



**City and County of San Francisco  
YOUTH COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**Monday, October 21, 2024**

**5:00 pm**

**IN-PERSON MEETING**

**City Hall, Room 416**

**1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,  
San Francisco, CA 94102**

Youth Commission Membership includes:

Jason Fong (Chair, Mayoral), Gabbie Listana (Vice Chair, D6), Lucas Liang (Leg Affairs Officer, D4), Jin Valencia-Tow (Leg Affairs Officer, D7), Winnie Liao (Comms Officer, D3), Emily Yang (Comms Officer, Mayoral), Clarisse Kim (D1), Camryn Marlow (D2), Ethar Alameri (D5), Harper Fortgang (D8), Skylar Dang (D9), Ikahihifo Paea (D10), Imaan Ansari (D11), Téa Lonné Amir (Mayoral), Eloise Krehlik (Mayoral), Aisha Majdoub (Mayoral), Ava Oram (Mayoral).

**Present:** Clarisse Kim, Camryn Marlow, Winnie Liao, Lucas Liang, Ethar Alameri, Gabbie Listana, Jin Valencia-Tow, Harper Fortgang, Skylar Dang, Jason Fong, Téa Lonné Amir, Eloise Krehlik, Aisha Majdoub, Ava Oram, Emily Yang.

**Absent:** Ikahihifo Paea (excused), Imaan Ansari (excused).

**Tardy:** None.

The San Francisco Youth Commission met in-person with remote viewing on October 21, 2024, with Chair Fong presiding.

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance**

Chair Fong called the meeting to order at 5:01pm.

On the call of the roll:

Roll Call Attendance: 15 present, 2 absent.

Clarisse Kim (D1) - present  
Camryn Marlow (D2) - present  
Winnie Liao (D3) - present  
Lucas Liang (D4) - present  
Ethar Alameri (D5) - present  
Gabbie Listana (D6) - present  
Jin Valencia-Tow (D7) - present  
Harper Fortgang (D8) - present  
Skylar Dang (D9) - present  
Ikahihifo Paea (D10) - absent  
Imaan Ansari (D11) - absent  
Téa Lonné Amir (Mayoral) - present  
Eloise Krehlik (Mayoral) - present  
Aisha Majdoub (Mayoral) - present  
Ava Oram (Mayoral) - present  
Emily Yang (Mayoral) - present  
Jason Fong (Mayoral) - present

A quorum of the Commission was present.

Commissioner Lonné Amir, seconded by Commissioner Kim, motioned to excuse Commissioner Ansari and Commissioner Paea. No discussion. No public comment. The motion was carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 15 ayes, 2 absent.

Clarisse Kim (D1) - aye  
Camryn Marlow (D2) - aye  
Winnie Liao (D3) - aye  
Lucas Liang (D4) - aye  
Ethar Alameri (D5) - aye  
Gabbie Listana (D6) - aye  
Jin Valencia-Tow (D7) - aye  
Harper Fortgang (D8) - aye  
Skylar Dang (D9) - aye  
Ikahihifo Paea (D10) - absent  
Imaan Ansari (D11) - absent  
Téa Lonné Amir (Mayoral) - aye  
Eloise Krehlik (Mayoral) - aye  
Aisha Majdoub (Mayoral) - aye  
Ava Oram (Mayoral) - aye  
Emily Yang (Mayoral) - aye  
Jason Fong (Mayoral) - aye

Action: Commissioner Ansari's and Commissioner Paea's absence excused.

## 2. Communications

Alondra Esquivel Garcia, Director of the SFYC, shared communications and meeting announcements with Commissioners.

## 3. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

Commissioner Majdoub, seconded by Commissioner Oram, motioned to approve the October 21, 2024 full Youth Commission meeting agenda. No discussion. No public comment. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 15 ayes, 2 absent.

Clarisse Kim (D1) - aye  
Camryn Marlow (D2) - aye  
Winnie Liao (D3) - aye  
Lucas Liang (D4) - aye  
Ethar Alameri (D5) - aye  
Gabbie Listana (D6) - aye  
Jin Valencia-Tow (D7) - aye  
Harper Fortgang (D8) - aye  
Skylar Dang (D9) - aye  
Ikahihifo Paea (D10) - absent  
Imaan Ansari (D11) - absent  
Téa Lonné Amir (Mayoral) - aye  
Eloise Krehlik (Mayoral) - aye  
Aisha Majdoub (Mayoral) - aye  
Ava Oram (Mayoral) - aye  
Emily Yang (Mayoral) - aye  
Jason Fong (Mayoral) - aye

Action: Agenda Approved.

