

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 8, 2020

VIA ZOOM/TELECONFERENCE CALL

Agenda

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. No Approval of Minutes
- IV. Adoption of Agenda
- V. Official Correspondence
- VI. Visitor Presentations
 - A. General Public
 - B. Employee Organizations
- VII. Superintendent's Report
 - A. Recognition of the January 2021 Employees of the Month
- VIII. New Business
 - A. Adoption of Consent Agenda
 1. Accept Report on Personnel Transactions
 2. Award Diplomas to Court and Community Schools Students
 3. Accept Donation to Sacramento County Office of Education
 4. Accept Donation to SCOE's Community School Senior Extension Program Annual Holiday Dinner Giveaway
 - B. Approval of Contracts
 - C. Authorization to Submit Grant Applications/Service Contracts and Accept Funding if Awarded; and Approval of Contracts, Positions, and Other Expenditures Associated with the Grants as Outlined in the Proposed Budgets:
 1. \$3,000,000 Early Literacy Support Block Grant: Expert Lead in Literacy from the California Department of Education – State General Fund for the 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 fiscal years
 - D. Approval of 2020-2021 Budget Revision No. 1
 - E. Approval of First Interim Financial Report for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year
 - F. Appointment of Individuals to the Local Child Care and Development Planning Council for the 2020-2022 Term
 - G. Naming of New SCOE Community School
 - H. Adoption of the Proposed 2020-2021 SCOE LCFF Budget Overview for Parents
 - I. Board Report – History-Social Science
- IX. Board Reports, Comments, and Ideas
 - A. Board Members
 - B. Board President
 - C. Committees
- X. Items for Distribution
 - A. December/January Events
 - B. December/January Site Visits
- XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings

A. January 12, 2021

XII. Adjournment

I. President Ahola called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. via teleconference in Sacramento, California. Board members present were Joanne Ahola, Alfred Brown, Heather Davis, Harold Fong, Paul Keefer, Bina Lefkovitz, and Karina Talamantes. Also present were David W. Gordon, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; Nancy Herota, Deputy Superintendent; Teresa Stinson, General Counsel; Matt Perry, Assistant Superintendent; Jerry Jones, Executive Director of Technology; Craig Bradford, Principal, Senior Extension Program; Juvenile Court and Community Schools Director Marc Nigel; other staff; and Wende Watson, Executive Assistant.

Other staff via teleconference were Tamara Sanchez and Nick Schweizer, Associate Superintendents; Coleen Johnson, Chief Administrator; Brent Malicote, Assistant Superintendent; Michael Kast, Executive Director; Kristin Wright, Executive Director; Channa Cook-Harvey, Executive Director; Rachel Perry, Executive Director; and Tim Herrera, Director.

II. Mr. Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. No Approval of Minutes

IV. Ms. Talamantes moved to adopt the agenda. Ms. Davis seconded the motion, which carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Talamantes – yes

Ms. Lefkovitz – yes

Mr. Keefer – yes

Mr. Fong – yes

Ms. Davis – yes

Mr. Brown – yes

Ms. Ahola – yes

V. There was no official correspondence.

VI.A. Tim Herrera read two Public Comments from the following individuals:

Tim Taylor commended Associate Superintendent Tamara Sanchez for her service to SCOE and congratulated her on her upcoming retirement.

Jose Perez submitted a comment regarding the spread of COVID-19 in vulnerable communities.

VI.B. There were no requests for presentations from employee organizations.

VII.A. Gabriel Esparza-De Jesus, Transition Specialist, Senior Extension Program, Elinor Lincoln Hickey Jr./Sr. High School, was recognized and honored as the classified employee of the month for January.

Emily Berger, CARE Teacher, CARE Intervention Program, Sutter Middle School, was recognized and honored as the certificated employee of the month for January.

