

Liberty High School
Professional Center
32255 Leon Road
Winchester, CA 92586



City of Menifee
City & School Districts Committee
Meeting Minutes

Lesa Sobek, Committee Member
Dean Deines, Committee Member

Thursday, September 16, 2021
4:00 PM Regular Meeting

MENIFEE EDUCATION SUMMIT: *SERVING OUR RESIDENTS TOGETHER*

MINUTES

Meeting Objective:

The purpose of this summit is for all participating agencies to collaborate in thoughtful discourse, share ideas and information, and identify opportunities that benefit Menifee residents.

1. CALL TO ORDER

City Manager Armando Villa called the meeting to order at 4:12 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Lesa Sobek and Dean Deines were present.

3. WELCOME MESSAGE

Committee Member Sobek welcomed everyone and thanked the group for their participation. Committee Member Deines thanked Liberty High School for allowing the use of their facility to host the meeting. The Committee Members said they look forward to hearing from all the school districts.

4. INTRODUCTIONS

Present from the City were: City Clerk Sarah Manwaring, Senior Management Analyst Imelda Huerta, Executive Assistant Mandy Stephens, Media Specialist Briana Borunda, Economic Development Director Gina Gonzalez, Community Development Director Cheryl Kitzerow, Public Works Director Nick Fidler, Public Works Manager Allen Yun, Assistant City Engineer Yolanda Macalalad, Principle Engineer Carlos Geronimo, Community Services Director Jonathan Nicks, Community Services Supervisor Cynthia Morquecho, Chief Information Officer Ron Puccinelli, Police Captain Dave Gutierrez, Assistant City Manager Rochelle Clayton, and City Manager Armando Villa.

Present from the School Districts were: Menifee Union School District (MUSD) Superintendent Jennifer Root, MUSD School Board President Jackie Johansen, MUSD Board Member Bob O'Donnell, Romoland Elementary School District Superintendent Trevor Painton, Perris Union High School District (PUHSD) Deputy Superintendent Candace Reines, Santa Rosa Academy Executive Director Dr. Robert Hennings, Santa

Rosa Academy Director of Community Relations Andie Pasolini, Santa Rosa Academy Board President Scott Mason, Santa Rosa Board Member Eric Russell, Mt. San Jacinto College Superintendent Roger Schultz, and River Spring Charter School Site Facilitator Lindsay Robson.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

6. MINUTES

The Committee unanimously (2-0) approved the minutes of the October 26, 2020 Education Summit meeting.

7. CITY UPDATES

City Manager Armando Villa reported on the City's COVID-19 response.

Committee Member Sobek announced her selection of this year's State of the City as "Kindness starts with Menifee," and includes Kindness, Resilience, and Engagement. She further said that kindness and engagement can make a difference in someone's life.

Committee Member Deines reported on the City's family-friendly environment. He stated that with the new Police Department, police officers are engaging with residents and developing relationships. Committee Member Deines reported that Menifee is in the top 100 best cities to raise children and one of the Inland Empire's top three places to live. He said Menifee has great schools with education from kindergarten through college; and Menifee has been named as the best place to celebrate Halloween.

Community Services Supervisor Cynthia Morquecho reported on current recreation programs and upcoming events; Community Services Director Jonathan Nicks reported on Parks and Facilities, and current partnerships and community needs that have been identified.

Police Captain Dave Gutierrez reported on the City's investment in public safety including on-going recruitments, school resources officer program, partnership with Mt. San Jacinto College, statistics of the first year, and the current school session.

Public Works Director Nick Fidler introduced the Capital Improvement Program and highlighted eight projects. He reported on the public works engineering department and introduced Principal Engineer Carlos Geronimo. Mr. Fidler reported on the Adams Avenue Street improvement project, the traffic signal ADA and pedestrian improvements, traffic signals, and the Menifee Active Transportation Plan. Assistant City Engineer Yolanda Macalalad reported on infrastructure projects brought on by new developments, which include traffic signals.

Mr. Fidler reported on recent public works maintenance projects.

Information Technology Director Ron Puccinelli reported on the City's initiative for city-wide broadband and smart city master plan, the PEG channel, and connecting with career pathways.

programs. He also reported on upcoming programs to support hospitality, such as casino gaming, and brewer and distilling programs. Superintendent Schultz announced the opening of the health student center prior to COVID-19 and the plans to bring someone on to help deal with the mental health challenges students are facing. He reported on other student needs being addressed are food insecurities; the school has a food distribution program and they are looking at helping with clothing insecurities for students to go on interviews.

- *Perris Union High School District*

Perris Union High School District (PUHSD) Deputy Superintendent Candace Reines reported on PUHSD including district boundaries and Menifee High Schools: Paloma Valley High School, Heritage High School and Liberty High School.

