

GREEN POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Board Meeting
Board Study Session Regarding Possible Lapsation of Green Point
Elementary School District.

180 VALKENSAR LANE – BLUE LAKE, CA 95525

March 28, 2024, 5:30pm

**GREEN POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT WELCOMES YOU AND APPRECIATES YOUR
INTEREST IN OUR SCHOOL**

In-person meeting with online attendance option for guests

To join the video meeting, click this link:

<https://meet.google.com/dcu-dsbf-uyv>

Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 518-719-9240 and enter this PIN: 299 404 896#

Agenda Link:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kgLdRidauRhEBE1n02M0v5K_ZJWFZiUba4OxmJPuO8s/edit?usp=sharing

The Board of Trustees represents the people of the Green Point School District as the elected body created to determine, establish and uphold the educational policies of the District. In this capacity the Board functions under the laws of the State of California, but is free to plan for an educational program tailored to both the needs and resources of the communities served. The following information is provided to assist the communities in understanding the Board's proceedings and to participate in those proceedings.

ADDRESSING THE BOARD	REGULAR SESSION
You may speak on a matter not on the agenda at the beginning of a regular meeting during the time reserved for public comment. After being recognized by the President, you will be allowed three minutes for your presentation. The Board will take no action on the matter at this meeting. You may speak on any item on the agenda when that item is being discussed.	In order to address the Board, please wait for recognition by the President. Speakers are expected to be courteous and to avoid any remarks that reflect adversely on the character or motives of any person or on his or her race, religion, or political or economic views. The Board will hear public testimony on any given topic for a maximum of twenty (20) minutes. The Board may, by consensus and at its discretion, extend the time limit.
COMPLAINTS	CLOSED SESSION
Complaints are to be addressed by first speaking with the person directly involved. If this does not resolve the issue, the complaint should be submitted in writing to the Superintendent. The Superintendent will investigate and respond in writing. Only after exhausting these levels can a written request be submitted asking that the issue be heard by the Board.	While school board meetings must be open to the public, California law provides for closed sessions which are not open to the public when the Board is considering expulsions, suspensions or disciplinary actions in connection with any pupil; the appointment, employment or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or when the Board is hearing complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee. The individual may, however, request a public hearing. In addition, the Board may hold a closed session to discuss certain aspects of negotiations with employees.
<u>BOARD OF TRUSTEES</u> Nick Hinz, President Melanie LaPorte, Clerk Nicole McClure, Member Teresa Mondragon, Superintendent	

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDER

3.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Notice to the Public: All matters listed under Consent Agenda are considered by the Board to be routine and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below, unless any member of the Board requests that an item be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration

no items in consent agenda

4.0 CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS

Correspondence will be received and shared with the Board at this time. Board Members and Superintendent will have the opportunity to make comments and share items of information that will benefit the district.

4.1 Humboldt County Office of Education Q and A session with Green Point School Board re: Possible Lapsation of Green Point Elementary School District.

5.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the community are welcome to address the Board of Trustees on *non-agenda* subject or item of specific concern. Speakers will stand and state their name and any group they are representing. There will be a time limit of three (3) minutes per speaker and a total time limit of fifteen (15) minutes per issue. If there are representatives from opposing points of view, each side will be allotted half the total time.

5.1

6.0 POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

Members of the public may address the trustees regarding an agenda item after the presentation has been made. Anyone wishing to address the trustees will stand and state their name and any group they are representing. There will be a time limit of three (3) minutes per person per item. There will be a total time limit of fifteen (15) minutes per agenda item. If there are representatives from opposing points of view, each side will be allotted half the total time. The discussion of the agenda item will take place after the Public comments and be limited to the Governance Team.

no action items

7.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

7.1 Teacher's Report: NA

7.2 Aide's report- NA

7.3 Superintendent's Report:

7.4 Board Member Reports:

8.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

8.1 Next Board Meeting **April 11, 2024.**

9.0 CLOSED SESSION Closed Session attendees shall include: Board members; Superintendent; Teresa Mondragon; and other individuals that may be invited to attend by the Board

no closed session items

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

Board member signatures:

Nick Hinz, Board President _____ **Date** _____

Melanie Laporte, Board V.P/clerk _____ **Date** _____

Nicole McClure, Board Member _____ **Date** _____

Green Point Governing Board member questions 3/19/2024:

1) What is the basis for moving up the decision point on lapsation for Green Point from May to April? Can we request that this be moved back to May to allow the families currently living in the school district more time to plan for next year regarding enrollment?

The decision point on lapsation has not moved. At their March 13 meeting, The Humboldt County Board of Education tabled the consideration and possible action regarding the *deferral* of lapsation until their April 10 meeting. This was done to allow the District additional time to engage in additional enrollment efforts for the 2024-25 school year. The Board heard from the Green Point Superintendent-Principal that there would be a community event at the school on March 16 where families could learn about the school and possibly commit to attending next year.

