

**MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MARIN PUPIL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY**

**MINUTES
February 11, 2025**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Megan Atkins (Larkspur-Corte Madera thru Zoom), Chris Carson (Ross Valley), Corbett Elsen (Tamalpais), Michael Ghebregziabher (Kentfield), Chris Kim (Reed), Bob Marcucci (San Rafael Elementary & High School Districts) & Carol Slender (Ross)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Gina Murphy-Garrett (Sausalito-Marin City) & Paula Rigney (Mill Valley)

STAFF PRESENT:

Dennis Petri, Executive Director

GUESTS:

Josue Calvo-Perez, San Rafael Location Manager, First Student
Andrew Good, Area General Manager, First Student
Chris Posedel, Accounting Manager, San Rafael City Schools
Stacey Tachiki, Director of Special Education, Marin County Office of Education

I. CALL TO ORDER: (9:01 a.m.)

Chairperson Bob Marcucci called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. in the Board of Trustees Room at San Rafael City Schools District Office. 310 Nova Albion Way in San Rafael.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT: (9:02 a.m.)

Andrew Good, Area General Manager for First Student addressed the Board of Directors, saying First Student appreciates their partnership with the Marin Pupil Transportation Agency.

III. ACTION SESSION

1. **Review & Possible Action on the Agenda (9:02 a.m.):** – Members approved the Agenda as presented.
(M/Corbett Elsen, S/Carol Slender)
Vote by member:
Aye: Atkins, Carson, Elsen, Ghebregziabher, Kim, Marcucci for SRES, Marcucci for SRHSD, Slender
Nay: No members
Abstention: No members
Absent: Murphy-Garrett, Rigney

2. **Review and Possible Action on Transportation Contract 2024-1 “Marin Pupil Transportation Agency’s Special Education School Bus Transportation Contract” (9:03 a.m.):** -- Several members expressed their concern at the large increase in bus rates presented on the Bid Form. The rates are 40.5% higher than current. As a result of the projected costs, most member school districts need to make significant changes to their district budgets to account for the higher transportation costs.

Members approved Contract 2024-1 with First Student as presented.
(M/Chris Carson, S/Carol Slender)
Vote by member:
Aye: Atkins, Carson, Elsen, Ghebregziabher, Kim, Marcucci for SRES, Marcucci for SRHSD, Slender
Nay: No members
Abstention: No members
Absent: Murphy-Garrett, Rigney

3. **Review and Possible Action on Proposed Budget & Bill Back Revisions (9:05 a.m.):** -- There was discussion among members about the impact of declining enrollment projected for some school districts. Members approved revisions to the 2024 – 2025 budget & bill back figures as presented.
(M/ Corbett Elsen, S/Chris Carson)
Vote by member:
Aye: Atkins, Carson, Elsen, Ghebregziabher, Kim, Marcucci for SRES, Marcucci for SRHSD, Slender
Nay: No members
Abstention: No members
Absent: Murphy-Garrett, Rigney

4. **Review and Possible Action on 1st Look at the 2025-2026 Proposed Budget & Bill Back Figures (9:12 a.m.):** -- Director Petri discussed the factors used to develop the 1st look at the new fiscal year's budget. Members did not have any questions, so they approved the 2025 – 2026 budget & bill back figures as projected.

(M/Carol Slender, S/Chris Kim)

Vote by member:

Aye: Atkins, Carson, Elsen, Ghebregziabher, Kim, Marcucci for SRES D, Marcucci for SRHSD, Slender
Nay: No members
Abstention: No members
Absent: Murphy-Garrett, Rigney

5. **Review and Possible Action on EDJOIN Service Agreement (9:14 a.m.):** -- Director Petri said he signed the Contract so we could post the Job Announcement on EDJOIN's website as soon as possible. Members did not have any questions, so they approved the Service Agreement with EDJOIN as presented.