- *Santa Rosa Academy*

Dr. Robert Hennings spoke on the charter school movement and the vision of the Santa Rosa Academy of fostering character, education and patriotism. Dr. Hennings reported on the program offerings; statistics; enrollment, waiting lists, graduation rate, retention, students with special needs, teacher student ratio, SAT and ACT scores, classrooms, meals served, championships, sports teams, on the horizon, construction of classrooms, additional space for independent study workshops. Dr. Hennings reported on Riverside County initiatives for schools as: mental health, literacy by 5th grade, antiracism, financial literacy and is incorporated in the school's curriculum.

- *Springs Charter School – Bear River Student Center*

River Spring Charter School Site Facilitator Lindsay Robson reported on the Springs Charter Schools and Bear River Student Center. Ms. Robson reported on the different programs and different styles of learning at each school under the Springs Charter Schools. She announced that this year school sites were impacted and there was a lottery system for student registration. Ms. Robson said that there has been an increase in registration every year, but this year there was a number of disenrollment due to families moving out of state. Ms. Robson continued to report on the COVID-19 response and mask mandates, upcoming events, drama class, sports, Kindness Week, technology, club offerings, and the school's maker space.

9. **ROUNDTABLE**

Armando thanked everyone for their reports and asked if anyone had any questions, or anything else to report on before the end of the meeting.

Traffic concerns around the schools was discussed. Menifee staff stated that they are working on outreach and education about safety and the City has created a task force with police and engineering staff to address the issues.

Assistant City Manager Rochelle Clayton reported on the City's fiscal recognition, understanding where your tax dollars go, internships and job opportunities.

Community Services Director Cheryl Kitzerow reported on a snapshot of the City's residential and commercial development, and highlighted the county courthouse and county library projects that benefit the City.

Economic Development Director Gina Gonzalez reported on the City's demographics and the City's growing economic development.

Mr. Villa summarized everything that is happening in the City.

8. **SCHOOL DISTRICT UPDATES**

Includes current/future happenings, misc. sharing, pandemic-related issues/updates, planning

- *Menifee Union School District*

Menifee Union School District (MUSD) Superintendent Jennifer Root introduced the district's vision, mission, equity statement; she reported on the number of students and the types of schools they have; MUSD is the largest employer in Menifee; ongoing professional development for teachers and staff; elementary social studies curriculum adoption; technology in MUSD; social/emotional health and well-being; parent and community groups and committees; parent workshops; expanded meal service for all students; school news and social media; MUSD partners in education; community support; Harvest Hill STEAM academy expansion to TK through 8th grade; the new Menifee Valley Middle School; the new Chester W. Morrison kindergarten classrooms; Menifee virtual school; independent study; upcoming construction; and new transitional kindergarten/kindergarten classrooms.

Ms. Root thanked the City and said she appreciates the partnership.

- *Romoland School District*

Romoland Elementary School District Superintendent Trevor Painton reported on the district's profile; geographic area; demographics; enrollment trends; continuity of leadership with the board of trustees; educational equity through personalized learning; curriculum, instruction, and assessment; using space and time; robust infrastructure for technology; protecting student data and privacy; community partnerships; personalized professional learning for educators; budget and resources; state of the art facilities; student health and wellness; and multiple engagement opportunities.

- *Mt. San Jacinto College*

Mt. San Jacinto College Superintendent Roger Schultz reported on the college going fully online as institution came back in fall. He reported that enrollment has been flat, the school is strong fiscally, 5500 students on campus; the stadium is on track for fall 2022 opening and they are collaborating with the City to use as community events. Superintendent Schultz reported on the Stem building's impact to the region, the new student center, job opportunities, and programs that align with community needs, such as culinary, aviation, and paramedic

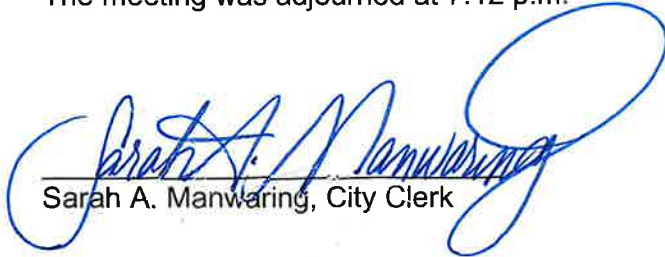
10. CLOSING REMARKS

Mayor Pro Tem Sobek thanked everyone for attending and providing great information. She said that she respects and appreciates all of the school staff and educators for all that they do for the children in Menifee.

Councilmember Deines stated he was happy to see all the districts come together for the meeting and working toward the same goals for the families in Menifee.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.



Sarah A. Manwaring, City Clerk