

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 14, 2021

VIA ZOOM/TELECONFERENCE CALL

Agenda

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
 - II. Pledge of Allegiance
 - III. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 10, 2021
 - IV. Adoption of Agenda
 - V. Official Correspondence
 - VI. Visitor Presentations
 - A. General Public
 - B. Employee Organizations
 - VII. Superintendent's Report
 - A. Recognition of the October 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 School Students
 - B. Approval of Contracts
 - C. No Grant Applications/Service Contracts
 - D. Public Hearing and Adoption of Resolution No. 21-11 – Determination of Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials Sufficiency Pursuant to Education Code Section 60119 (Community and Special Education Schools)
 - E. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Fortune School of Education Countywide Charter
 - F. Informational Item: Administrative Rules and Regulations 6158 – Independent Study
 - G. Second Reading and Adoption of Revisions to Board Bylaw 8222 (Renumbered 9222) – Orientation of New Board Member
 - H. Second Reading and Adoption of Revisions to Board Bylaw 8260 (Renumbered 9260) – Board Compensation
 - I. Update SCOE's Vision, Mission, and Goals
 - IX. Board Reports, Comments, and Ideas
 - A. Board Members
 - B. Board President
 - C. Committees
 - X. Items for Distribution
 - A. September/October Events
 - B. September/October Site Visits
 - XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings
 - A. September 28, 2021
 - B. October 5, 2021
 - XII. Adjournment
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I. President Talamantes called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. via teleconference call 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; Jerry Jones, Executive Director; Monica Eisel, Facilitator; other staff; and Wende Watson, Executive Assistant.

Other staff present via teleconference were Nicolas Schweizer, Associate Superintendent; Brent Malicote and Jacqueline White, Assistant Superintendents; Coleen Johnson, Chief Administrator; Michael Kast and Channa Cook-Harvey, Executive Directors; and Shanine Coats and Tim Herrera, Directors.

II. Mr. Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. On a motion by Ms. Davis and seconded by Ms. Lefkovitz, the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 10, 2021 were approved. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 2 abstentions (Ahola, Fong) based on the following Roll Call vote:

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

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

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

V. There was no official correspondence.

VI.A. There were no requests for presentations from the General Public.

VI.B. There were no requests for presentations from Employee Organizations.

VII.A. Leslie Noriega, Transition Specialist, Elinor Lincoln Hickey Jr./Sr. High School, was recognized and honored as the classified employee of the month for October.

Sian Magee, Teacher, Alternative Education, CARE Program, was recognized and honored as the certificated employee of the month for October.

Superintendent Gordon reported on the following:

LOCAL DISTRICT UPDATES

- Arcohe: There has been low participation in independent study. The district is experiencing a shortage of subs.
- Center: COVID cases are slowing and processes for tracking are going well. Independent study enrollment has doubled. Retirees are coming back to assist with staffing shortage.
- Elk Grove: COVID cases are decreasing. District has increased rate for off-track teachers and retirees which has improved availability of staff.
- Elverta: Some staff are reluctant to be vaccinated.
- Folsom Cordova: Staff shortages and independent study issues creating stress. COVID cases are decreasing after a recent spike. There is a need for bus drivers, instructional assistants, and food service workers. Sub rates have been increased. Recently received a charter petition.
- Galt Elementary: Hired additional staff for contact tracing. Staffing for teachers and subs is adequate. Need classified staff. The number of students quarantined has decreased.
- Galt High: COVID cases are decreasing. 39 students enrolled in independent study. Reaching out to retirees for staffing support.
- River Delta: Hired health assistants to support contact tracing.
- Robla: Contact tracing is a challenge. Staff shortages in Special Ed and subs.
- Sacramento City: 162 active quarantine cases thus far. Staff shortages are a problem. Passed a proposal to increase sub rates.
- San Juan: COVID cases are decreasing.

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

- We have 19 students enrolled at Colley and 17 enrolled at Hickey.
- We are excited to report that our Community Based Organizations (CBOs) have returned to providing services including Earth Mama Healing (mentoring), The Hawk Institute (Mentoring), Milton Bowens (visual artist in residence), and 916 Ink (writing). We expect to welcome additional CBOs this year.

SENIOR EXTENSION

- We are currently serving students at five locations and have over 328 students enrolled to date. Our Senior Extension Programs have expanded access to RSP services. Our Community Based Organizations are providing supports to Senior Extension.

EL CENTRO

- Improving Your Tomorrow (IYT) has started working with students in the EI Centro Program. This work is part of a pilot project to engage students with mentoring services while attending EI Centro and provide continuing services when they transition to other school settings.
- Milton Bowens (visual artist) has begun his yearlong residency with the girl's unit.

SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATE

- Special Education will be collapsing and consolidating classrooms to better utilize staff and best accommodate students as we teach our students through in-person and Independent Study.
 - Seven classes in total that had low enrollment were combined into three in-person classrooms.
- These new combined classes started Monday, September 13.
- The other four teachers not teaching in-person will teach independent study classes for up to 48 students.
- This allowed us to put appropriate staffing in all of our classrooms. Before this change we had over five paraprofessional vacancies that we were unable to fill.
- All in-person classes are going well. We have had to quarantine several students, but we are following all public health protocols and students and staff are returning to in-person after their quarantine period.

SUMMER INNOVATION HUBS

- During the months of June and July, 175 students were served in SCOE's *Summer Education Innovation Centers* at three school sites: FC Joyce in Twin Rivers Unified, Rosa Parks in Sacramento City Unified, and Thomas Edison in San Juan Unified. The Summer Centers were created to support our Sacramento Communities and to create safe, welcoming spaces for students, SCOE partnered with Community-Based Organizations, local non-profits, and school districts. The video that we created showcases highlights of the program.

SCHOOLSFIRST BACKPACK DONATIONS

- Thanks to a generous donation of backpacks filled with school supplies, courtesy of SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union, 100 children in Sacramento County will be better prepared for school this year. Our Project TEACH homeless services program received the backpacks – filled with supplies – on September 1. Many thanks to our friends from SchoolsFirst.

HONOR OUR EDUCATORS – SAC REPUBLIC FC

- On August 28, the 2021 Sacramento County Classified School Employees of the Year and the County Teachers of the Year 2022

were recognized during halftime at the Sacramento Republic FC game against San Diego, at Heart Health Park. The team paid tribute to both groups of school employees at “Honor Our Educators Night.” His thanks to Board President Talamantes who joined the honorees as they were introduced to the cheering crowd and presented with awards.

CA KIDS FIRE RELIEF

- On August 25, he took part in a news conference to announce the launch of “CA Kids Fire Relief.” This is a statewide effort where students and school communities are being urged to provide financial and emotional support to students, families, and schools impacted by the catastrophic wildfires.
- Tim Taylor – from the Small School Districts Association – and El Dorado County Superintendent Ed Manansala, and Nevada County Superintendent Scott Lay joined this event.
- During this effort, we are asking for donations of gift cards for food, clothing, gasoline, and credit card-style gift cards.
- SCOE is the collection point. The cards which will be distributed to the affected schools, students, and families.
- On September 9, leaders of our organizations – CSEA and SCOETA made generous donations to the program.
- Many thanks to SCOETA President John Liddicoat and CSEA 1st Vice President Tara Degg who made the donations on behalf of their organizations.

SENATE HEARING TESTIMONY

- On August 18, he testified – virtually – for the Senate Special Committee on Pandemic Emergency Response and Senate Education Committee.
- He talked about the work of the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission – or MHSOAC – on which he serves.
- He also spoke about the importance of youth voice in meeting the mental health needs of our children, and about SCOE’s work in making schools Centers of Wellness in Sacramento County.
- He also spoke of how we are coordinating \$6.8 million from FEMA and DHCS to facilitate a statewide Social Emotional Learning Community of Practice that started in January 2021 and will continue for the next three years.

IMPROVE YOUR TOMORROW

- SCOE partners with many great nonprofits to support our students. And one of those valued partners – Improve Your Tomorrow or IYT – chose SCOE as the site to announce some exciting news.
- IYT’s mission is to increase the number of young men of color to attend and graduate from colleges and universities. They work closely with our students.

- On August 16, IYT announced the receipt of a \$1.6 million state grant to continue their work.
- The funding will allow them to train and hire more mentors to support young people. The group used the SCOE Conference Center to conduct mentor training after making their announcement.

THANK YOU: MATT PERRY

- He sent well wishes to Dr. Matt Perry, who officially retired last week as our Assistant Superintendent of Court and Community Schools and Career Technical Education. Matt joined SCOE in July of 2012 and did a remarkable job throughout his time here. We had a very nice send-off for Matt last week. And this was our first Board meeting with Jackie White now serving in Matt's place. Welcome, Jackie! A final note: Matt had requested no retirement gifts but asked that people contribute to the SCOE Resiliency Scholarship Fund on his behalf. As of now, we have received nearly \$4,000 in donations to the fund.

VIII.A. Ms. Ahola moved and Mr. Keefer 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

Coleen Johnson, Chief Administrator, provided an overview of the annual report regarding classified employment.