## 4. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

### a. October 7, 2024 (Packet Materials)

Commissioner Majdoub, seconded by Commissioner Dang, motioned to approve the October 7, 2024 full Youth Commission meeting minutes. No discussion. No public comment. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 15 ayes, 2 absent.

Clarisse Kim (D1) - aye  
Camryn Marlow (D2) - aye  
Winnie Liao (D3) - aye  
Lucas Liang (D4) - aye  
Ethar Alameri (D5) - aye  
Gabbie Listana (D6) - aye  
Jin Valencia-Tow (D7) - aye  
Harper Fortgang (D8) - aye  
Skylar Dang (D9) - aye  
Ikahihifo Paea (D10) - absent  
Imaan Ansari (D11) - absent  
Téa Lonné Amir (Mayoral) - aye  
Eloise Krehlik (Mayoral) - aye  
Aisha Majdoub (Mayoral) - aye  
Ava Oram (Mayoral) - aye  
Emily Yang (Mayoral) - aye  
Jason Fong (Mayoral) - aye

Action: Minutes Approved.

**5. Public Comment on matters not on Today's Agenda** (2 minutes per comment)

No public comment.

**6. Presentations**

**a. San Francisco School Unified School District School Closures Plan**

- i. Presenter: Dr. Michele Huntoon, Associate Superintendent of Business Services and Laura Dudnick, Executive Director of Communications and External Affairs, SFUSD; President Matt Alexander, Board of Education

Due to the rapidly changing series of events surrounding school closures, SFUSD presented on their proposed budget and next steps to address the deficit, which was the primary reason for previous plans of school closure. Dr. Huntoon gave their presentation on the steps SFUSD has taken to balance its budget and establish fiscal sustainability.

Commissioner Marlow asked if they know why there's such a big decline in enrollment, to which Huntoon said more than 30% of students in SF attend non-public schools, that there is a lower birth rate, and a higher cost of living.

Commissioner Dang asked what methods other school districts have done besides any school mergers or closures to address financial issues, to which Huntoon said increasing enrollment per student, having strong relationships with their government partners, and controlling salary expenditures by workforce reduction.

Commissioner Majdoub asked why over 30% of students go to non-public schools, to which Huntoon said she doesn't know why exactly, but by personal family decisions.

Officer Liao asked how expenditures are increasing when enrollment is down, to which Huntoon said that these costs are constantly rising and worsened with less revenue. Liao asked if it was specific schools or just those with low enrollment, to which Huntoon said it was all schools and the district office.

Commissioner Yang asked what happens if the expenditures cannot be paid for by the revenues, to which Huntoon said they have a financial advisory currently to get expenditures under control.

Officer Liang asked if there's anything else to be reduced besides salaries, to which Huntoon said that it is the largest aspect of the budget, and that the remaining funds are the basics that they cannot cut.

Officer Valencia-Tow asked how they're seeking youth input and ensuring that there is citywide youth representation, to which Huntoon said she's not sure what's been done in the past but that they'll be doing that from now on across the district.

Commissioner Krehlik asked what requirements are needed for the funding within the Student Success Fund, to which Huntoon said she isn't sure, but happy to get back to her on that.

Commissioner Fortgang asked how cuts to staffing will affect classroom sizes and student experiences at school, to which Huntoon said they still are focused on ensuring students have a positive experience but that it will be tough and class sizes are likely to increase.

Commissioner Oram asked if it's just independent schools facing enrollment issues or if it's just SFUSD, to which Huntoon said yes it's all schools.

Commissioner Kim asked to what extent SFUSD is chopping from the top, to which Huntoon said that about \$3 million is being cut from the central district office. Kim asked if they've identified how to meet the needs of students, to which Huntoon said they're constantly assessing this to ensure they're meeting the needs. Commissioner Oram followed up by asking what those needs look like, to which Huntoon added that literacy, testing scores, wellness, and other factors. Oram asked if there's space for youth to provide direct feedback to the district, to which Huntoon said student government at various campuses and the Healthy Kids survey.

