge #518, WM NC Philanthropic, Blackbaud Giving Fund, Austin Penna, Vanguard % Susan Ann Vogt, and Drivers Ed Direct, LLC.
- JVAs were approved with Way Yum Sushi, Mel's Transmission, Gin's Little Valley Auto Care, The Auto Shop, Grass Valley Garage, Nevada County Media, Gold Country Automotive, Gold Country Express Lube and Car Wash, Gold Country Classic Car, and Modus Manufacturing.
- The board discussed and agreed to rescind the decision to create an ad hoc Discipline, Harassment, and Bullying Committee. In place of that, staff will bring a monthly report to the board of trustees in pursuit of improved Safety, Well-being & Culture for board discussion and input.
- The School Site Safety Plans were approved.
- The following scholarships were established:
 - Gold Country Kiwanis Vocational Scholarship
 - Auburn-Grass Valley Elks Memorial Scholarship
 - Nevada City Elks Lodge #518/Sam Feinstein Memorial Scholarship

For details or additional information, please see the full meeting agenda [HERE](#).

The meeting recording can be found [HERE](#) when published.

** This is a summary only, official minutes are approved at the next regular Board meeting.*



NJUHSD
11645 Ridge Road
Grass Valley, CA 95945
530-273-3351

October 2025