The County Committee on School District Organization (not the County Board of Education) is responsible for conducting the lapsation process which begins within 30 to 45 days prior to the end of the school year. See language below:

Lapsation Process

"Any school district meeting one of the conditions in the above sections 1 and 2 shall be lapsed by the county committee as follows:

- a. Within 30 to 45 days prior to the end of the school year, the county committee will conduct a public hearing to consider the conditions related to lapsation.*
- b. Following the public hearing, and at least 30 days before the end of the school year, the county committee will order the territory of the lapsed district annexed to one or more adjoining school districts, as determined by the county committee to be in the best interests of the adjoining districts and residents of the lapsed district.*
- c. The order of the county committee to lapse the district may contain any of the appropriate provisions specified in EC sections 35730 to 35738.*
- d. The lapsation and subsequent annexation(s) will be effective on the July 1 following the order of the county committee (the first day of the next school year)."*

2) We have heard different numbers regarding minimum number of students. Minimum of 6 total? But with 5 in district with this being the minimum for the Necessary Small Schools funding? Can we get an explanation of this in writing?

There are two different issues Green Point School District is contending with. One is the possibility of Lapsation, the other is the loss of the Necessary Small School funding.

For **Lapsation**, the minimum number is **6 ADA** (average daily attendance).

This is addressed in Education Code 35780:

"(a) A school district that has been organized for more than three years shall be lapsed as provided in this article if the number of registered electors in the school district is less than six or if the average daily attendance of pupils in the school or schools maintained by the school district is less than six in kindergarten and grades 1 to 8, inclusive, or is less than 11 in grades 9 to 12, inclusive. The county board of education may defer the lapsation of the school district for one year upon adoption of a resolution

- b. The average daily attendance of students in the school or schools maintained by the district1 is less than six2 in kindergarten through grade 8; or*
- c. The average daily attendance of students in the school or schools maintained by the district1 is less than 112 in grades 9 to 12."*

5) How does HCOE consider families with young kids (such as toddlers) in the decision process to remain open?

The minimum ADA of 6 students must be met in grades kindergarten through grade 8 to avoid lapsation (unless a deferral is granted). If there is evidence that preschool aged children living within the district will likely attend the school in future years, this is a positive asset in the consideration of deferring lapsation.

6) We request a written explanation as to the changes in our current budget forecast. Previously we were informed that we would not have enough funds for next year, and then were told that we do have enough funds for another year, even without the Necessary Small Schools funding.

At the 2023/2024 First Interim report the budget assumptions assumed Green Point would lose the Necessary Small School Funding due to not meeting eligibility requirements in the current year (23/24). Upon further discussions with CDE, CDE communicated to Green Point School District's Superintendent and HCOE staff on January 30, 2024:

"Pursuant to EC 42280, there is a one year grace period where a school site that does not meet the NSS eligibility requirements in the current year, but did meet the requirements in the prior year, can still generate NSS funding in the current year."

The district did meet the criteria for the Necessary Small School Funding in 2022/2023 so it can be funded under that funding model for the current year (2023/2024) due to the prior year guarantee. Please see the answer to #2 above for the eligibility requirements.

Therefore, in the 2023/2024 Second Interim report the current year funding was based on the district's prior year eligibility for the Necessary Small School funding. This adjusted the district's 2023/2024 LCFF funding from \$171,712 in the First Interim report to \$323,260 in the Second Interim report. This increase in the current year revenues creates a higher 2023/2024 ending balance thus allowing for the projected positive ending fund balance for 2024/2025.

Additional Governing board member's questions

1. If there is potential for younger students to attend Green Point in the next year or two that are in-district, will the Board reconsider the lapsation deferral until next year?

This is a possibility. At the March 13 of the Humboldt County Board of Education, the Board and the County Superintendent wanted to allow more time for the District to engage in enrollment activities and outreach within the community before the County Board (with the County Superintendent's concurrence) took any action with regards to approving the Green Point Board-adopted resolution requesting a deferral of lapsation. On March 12, Superintendent Davies-Hughes and Superintendent Mondragon spoke by phone and Superintendent Mondragon shared the following:

- *The Community event at Green Point School had been postponed until March 16*
- *147 mailers were being sent to households within the district boundaries*
- *3 in-district students are attending the school (one in 5th grade and two in 6th grade)*
- *3 out-of-district students are attending the school (one in Kdg, one in 2nd grade, and one 8th grader). The 8th grader will be moving on to high school next year*
- *There are six to eight students who are residing within the district boundaries who are attending school elsewhere. Superintendent Mondragon stated that she would follow-up with the families of these students*
- *Current projection (as of March 12) for enrollment in 2024-2025 is five students (3 in district and 2 out of district)*

2. If the lapsation process begins 45 days before the end of the school year, and within that time frame Green Point receives two in-district students, does that halt the lapsation process or does it continue regardless of the new students?

Lapsation is triggered when the ADA in a given school year is below 6 students (ADA, not enrollment). Two in-district students enrolling between April and June would not significantly increase the ADA for the year, but it would meet the threshold for Necessary Small Schools funding. The threshold for lapsation and Necessary Small Schools funding are different. We will discuss the distinction in more detail during the Study Session.

3. Thought process behind no concurrence letter for Green Point at the county board meeting?

See response to question #1 above. The District did not provide any evidence of increased ADA for next year but indicated that they were currently making an effort to find more potential enrollees. The County Board and Superintendent tabled any action on the requested deferral to allow more time for the District to engage in these efforts.