Commissioner Lonné Amir asked why the expenditures are so high compared to revenue coming in during 2025, to which Huntoon said she isn't sure about decisions made in the past, but that that gap exists because a lot of one-time funding will no longer

be coming in. Lonné Amir asked if there's a plan to be less reliant on one-time funding, to which Huntoon said they're looking at how to reduce one-time funding by better budget planning.

Officer Valencia-Tow asked how they plan to reduce FTEs and still keep the number of school sites operating, to which Huntoon said that the number of staffing across all sites will reduce, while also looking at enrollment trends.

Vice Chair Listana asked how vulnerable students get enough support with predictably larger class sizes, to which Huntoon said that that will be difficult. Huntoon added that special education is a required program, and they can ensure that efficient programs will help carry out their duties. Listana asked how the district is implementing the feedback into the budget, to which Huntoon said that their Cabinet is working to implement all of the feedback into these decisions.

Commissioner Kim asked how they will meet the needs of special education students based on the actions from before to now, to which Huntoon said special ed is a federally mandated program that they're waiting for a report to be completed to put in further recommendations.

Chair Fong asked if the district will need to close schools eventually to balance the budget, to which Huntoon said yes they will have to if the enrollment remains low. Fong asked how they will center student voices in these processes, to which Huntoon said that their comments will help inform the district and they will look at the feedback. Fong asked what strategies they have to address fiscal mismanagement with their spending and payment program, to which Huntoon said they are working on addressing that with the new program in July and they're taking corrective steps now. Fong said that it seems that the district has had financial woes for years and asked what the district can do now to address these issues, to which Huntoon said they've been making decisions for the past year to correct past mistakes.

#### Discussion:

Commissioner Kim said she's been an SFUSD student since kindergarten, and that she feels that students are very disconnected from decisions administration is making. Kim added that her school, Lincoln High School, has missing counselors, the language department, and anxiety about the future. Kim mentioned that the surveys have failed to account for student voices, and that students need stability with the community that doesn't feel like it's about to fall apart at the seams.

Commissioner Dang said that she echoes a lot of what Commissioner Kim said, and that administrators need to work with student leadership because students feel that they are not listened to. Dang said that they need to find better ways to

bridge the gaps between students and faculty, and that they may see higher enrollment if they create an environment students want to learn in. Dang added that she spoke with Superintendent Wayne about the lack of bathroom locks at Balboa High School, to which she never heard back.

Officer Yang said she attends Balboa High School, and that the surveys were sent out very late into the school year and were unlikely to capture students' attention.

Officer Liao said she believes teachers are also neglected in SFUSD and that that needs to be a priority as well.

Chair Fong said he appreciates them presenting and as a graduate of SFUSD, he knows that the district can provide a quality education for all.

Chair Fong called for a 5-minute recess at 6:12pm, and called the meeting back to order at 6:21pm.

## 7. Legislation Referred (discussion & possible action)

- a. **BOS File #240976** Hearing - Committee of the Whole - Reporting on SFUSD's Whole School Lesson Study Math Pilot - Impact on Student Math Scores - Student Success Fund Dollars ([Packet Materials](#))
  - i. Presenter: Youth Commission Staff and Legislative Affairs Officers

Officer Valencia-Tow introduced the legislation referred and a summary of the pilot program by Supervisor Ronen. He added that this will be heard on October 29th, and Chair Fong said they should make use of this hearing. Commissioner Kim asked if it was just for elementary school students, to which Valencia-Tow said they are expanding it to middle schools as well this year.

Officer Liao, seconded by Commissioner Majdoub, motioned to positively recommend BOS File #240976, with comments and questions attached. No discussion. No public comment. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote: \_\_ ayes, \_\_ nays, \_\_ absent.

Clarisse Kim (D1) - aye  
Camryn Marlow (D2) - aye  
Winnie Liao (D3) - aye  
Lucas Liang (D4) - aye  
Ethar Alameri (D5) - aye  
Gabbie Listana (D6) - aye  
Jin Valencia-Tow (D7) - aye  
Harper Fortgang (D8) - aye

Skylar Dang (D9) - aye  
Ikahihifo Paea (D10) - absent  
Imaan Ansari (D11) - absent  
Téa Lonné Amir (Mayoral) - aye  
Eloise Krehlik (Mayoral) - aye  
Aisha Majdoub (Mayoral) - aye  
Ava Oram (Mayoral) - aye  
Emily Yang (Mayoral) - aye  
Jason Fong (Mayoral) - aye

Action: motioned to positively recommend BOS File #240976 passes, with comments and questions attached.

