

Mendota School District 289  
Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Narration: District #289 Blackstone Teacher's Lounge 04/24/25

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Community School District #289, LaSalle, Bureau, and Lee was held April 24, 2025 at 6:30pm at Blackstone School Teacher Lounge.

Narration: Roll Call

At 6:41 p.m Mrs. Komitas called the Board of Education meeting to order with the following Board members answering present: Mrs. Landers, Mrs. Coss, Mrs. Schroeder and Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Espinoza and Ms. Rapp.

Resolution: Approve Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Landers, seconded by Ms. Rapp to approve the agenda as presented. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes – Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Landers, Mrs. Espinoza, Ms. Rapp and Mrs. Coss. Motion carried. (6-0)

Narration: Reception of Visitors and Opportunity for Public Comment

None

Resolution: Acknowledgement of Certified Results of the April 1st, 2025 Election

A motion was made by Ms. Rapp, seconded by Mrs. Espinoza to approve the April 1st 2025 Election Results as presented. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes – Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Schroeder, Ms. Rapp, Mrs. Espinoza, Mrs. Landers and Mrs.Coss. Motion carried. (6-0)

Resolution: Adjournment of Current Board

A motion was made by Ms. Rapp, seconded by Mrs. Espinoza to adjourn the board meeting. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes – Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Schroeder, Ms. Rapp, Mrs. Espinoza, Mrs. Landers and Mrs.Coss. Motion carried. (6-0)

Resolution: Appointment of the President Pro-Tem

A motion was made by Mrs. Coss, seconded by Mrs. Landers to approve the Superintendent as the President Pro-Tem. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes – Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Espinoza, Mrs. Landers and Mrs.Coss. Motion carried. (5-0)

Resolution: Election of the Board of Education President

A motion was made by Mrs. Landers, seconded by Mrs. Coss to approve Theresa Komitas as the Board of Education President. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes – Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Espinoza, Mrs. Landers and Mrs.Coss. Motion carried. (5-0)

Resolution: Election of the Board of Education Vice-President

A motion was made by Mrs. Espinoza, seconded by Mrs. Schroeder to approve Sarah Landers as the Board of Education Vice-President. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes – Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Espinoza, Mrs. Landers and Mrs.Coss. Motion carried. (5-0)

#### Resolution: Election of the Board of Education Secretary

A motion was made by Mrs. Espinoza, seconded by Mrs. Coss to approve Amanda Coss as the Board of Education Secretary. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes – Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Espinoza, Mrs. Landers and Mrs.Coss. Motion carried. (5-0)

#### Resolution: Approve Prior Regular Board of Education Meeting Dates and Times

A motion was made by Mrs. Landers, seconded by Mrs. Schroeder to approve prior regular board of education meeting dates and times. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes – Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Espinoza, Mrs. Landers and Mrs.Coss. Motion carried. (5-0)

#### Resolution: Approve Prior Board Rules, Policies, Practices, and Contracts

A motion was made by Mrs. Espinoza, seconded by Mrs. Coss to approve prior board rules, policies, practices, and contracts. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes – Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Espinoza, Mrs. Landers and Mrs.Coss. Motion carried. (5-0)

#### Resolution: Approve Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Espinoza, seconded by Mrs. Schroeder to approve the Consent Agenda including the disposition of minutes for March 2025, payment of the bills, district treasurer's report, imprest, activity fund, and cafeteria reports, personnel report with Rosa Espinoza hired as an Elementary Teacher. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes – Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Espinoza, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Landers and Mrs. Coss. Motion carried. (5-0)

#### Narration: Informational Items

FOIA requests - several requests that seem to be AI generated. We are complying with the requests.

#### Administrator Reports: Superintendent, Blackstone

Mr. Cox mentioned that once a family reaches \$750 of student related fees, it will then be turned into the district office to collect payment. He also stated that the credit card fee has been changed from the flat \$3 fee to a 3% fee. He reminded the board that the Wellness Screening will be held on Tuesday, April 29th, 2025.

Mrs. Kelly, Blackstone Principal, updated the board on some highlights from Blackstone school such as, Popsicles with the Principal, Grandparents Day in October, MHS Partnership - FFA and National Honor Society, Kindness Projects, New Native Unit for 1st Grade, 100th Day of School, Dance Party among others.

Mr. Peace presented the board with curriculum updates. He gave a brief update on Math, ELA, Social Studies and Science. He mentioned that they are looking forward to working with ECRA to better understand student scores and performance. He is also working to develop a framework for student acceleration in regards to math.

#### Consideration of Board Committees and Reports

Mrs. Landers gave a brief update on health insurance.

Resolution: Student Handbook Revisions for FY26

A motion was made by Mrs. Espinoza, seconded by Mrs. Schroeder to approve the Student Handbook Revisions for FY26 as presented. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes – Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Espinoza, Mrs. Landers and Mrs.Coss. Motion carried. (5-0)

Narration: Full Time Paraprofessionals

Mr. Cox talked about the possibility of converting the paraprofessional positions to 8 hours with benefits. This was just an initial conversation on the topic.

Resolution: Employee and Substitute Wage Increase

A motion was made by Mrs. Espinoza, seconded by Mrs. Schroeder to approve wage increases for the 2025-2026 School Year as follows: \$1 increase to all base hourly wages plus \$0.25 for an additional year of experience and 4.5% increase to all non-hourly, non-contractual wages. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes – Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Espinoza, Mrs. Landers and Mrs.Coss. Motion carried. (5-0)

Resolution: Deletion of Executive Session Audio Recordings

A motion was made by Mrs. Coss, seconded by Mrs. Espinoza to approve the deletion of Executive Session Audio Recordings 18 months and older. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes – Mrs. Komitas, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Espinoza, Mrs. Landers and Mrs.Coss. Motion carried. (5-0)

Narration: Joint Annual Conference

Mr. Cox started the Joint Annual Conference conversation that happens the weekend before Thanksgiving as hotel reservations open on July 1st. He also mentioned that 8th grade promotion will be May 22, 2025 and talked about the staff luncheon for the end of the school year on May 30, 2025.

A motion was made by Mrs. Landers, seconded by Mrs. Schroeder to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. A vote by acclamation in full was recorded. Motion carried. (5-0)

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Mrs. Komitas – Board President

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Mrs. Coss – Board Secretary