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

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

Jacqueline White, Assistant Superintendent, announced that the following students will be awarded a diploma: Dalinda J. Pope from Nathaniel S. Colley, Sr. High School; Jasmine Dawn Ahmad and Jessica Rose Lara from Cordova Lane Senior Extension; 5 candidates from El Centro Jr./Sr. High School; Nigel Ryan Patterson from Elinor Lincoln Hickey Jr./Sr. High School; Seth M. Archuleta, Abdullah Chazi Darwish, Cristal A. Gandara-Gonzalez, Isis Laurie Jones, and Abdulhadib Rahimi from Elinor Lincoln Hickey Senior Extension; A'Tayia Alaahn Felisia Alexander, Tiara Allen, Daiyan Ahmad Anwar, Daija Lanai Williams, and Quanisha Wilson from North Area Senior Extension; and Tylicia Tyson from Leo A. Palmiter Jr./Sr. High School.

VIII.B. Mr. Keefer moved and Ms. Lefkovitz seconded approval of the contracts. Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

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

VIII.C. No Grant Applications/Service Contracts

VIII.D. Public Hearing and Adoption of Resolution No. 21-11 – Determination of Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials Sufficiency Pursuant to Education Code Section 60119 (Community and Special Education Schools)

President Talamantes opened the Public Hearing at 7:17 p.m.

No one came forward.

President Talamantes closed the Public Hearing at 7:18 p.m.

Ms. Davis moved, and Ms. Ahola seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 21-11 – Determination of Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials Sufficiency Pursuant to Education Code Section 60119 (Community and Special Education Schools). Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

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

VIII.E. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Fortune School of Education Countywide Charter

Teresa Stinson, General Counsel, provided background information on this item.

Mr. Brown moved, and Ms. Ahola seconded the motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the Fortune School of Education Countywide Charter. Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Lefkovitz – yes
Mr. Keefer – yes

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

VIII.F. An informational item on the revisions to Administrative Rules and Regulations 6158 – Independent Study was provided in the Board packet.

Ms. Stinson provided comments on this item.

VIII.G. President Talamantes announced that this was the Second Reading and Adoption of Revisions to Board Bylaw 8222 (Renumbered 9222) – Orientation of New Board Member.

Ms. Stinson and Mr. Keefer provided comments on this item.

Ms. Lefkovitz moved to adopt the Revisions to Board Bylaw 8222 (Renumbered 9222) – Orientation of New Board Member. This was seconded by Ms. Ahola. Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

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

VIII.H. President Talamantes announced that this was the Second Reading and Adoption of Revisions to Board Bylaw 8260 (Renumbered 9260) – Board Compensation.

Ms. Stinson and Mr. Keefer provided comments on this item.

Ms. Ahola moved, and Mr. Brown seconded to adopt the Revisions to Board Bylaw 8260 (Renumbered 9260) – Board Compensation. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 1 abstention based on the following Roll Call vote:

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

VIII.I. Update SCOE's Vision, Mission, and Goals

Facilitator Monica Eisel presented this item to the Board.

The Board discussed and made suggestions for revisions to the vision, mission, and goals. Ms. Eisel recorded Board feedback and will work with SCOE representatives to infuse this valuable feedback into the vision, mission, and goals for further discussion with the Board.

IX.A. Ms. Ahola – no report.

Mr. Brown reported that he attended the CCBE conference last weekend in Monterey. He provided an overview about what he learned at the conference.

Ms. Lefkovitz reported on the various sessions she attended at the CCBE conference last weekend. She also noted the growing number of refugees that will potentially be attending our schools in the future.

Mr. Keefer thanked staff for the Nathaniel S. Colley, Sr., Palmiter, and Elinor Lincoln Hickey site visits and looks forward to the El Centro visit tomorrow. He also mentioned that he attended the Folsom Cordova USD ribbon cutting today. He also referenced an article about school-to-prison pipeline and thinks that the SEL approach is key to interrupting the pipeline.

Mr. Fong requested that we consider returning to Zoom meetings in light of the current increase in COVID cases.

Ms. Davis – no report.

Superintendent Gordon provided an update regarding the transition to BoardDocs.

IX.B. President Talamantes thanked the Board for their participation and contributions. She presented virtually at the CCBE conference last weekend. She also provided an update regarding the various committee appointments for 2021-2022.

IX.C. There were no committee reports.

X.A. There was no distribution of the September/October Events item.

X.B. There was no distribution of the September/October Site Visits item.

XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings

A. September 28, 2021

B. October 5, 2021

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

Ms. Lefkovitz – yes

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Gordon
Secretary to the Board

Date approved: October 19, 2021