(M/Corbett Elsen, S/Carol Slender)

Vote by member:

Aye: Atkins, Carson, Elsen, Ghebregziabher, Kim, Marcucci for SRES D, Marcucci for SRHSD, Slender
Nay: No members
Abstention: No members
Absent: Murphy-Garrett, Rigney

IV. CONSENT AGENDA (9:14 a.m. to 9:20 a.m.)

- CA-1. Possible Action on the Conference Notes for the Non-Mandatory Bidder's Conference for Contract 2024-1. Conference was held December 17, 2024.**
- CA-2. Possible Action on the Minutes of January 14, 2025 Board Meeting.**
- CA-3. Possible Action on the Meeting Notes for the Bid Opening Meeting for Contract 2024-1. Meeting was held January 16, 2025.**
- CA-4. Possible Action on the letter received from the Marin County Office of Education on the approval of the First Interim Budget Report. Letter was dated January 15, 2025.**

CA-5. Possible Action on the following Legal Updates provided by School & College Legal Services of California:

- a. **Memo No. 01-2025: Critical Update Regarding Title IX.** This information was dated January 15, 2025.
- b. **Memo No. 02-2025: Bid Limit Increased for 2025.** This information was dated January 15, 2025.
- c. **Notice of Change to General Counsel.** This information was dated January 21, 2025.
- d. **Memo No. 03-2025: Updates to Brown Act Teleconferencing Rules.** This information was dated January 28, 2025.

CA-6. Possible Action on the information received from First Student on Safety & Security Priorities. This information was dated January 28, 2025.

CA-7. Possible Action on the Financial Documents as follows:

- a. Approve vendor warrants paid for the period of January 1, 2025 through January 31, 2025 in the amount of **\$277,260.69.**

CA-8. Possible Action on the Monthly Student Count Tally Sheets as follows:

- a. January 2025.

CA-9. Possible Action on the Students Listed by School of Attendance Information.

- a. January 2025.

Chairperson Bob Marcucci introduced the Consent Agenda. Several members had questions on **Memo No. 03-2025** issued by School & College Legal Services of California. This memo reviews new updates to Brown Act Teleconferencing Rules. Director Petri said he will contact our legal counsel for their understanding on the new rules and report back to the Board.

Chairperson Marcucci asked for a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. After receiving the Motion, the Board approved the Consent Agenda as presented.

(M/Carol Slender, S/Chris Carson)

Vote by member:

Aye: Atkins, Carson, Elsen, Ghebregziabher, Kim, Marcucci for SRES, Marcucci for SRHSD, Slender
Nay: No members
Abstention: No members
Absent: Murphy-Garrett, Rigney

V. **DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. **TIME CERTAIN – Scheduled for 9:20 a.m.**
(Actual time was 9:20 a.m. to 9:21 a.m.)

Stacey Tachiki, Director of Special Education for the Marin County Office of Education reported on the following:

a. MCOE’s Extended School Year (ESY) programs are scheduled for June 23 to July 15 (or July 25 depending on the services provided). In previous years, programs were 4 or 6-weeks long. This year the programs are 4 or 5-weeks long.

b. Stacey has not received word on any possible class relocations or school site renovations that might affect the ESY session. Board Secretary Elsen noted that major construction is expected at Redwood High School this summer. This may impact the load zones for our school buses. Details to follow.

This discussion ended at 9:21 a.m. The Board thanked Stacey for her attendance and input.

2. **Executive Director’s Report (9:22 a.m.):**

a. Passing of Student: Director Petri spoke of the passing on one of the students we have transported for 3 years. This student – a resident of the Miller Creek School District – suffered a massive seizure in early January and passed away as a result.

The following documents were updated so members who can keep current of ongoing events:

b. Updated Information for the “**Timeline for 3 Major Projects.**”

c. Updated Information for the “**Suggested Timeline for Recruitment of New Executive Director.**” Chairperson Marcucci asked for volunteers to assist in screening applications received for this position. Members Corbett Elsen and Carol Slender agreed to help Bob with these tasks.

3. **Future agenda items requested by Board members (9:25 a.m.):**

Members asked Director Petri to report back on their questions on possible meeting attendance using Zoom in addition to or in place of our in-person meetings. This question refers to the School & College Legal Services Memo No. 03-2025 noted earlier in the Consent Agenda.

4. **Reminder of next meeting date.**
March 11, 2025

VI. **ADJOURNMENT: (9:27 a.m.)**

Public Records:

In accordance with Government Code section 54957.5 and the Public Records Act, public records that are distributed to a majority of the Board of Directors concerning open session agenda items will be made available upon request by emailing Dennis Petri at dpetri@marinschools.org or by calling (415) 258-8511. Such records distributed during a public meeting will be made available for inspection at the meeting if prepared by the Agency, or after the meeting if prepared by another party.