**b. BOS File #240967** Administrative Code - E-Bike Incentive Fund ([Packet Materials](#))

i. Presenter: Youth Commission Staff and Legislative Affairs Officers

Officer Liang introduced the legislation referred, summarized the fund, and mentioned that the Environment Department has done a pilot previously. Commissioner Alameri asked how an e-bike is better than a regular bike and how it's better for the environment, to which Liang said the e-bike will help those who can't bike to have better access. Commissioner Oram asked if e-bikes are environmentally good since they would require more energy. Commissioner Krehlik is concerned about e-bike causing more accidents if they're on the road, to which Liang said e-bikes are limited by speed. Officer Yang asked if energy costs will be incorporated into the rebate, to which Liang said he doesn't believe it's included in the legislation. Officer Liao asked if the rebate is included if it's bought outside of San Francisco or online, to which Liang said that someone could only buy them at SF bike shops.

Commissioner Majdoub, seconded by Commissioner Krehlik, motioned to positively recommend BOS File #240967. No discussion. No public comment. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote: 15 ayes, 2 absent.

Clarisse Kim (D1) - aye  
Camryn Marlow (D2) - aye  
Winnie Liao (D3) - aye  
Lucas Liang (D4) - aye  
Ethar Alameri (D5) - aye  
Gabbie Listana (D6) - aye  
Jin Valencia-Tow (D7) - aye  
Harper Fortgang (D8) - aye



Skylar Dang (D9) - aye  
Ikahihifo Paea (D10) - absent  
Imaan Ansari (D11) - absent  
Téa Lonné Amir (Mayoral) - aye  
Eloise Krehlik (Mayoral) - aye  
Aisha Majdoub (Mayoral) - aye  
Ava Oram (Mayoral) - aye  
Emily Yang (Mayoral) - aye  
Jason Fong (Mayoral) - aye

Action: motioned to positively recommend BOS File #240967 passes, with comments and questions attached.

The meeting went into recess briefly due to loss of internet connection at 6:40pm. The internet resumed and the meeting was called back to order at 6:42pm.

**8. Commission Business** (discussion & possible action)

a. SFUSD School Closures

i. Presenter: Chair Jason Fong and Vice Chair Gabbie Listana

Chair Fong started with his takeaways being that school closures will be a long-term conversation within SFUSD, and that it needs to happen in an orderly fashion that was not like what was just proposed by the district.

Commissioner Alameri asked if it was mostly affecting elementary, middle, or high schools, to which Vice Chair Listana said that it primarily affected elementary schools and two high schools. Commissioner Dang added that some of the schools would have been merged instead of outright closed.

Commissioner Lonné Amir said the change in presentations felt very rushed and that the presentation could've been more prepared to answer their questions. She added that she hopes there can be a larger student voice in the decisions made about the future of SFUSD.

Commissioner Kim said that she heard a lot of terminology that was not able to be understood by students, and that they can do a better job of communicating what is happening. Commissioner Krehlik agrees.

**9. Committee Reports** (discussion item)

a. Executive Committee

i. Legislative Affairs Officers

Officer Valencia-Tow said the first thing was the BLA audit on the San Francisco Zoo, which was recently deemed unsafe for both animals and

visitors. Because of that, Supervisor Melgar called for an audit into the zoo's practices to ensure public safety. Valencia-Tow added that Supervisor Ronen is proposing legislation to regulate artificial intelligence (AI), which would establish standards of how AI can be used in government. Lastly, he added that there would be a hearing called to focus on the harm done to teachers, families, and youth by the threat of school closures.

Officer Liang said they will be putting together a youth budget forum to get public input on what budget priorities the Youth Commission will focus on in the upcoming year and budget.

ii. Communication and Outreach Officers

Officer Yang asked all commissioners to submit their biographies by October 25th, and that if anyone has anything to add to social media or the newsletter, to connect with staff.

iii. General Committee Updates

Vice Chair Listana echoed what the Comms Officers stated.

