CLAREMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Meeting of the Board of Education - Board Study Session Minutes
Date: Thursday, August 20, 2026
Richard S. Kirkendall Education Center | 170 W. San Jose Avenue, Claremont, California

Board of Education
Dr. Alex McDonald, President
Kathy Archer, Vice President
Cheryl Fiello, Clerk
Kathryn Dunn, Member
Richard W. O'Neill, Member

Board Members Present: Kathryn Dunn, Richard O'Neill, Cheryl Fiello, Kathy Archer, Alex McDonald

Administrative Staff Present:
Dr. James Elsasser, Superintendent and Board Secretary
Desiree Reyes, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Dr. Julie Olesniewicz, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Kevin Ward, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services
Dr. Rick Lopez, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Kara Evans, Director of Educational Technology and Innovation
Angela Gearhart, Exec. Secretary to the Superintendent

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.01 Call to Order at 4:30 p.m.
The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

1.02 Establish a Quorum
A quorum was established with five Board members present: Richard O'Neill, Kathryn Dunn, Cheryl Fiello, Kathy Archer, and Alex McDonald. Also present at the meeting were Dr. Elsasser, Executive Cabinet, Angela Gearhart, and Kara Evans.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

To adopt the Agenda as presented.

- Motioned by: Richard O'Neill
- Seconded by: Kathryn Dunn
- Yeas: Richard O'Neill, Kathryn Dunn, Cheryl Fiello, Kathy Archer, Alex McDonald

Motion Carried

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

3.01 Public Comments on Items on the Agenda
There were no comments on items on the agenda.

4. GOVERNANCE WORKSHOP

4.01 Facilities Master Plan Presentation
Joshua Jackson, Associate Principal and Director of Planning; Susanto Agustiadi, Principal Architect; and Dennis Adjetey, Urban Designer, of PBK Architects, provided an overview of the Facilities Master Plan. The presentation included an update on the planning process, an overview of the 2026–2036 Facilities Master Plan, next steps, and an opportunity for discussion with the Board.

4.02 State Funding Eligibility Update Presentation
Steve Martinez, Chief Operating Officer of CL Consulting, provided an overview of the District's state funding strategy, including current eligibility, submitted and pending applications, the 10-year funding forecast, and immediate priorities. The presentation also provided an overview of how state funding works, including the requirement for a local match, and discussed how a local bond could position the District to access available state funding.

The Board discussed the potential amount and growth of available state funding, eligibility requirements, the relationship between a local bond and state funding opportunities, and the importance of pursuing available state funding to address the District's facilities needs.

5. ADJOURNMENT

5.01 Final Adjournment

The meeting adjourned in closed session at 5:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. James Elsasser, Superintendent
Secretary to the Board of Education

Attested and Approved:

Cheryl Fiello, Board Clerk
Board Approved on the 3rd day of September 2026