Superintendent Gordon provided an update on reopening plans in our local districts, distance learning in SCOE schools and programs, and reported on the following:

SCOE PROGRAM COVID UPDATE

The Sacramento County Probation Department asked us to collaborate on a temporary return to distance learning to reduce the flow of adults into the Youth Detention Facility during December. El Centro returned to distance learning yesterday. Students will receive two daily check-ins, a daily support through testing via Zoom.

Our Senior Extension and Community School Base Programs are conducting one-to-one appointments and supporting distance learning from school sites. Principals report the one-to-one appointments have shed light on mental health crises, homelessness, and at times neglect. In each case, we mobilize SCOE and partnering agency staff to support students and families.

The Placer Adult Re-Entry team started one-to-one support in Roseville, Auburn, and Kings Beach and our Sacramento team returned to work to prepare the site for one-to-one protocols that will begin at a to be determined date in January. Yolo County is in discussion with Director Chris Aland on a date for our staff to return to the worksite for 1:1 in-person appointments.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

- We opened our first program in Special Education on December 1 at Galt High School for in-person learning. With seven students signed up to attend, we had to break the class into two separate cohorts. Students and staff are following all safety protocols and all parties involved are thriving.
- The teacher is live streaming in-person instruction with her at-home students to provide synchronous learning for all students. Lesson plans have been developed so all students can interact with each other and the adults.
- Today, two additional programs opened on Galt High School's campus. All three programs serve students with intensive needs. Two of the three rooms have six or less students planning on returning so they will operate with all students four days a week. Monday is the district non-student day, and all learning will be distance learning on Mondays.
- Student contact tracing protocols have been setup and are ready to be implemented when needed. SCOE nurses have participated in the Johns Hopkins Contact Tracing training and are ready to provide support.

- All other programs have maintained high quality distance learning sessions. Teachers have gone through regular technology training to increase the level of engagement of their students. They have been receiving training from SCOE staff on how to utilize additional programs and applications to improve student outcomes.

SENIOR EXTENSION THANKSGIVING DINNER GIVEAWAY

We hosted our 9th annual Thanksgiving dinner giveaway for our North Area Community, Senior Extension, and base program students. If students were unable to pick up their meals, our staff made home deliveries that included a turkey, all the fixings, and a pie. We are grateful to a wide group of donors that included SCOE staff, Probation Officers, and seven local businesses listed in the donation item in the Board packet, especially Walmart for providing us with a \$1,500 donation. Our thanks to Transition Specialist Vickie Odabashian and the Senior Extension team for organizing the event and supporting our families.

SPECIAL EDUCATION HOLIDAY BASKETS FOR FAMILIES

We are supporting several special education families this holiday season. This year, staff nominated 16 families who have students in our Special Education programs, who will greatly benefit from donated gifts, clothing, and food. SCOE department groups and individual staff are working together to shop, wrap, and orchestrate deliveries to the families by December 14. This is an annual tradition which benefits both giver and receiver.

IMPLICIT BIAS AND STRUCTURAL RACISM WORKSHOP

Cabinet recently finished reading and discussing the book “How to Be an Antiracist” by Ibram Kendi. Today, all members of Cabinet attended a workshop with the National Equity Project on Implicit Bias and Structural Racism. This came at the recommendation of the National Equity Project, which we have formally engaged in this work moving forward. SCOE leadership will receive and read Kendi's book in the coming month for facilitated discussions in January. Kristin Wright and Channa Cook-Harvey will be back at the February Board meeting to continue Board discussions and next steps. We have copies of “How to Be an Antiracist” for each of you to read and hope you can do so. With the assistance of the National Equity Project, we will be convening broader SCOE staff at all levels for professional learning, committees and will continue deeper work with Cabinet and leadership in 2021. We will continue our on-going commitment to hearing directly from students across SCOE programs, so stay tuned for our next student panel being held this week with students at Juvenile Hall. We know this pandemic will likely exacerbate existing inequities for our students and families and are committed to both supporting our districts and schools and our own structures within SCOE.

JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR PROJECT

SCOE staff had the opportunity to recruit middle schools to participate in a live videoconference with US Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor on

January 22. Over 400 students will be participating in this event and have an opportunity to ask questions to Justice Sotomayor. One student from each area school will be selected to ask their question. Each student is receiving a signed copy of the Justice's autobiography, *The Beautiful World of Sonia Sotomayor*. In addition, SCOE staff created a teacher and student guide for this book.

SPECIAL EDUCATION GRADUATION

On Thursday, December 17, at noon on the SCOE YouTube channel, we will broadcast a virtual ceremony to recognize the successes of four SCOE students graduating from our special education program for young adults with moderate to severe disabilities. We will provide you with a link to the "live" event and provide you with a link to the archived program.

SCOE CLOSED

This is a reminder that all SCOE offices will be closed for the Winter Break starting December 24, 2020 through January 1, 2021. We will return on January 4.

JANUARY MEETING

We will have one Board meeting next month on January 12.

VIII.A. Ms. Lefkovitz moved, and Ms. Davis seconded adoption of the consent agenda. By such action, the Board:

1. Accepted report on Personnel Transactions
2. Awarded diplomas to Court and Community Schools Students
3. Accepted donation to Sacramento County Office of Education
4. Accepted donation to SCOE's Community School Senior Extension Program Annual Holiday Dinner Giveaway

Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Talamantes – yes
Ms. Lefkovitz – yes
Mr. Keefer – yes
Mr. Fong – yes
Ms. Davis – yes
Mr. Brown – yes
Ms. Ahola – yes

Dr. Matt Perry, Assistant Superintendent, announced that the following students will be awarded a diploma: Isabella Natalia Cortez from Elinor Lincoln Hickey Senior Extension; 1 candidate from El Centro Jr./Sr. High School; Dae'Janae Marie Aaliyah from Gerber Senior Extension; and Salvador Leon from North Area Senior Extension.

VIII.B. Mr. Fong moved, and Ms. Talamantes seconded approval of the contracts as listed. Motion to approve the contracts carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Talamantes – yes
Ms. Lefkovitz – yes
Mr. Keefer – yes
Mr. Fong – yes
Ms. Davis – yes
Mr. Brown – yes
Ms. Ahola – yes

VIII.C. On a motion by Mr. Keefer, seconded by Mr. Brown, the Board authorized staff to submit grant applications/service contracts and accept funding if awarded; and approved contracts, positions, and other expenditures associated with the grants as outlined in the proposed budgets as follows:

1. \$3,000,000 Early Literacy Support Block Grant: Expert Lead in Literacy from the California Department of Education – State General Fund for the 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 fiscal years

Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Talamantes – yes
Ms. Lefkovitz – yes
Mr. Keefer – yes
Mr. Fong – yes
Ms. Davis – yes
Mr. Brown – yes
Ms. Ahola – yes

VIII.D. Approval of 2020-2021 Budget Revision No. 1

Budget Committee Chair Heather Davis provided a summary and overview of the 2020-2021 Budget Revision No. 1. This is coming from the Budget Committee and therefore does not require a second.

Mr. Brown moved to approve item VIII.D. – 2020-2021 Budget Revision No. 1 and item VIII.E. – First Interim Financial Report for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year as one item. Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Talamantes – yes
Ms. Lefkovitz – yes
Mr. Keefer – yes
Mr. Fong – yes
Ms. Davis – yes

Mr. Brown – yes
Ms. Ahola – yes

VIII.E. Approval of First Interim Financial Report for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year – see item VIII.D. above.

VIII.F. Appointment of Individuals to the Local Child Care and Development Planning Council for the 2020-2022 Term

Brent Malicote, Assistant Superintendent, provided an overview of this item, including pointing out the four additional open positions and invited recommendations from the Board to fill them. Two of the vacancies are for consumers.