**10. Roll Call and Introductions** (discussion item)

*Roll call for introduction of resolutions, requests for hearings, letters of inquiry, and Commissioners' reports on their Commission-related activities.*

- a. Presenters: Commissioner Valencia-Tow, Commissioner Liao, Commissioner Fong, Commissioner Dang, Commissioner Fortgang, Commissioner Lonné Amir, Commissioner Alameri, Commissioner Kim, and Commissioner Krehlik.

Commissioner Valencia-Tow said he will be implementing a plan to ensure continuous and updated information with the District 7 Youth Council.

Commissioner Liao said she attended the Sunday Streets this past weekend to talk with members of the public about civic engagement, and has been doing research on the school closures.

Commissioner Fong said he attended the West Portal Redesign event that celebrated the compromise plan to redesign West Portal Station.

Commissioner Dang said she's been talking with her teachers and peers about school closures, and the general wellbeing of campus communities.

Commissioner Fortgang said she attended the Bay Area Youth Climate Summit back in September, and she attended the Mayoral Forum hosted by the League

of Women Voters. She also attended the India Basin Park opening this past weekend, and had a great opportunity to interact with others.

Commissioner Lonné Amir said she is excited to attend Great Haunway this upcoming weekend, as well as to support a potential conference from last term regarding youth's relationship with technology. She's also hoping to build a relationship with CASA, which is a community organization that works with foster youth.

Commissioner Alameri said she's been paying attention and learning more about the school closures being proposed, and she's been reaching out to her friends and community to hear their stories on how they've been impacted by all these changes.

Commissioner Kim said she's excited to attend the Great Haunway this upcoming weekend, and she's interested in starting an SF youth poetry program.

Commissioner Krehlik said she went to a social justice event recently, and was able to talk about civic engagement and practicing scenarios for voting.

#### **11. Staff Report** (discussion item)

Director Esquivel Garcia announced that Dr. Maria Su is now the interim Superintendent of SFUSD and there's a new interim Executive Director of DCYF, Sherice Dorsey-Smith. LTF has invited us to participate in a community event with Dorsey-Smith. She added that the BOS team is still processing onboarding forms, and that they will be getting their IDs soon. She said there is a possibility of a cable car ride in the coming months, and there's a Halloween event that will be shared with Commissioners. Specialist Zhan said to let her know if they haven't completed their trainings, and to let staff know when they may not be able to make it to their committee meetings. Specialist Ochoa has no report.

#### **12. Announcements** (this includes Community Events)

Director Garcia will be sending a sign-up sheet via email to everyone.

#### **13. Adjournment**

There being no further business on the agenda, the full Youth Commission adjourned at 7:13pm.

Any materials distributed to the members of the Youth Commission within 72 hours of the meeting or after the agenda packet has been delivered to the members are available for inspection—along with minutes of previous Youth Commission meetings and all supplementary information—at the Youth Commission office during regular office hours (10am to 6pm, Monday—Friday). The Youth Commission office is at:

City Hall, Room 345  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Phone: (415) 554-6446, Fax: (415) 554-6140  
Email: [youthcom@sfgov.org](mailto:youthcom@sfgov.org) Website: <http://www.sfgov.org/yc>

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Sunshine Ordinance Task Force  
City Hall, Room 244  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689  
Phone: (415) 554-7724, Fax: (415) 554-5784  
Email: [soff@sfgov.org](mailto:soff@sfgov.org)

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1 **Motion to Appoint a Youth Representative from the San Francisco Youth Commission**  
2 **(SFYC) to the California Association of Youth Commissions (CAYC)**

3 **WHEREAS**, the California Association of Youth Commissions (CAYC) is a statewide  
4 organization dedicated to amplifying youth voices in government, fostering collaboration, and  
5 promoting effective youth leadership across California;

6 **WHEREAS**, the San Francisco Youth Commission (SFYC) is committed to representing the  
7 interests, perspectives, and needs of youth in San Francisco and ensuring they have a voice in  
8 public policy decisions affecting their lives;

9 **WHEREAS**, representation within CAYC would allow SFYC to actively participate in statewide  
10 discussions, build connections with other youth commissions, and contribute to the development  
11 of policies and initiatives that benefit youth throughout California;

12 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the San Francisco Youth Commission hereby appoints  
13 one of its members as an official representative to the California Association of Youth  
14 Commissions;

15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the appointed youth representative will attend CAYC  
16 meetings, share insights from San Francisco's youth, report back to the SFYC, and facilitate  
17 collaboration on statewide youth initiatives.