

APPROVED



**GROW**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Grow Public Schools

### Minutes

#### Grow Public Schools Special Board Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Monday March 20, 2023 at 4:00 PM

**Location**

**Physical Location:**

Grow Public Schools  
CMO Office  
5080 California Ave., Ste. 100  
Bakersfield, CA 93309

**Available Locations to Join Virtually:**

Grow Academy Shafter - Learning Lab  
471 W Los Angeles Ave.  
Shafter, CA 93263

Grow Academy Arvin - Classroom #14  
901 Nectarine Ct.  
Arvin, CA 93203

**Zoom Link:**

<https://zoom.us/j/98484391718>

Meeting ID: 984 8439 1718

or call (669) 444-9171

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#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD BY PARENTS AND CITIZENS**

Grow Public Schools welcomes your participation at the School's Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Board of Directors ("Board") is to conduct the affairs of the school in public. Your participation assures us of continuing community interest in our School. To assist you in the ease of speaking/participating in our meetings, the following guidelines are provided:

Signed by Manuel Pantoja on 3/29/2023

1. Agendas are available to all audience members.  
Email [kheilman@growpublicschools.org](mailto:kheilman@growpublicschools.org) for an agenda.

2. Individuals wishing to provide public comment at this Board meeting may send their comments in writing to [kheilman@growpublicschools.org](mailto:kheilman@growpublicschools.org) or provide comments during the Oral Communications of the meeting, or prior to the discussion of the Agenda item during the meeting –comments received after that point in the meeting will not become part of the record. In your email, please include whether you are commenting on non-agenda items or a specific agenda item (reference the agenda item number). Comments submitted by email will be read aloud during the Board meeting for up to three (3) minutes. If comments are in Spanish or another language, they will be translated to English and such comments will be limited to six (6) minutes. The Board of Directors may limit the total time for public comment to a reasonable time.

3. With regard to specific agenda items, you may specify that agenda item in your email and you will be given an opportunity to speak for up to five (5) minutes when the Board discusses that item. When addressing the Board, speakers are requested to state their name and adhere to the time limits set forth. Any public records relating to an agenda item for an open session of the Board which are distributed to all, or a majority of all, of the Board members shall be available for public inspection at 5080 California Ave. Suite 100, Bakersfield, California 93309.

***In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and upon request, Grow Public Schools may furnish reasonable auxiliary aids and services to qualified individuals with disabilities. Individuals who require appropriate alternative modification of the agenda in order participate in Board meetings are invited to contact the School's office.***

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**Directors Present**

Ernie Unruh, Kristen Watson, Manuel Pantoja, Matt Look, Tom Mestmaker

**Directors Absent**

None

**Guests Present**

Alan Blandon, Alfonso Valenzuela, Doc Ervin, Eric Mendez, Kari Heilman, Maddison Contreras, Mike Romero, Ricardo Esquivel, Rick Phillips

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**I. Opening Items**

**A. Call the Meeting to Order**

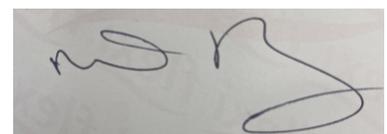
Tom Mestmaker called a meeting of the board of directors of Grow Public Schools to order on Monday Mar 20, 2023 at 4:00 PM.

**B. Record Attendance**

**C. Flag Salute**

Tom Mestmaker lead the flag salute.

**D. Public Comment**



Signed by Manuel Pantoja on 3/29/2023

No public comments.

## II. Closed Session

### A. The Board meeting went into Closed Session at 4:03pm to discuss the following items:

#### B. Conference with Labor Negotiators

Agency Designated Representative: CEO

Unrepresented Employees: **Classified** (Accounting Clerk, ASES Aide, ASES/ELOP Site Lead, Assistant ELOP Site Lead, Assistant Librarian, Attendance Clerk, Behavior Specialist, Café Aide, Campus Supervisor, Coordinator of Family & Community Engagement, Custodian, ELOP Aide, ESY Instructor, Executive Chef, Expanded Learning Opportunity Program Site Lead, Facilities Manager, Health Aide, Kindergarten Aide, Lead Café Aide, Lead ESY Educator, Licensed Vocational Nurse, Office Clerk, Office Manager, Small Group Instructor, Sous Chef, Special Education Aide, Special Education Clerk, Special Education Coordinator, Supervision Aide, Talent Acquisition Specialist, Teacher Resident, Universal Pre-Kindergarten Aide)

Unrepresented Employees: **Certificated** (Assistant Principal (K-4), Behavior Specialist Counselor, Dean of Culture, Instructional Coach, Intervention Coordinator, Literacy Specialist, Principal, School Psychologist, Special Education Coordinator, Special Education Teacher, Speech Pathologist, Teacher)

#### C. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: (One potential case)

## III. Open Session - Information/Items

### A. The Board meeting came back into Open Session at 5:08pm.

#### B. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation

Tom Mestmaker, Board Chair reported out that the Board voted to reject the claim.

#### C. Approval of Board Ratification of 2023-2024 Classified and Certificated Staff Salary Schedules Effective July 1, 2023

Kristen Watson made a motion to approve the Board Ratification of 2023-2024 Classified and Certificated Staff Salary Schedules Effective July 1, 2023.

Matt Look seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### Roll Call

Tom Mestmaker Aye

Ernie Unruh Aye

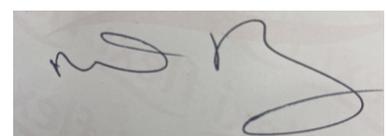
Manuel Pantoja Aye

Matt Look Aye

Kristen Watson Aye

## IV. Closing Items

### A.



Signed by Manuel Pantoja on 3/29/2023

### **Adjourn Meeting**

Ernie Unruh made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:09pm.

Manuel Pantoja seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### **Roll Call**

Ernie Unruh Aye

Kristen Watson Aye

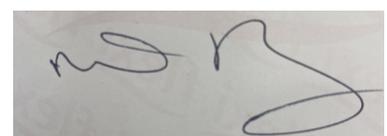
Matt Look Aye

Tom Mestmaker Aye

Manuel Pantoja Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:09 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kari Heilman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Pantoja', is written on a light-colored background.

Signed by Manuel Pantoja on 3/29/2023