Mr. Brown moved to approve the Appointment of Individuals to the Local Child Care and Development Planning Council for the 2020-2022 Term. Mr. Keefer seconded the motion. Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Talamantes – yes
Ms. Lefkovitz – yes
Mr. Keefer – yes
Mr. Fong – yes
Ms. Davis – yes
Mr. Brown – yes
Ms. Ahola – yes

VIII.G. Naming of New SCOE Community School

Ms. Stinson reported that names of schools are to be determined by the Board of Education. An Ad Hoc Committee will be appointed by the Board President to make recommendations for names for the Board to consider.

VIII.H. Adoption of the Proposed 2020-2021 SCOE LCFF Budget Overview for Parents

Dr. Perry summarized the item.

Ms. Davis moved to adopt the proposed 2020-2021 SCOE LCFF Budget Overview for Parents. Mr. Fong seconded the motion. Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Talamantes – yes
Ms. Lefkovitz – yes
Mr. Keefer – yes
Mr. Fong – yes
Ms. Davis – yes
Mr. Brown – yes
Ms. Ahola – yes

VIII.I. Brent Malicote, Assistant Superintendent, and Frank Pisi, Director, presented the History-Social Science report to the Board.

IX.A. Mr. Brown remembered the first time he met Tammy Sanchez and appreciated her openness and wished her luck in retirement.

Ms. Davis had the pleasure of working with Tammy while working with the budget. Ms. Davis would like to take Tammy out to Kohl's to shop for students in need with her Kohl's cash. And she appreciated her humor.

Mr. Fong enjoyed the presentation on Civics. This has been a lost subject in the curriculum. Thanked Frank for his presentation. Mentioned some of the projects they worked on and recognized that Tammy has always been able to keep the budget balanced.

Mr. Keefer recognized that the work Frank is doing is vital and supports the effort to bring back Civics. He wished Tammy the best in her retirement.

Ms. Lefkowitz was proud of how fiscally sound SCOE is and knows that Tammy is largely responsible for this success. She appreciated that Tammy was calm, competent, and wished her well in retirement. Hopes the Board will read "How to Be Antiracist" book.

Ms. Talamantes initially was nervous about understanding the budget, but Tammy explained the complexities in a way that Ms. Talamantes could understand and appreciate this work.

IX.B. President Ahola echoed the sentiments of the other Board members and was impressed by Tammy's professionalism and support of the Board. Hopes she enjoys her free time in retirement.

Superintendent Gordon appreciated the way Tammy did the work to figure out how to get things done rather than say no. The ability to explain budgets in an easy-to-understand manner is a gift that Tammy possesses, especially given that SCOE has 200+ budgets. Most of all, SCOE hires leaders that lead with the heart. Tammy came with the heart to do important work that has positively impacted many. SCOE has been enriched by her work here.

Tammy Sanchez thanked everyone for their kind words. She felt grateful to have served alongside such a caring and thoughtful Board. Dave is a true leader. Not many people can say they have worked for a true leader. Dave does the right thing, and she feels fortunate to have worked for him. Tammy acknowledged the work of Cabinet and her staff that have set up systems that contribute to a sound budget which make her look good. She was pleased to leave leadership with Nick Schweizer.

President Ahola noted that the Equity update which was planned for the January Board meeting has been rescheduled for February. The January Board report will be an update on the status of Court & Community School students.

IX.C. There were no committee reports.

X.A. There was no distribution of the December/January Events item.

X.B. There was no distribution of the December/January Site Visits item.

XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings:

A. January 12, 2021

XII. Ms. Talamantes moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Lefkovitz seconded the motion, which carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Talamantes – yes

Ms. Lefkovitz – yes

Mr. Keefer – yes

Mr. Fong – yes

Ms. Davis – yes

Mr. Brown – yes

Ms. Ahola – yes

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Gordon
Secretary to the Board

Date approved: February 2, 2021