

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 17, 2020

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 October 20, 2020
- IV. Adoption of Agenda
- V. Official Correspondence
- VI. Visitor Presentations
 - A. General Public
 - B. Employee Organizations
- VII. Superintendent's Report
 - A. Recognition of the December 2020 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. Declaration of Equipment Listed as Surplus Property and Authorization to Auction Property Pursuant to Education Code
 - 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. \$417,346 Friday Night Live/Club Live/Friday Night Live Mentoring Programs grant from the Sacramento County Department of Health Services for the 2020-2021 fiscal year
 2. \$219,380 Tobacco-Use Prevention Education Administration County Technical Assistance Leadership grant from the California Department of Education for the 2020-2021 fiscal year
 3. \$240,940 Prevention Coalition grant from the Sacramento County Department of Health Services for the 2020-2021 fiscal year
 - D. Board Report – Fortune Annual Report
 - E. Informational Item: 2019-2020 Annual Report of Sacramento County *Williams* Reviews
 - F. Operation Recognition
- IX. Board Reports, Comments, and Ideas
 - A. Board Members
 - B. Board President
 - C. Committees
- X. Items for Distribution
 - A. November/December Events
 - B. November/December Site Visits
- XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings

A. December 8, 2020

XII. Adjournment

I. President Ahola called the meeting to order at 5:01 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; Matt Perry, Assistant Superintendent; Jerry Jones, Executive Director of Technology; and Wende Watson, Executive Assistant.

II. Mr. Keefer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Ahola announced the Board will now recess the meeting and the Board will meet in Closed Session, under Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1), regarding pending litigation of the Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 34-2019-80003194. The Board has provided public notice that the Board will meet in Closed Session for this purpose.

Recessed Open Session at 5:04 p.m.

Convened Closed Session at 5:07 p.m.

Adjourned Closed Session at 5:52 p.m.

The Board reconvened Open Session at 6:30 p.m.

President Ahola reported that in Closed Session, by a unanimous 7-0 vote, the County Board approved seeking appellate review of the superior court's decision and judgment in the Natomas Unified School District expulsion appeal matter (Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 34-2019-80003194).

Other SCOE staff present 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.

III. On a motion by Ms. Davis and seconded by Ms. Talamantes, the minutes of the regular meeting of October 20, 2020 were approved. 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

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. 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. There were no requests for visitor presentations from the general public.

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

VII.A. Teri Crandell and Michelle Kerin, Para-educators, SH, Galt High School, were recognized and honored as the classified employees of the month for December.

Cathy Goodrich, Teacher, SH, Galt High School, was recognized and honored as the certificated employee of the month for December.

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

CALIFORNIA DYSLEXIA INITIATIVE GRANT

- We were just informed yesterday we have been chosen to receive a \$4-million grant to serve as the lead agency for the California Dyslexia Initiative.
- The goals of the Initiative include building capacity in the statewide system of support for school districts, county offices of education, and charters to provide early intervention services and supports for students with specific learning disabilities such as dyslexia.
- We also will identify effective models for identification and treatment of specific learning disabilities; develop and deliver professional development on evidence-based instruction and strategies informed by research; and use the statewide system of support structure to disseminate professional learning, resources, and information developed or identified as a result of the CDI.
- We are uniquely positioned to serve as lead given the high regard statewide for our English Language Arts/English Language Development (ELA/ELD) team in the Curriculum & Instruction Department.

- We will be partnering with a university to research the best screening and teaching methods for children with dyslexia, creating partnerships with districts and charter schools throughout the state, and hosting a statewide conference for educators and researchers.

EARLY LITERACY SUPPORT BLOCK GRANT: EXPERT LEAD IN LITERACY

- We are also receiving a \$3-million Early Literacy Support Block Grant through CDE to serve as an Expert Lead within the statewide system of support.
- With this funding we will develop, implement, and support other LEAs and their schools throughout California with literacy instruction and support programs, particularly focused on literacy in early grades.
- We will build statewide professional learning networks and provide technical assistance to increase statewide capacity in implementing effective literacy instruction.

2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT: SUMMARY OF DISTRICT & SCHOOL SUPPORT

- As a follow-up from our last Board meeting regarding a summary of our district and school support:
 - SCOE develops a Professional Learning Annual Report and we are utilizing this year to re-envision and streamline our differentiated assistance processes which will include reflecting on the most impactful strategies and determining what new practices we need to adopt moving forward in our work supporting LEAs.
 - Part of this process will include incorporating metrics for each goal and/or strategy identified during the differentiated assistance process to help us measure progress toward improving student outcomes in identified areas of need.
 - Because there is no new state-level data to draw on, each district's metrics/data will be contextual and therefore unique.

PREPARING STAFF TO PRACTICE THE DEI PRINCIPLES

- We are creating three ways for staff to be involved in the planning and implementation of our DEI action planning process: steering committee, planning group, and professional learning community.
- We also are starting a book study with Cabinet and Leadership where we will read and discuss at regularly scheduled intervals throughout the year.
- We are vetting DEI facilitators (i.e., National Equity Project) right now to do some foundational training for leadership and the broader SCOE staff.

SENIOR EXTENTION THANKSGIVING DINNER GIVEAWAY

- We are hosting our 9th annual Thanksgiving dinner giveaway for our North Area Community School students, and we are including our senior extension students this year.
- On Friday, November 20, our staff will be making home deliveries to students and families. Meals will include a turkey, all the fixings, and a pie for dessert.
- We are grateful for Walmart for providing us with a \$1,500 donation.

- Thanks to Transition Specialist Vickie Obadashian and the Senior Extension team for supporting our families during the holidays once again.

FACE SUMMIT

- On October 30, we hosted a virtual Family and Community Engagement that drew over 50 attendees.
- The workshop was called “Planning for Equity-Centered Family Engagement Now for Post-COVID 19” and it featured family engagement expert Michele Brooks.
- District and school teams discussed engagement through an anti-racist, equity lens and explored the role of leadership and core values.

VIRTUAL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

- While our students are learning remotely, they are still able to participate in our Northern California Construction Training (NCCT) program.
- Instructor Mike Anckner – who normally works out of our Hickey campus – has been teaching students remotely through Zoom.
- Students are learning everything from workplace safety to actual hands-on work through the use of pre-prepared home kits.
- This is allowing dozens of our community school students and our Senior Extension students to continue learning construction trade skills.

COMMUNITY SCHOOL VIRTUAL GRADUATION

- On October 22, we hosted a virtual Fall Community School Graduation on our SCOE YouTube channel. If you did not have an opportunity to view the ceremony, please let us know and we will make sure you have the video link.

COUNSELOR COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

- In January, SCOE was awarded the K12 Strong Workforce Grant. In August, a SCOE team with representatives from San Juan Unified, Elk Grove Unified, and Twin Rivers Unified, began planning a Counselor Community of Practice. We held our first workshop on October 30.
- The Community of Practice consists of 8 days of virtual training and 3 days of a Summer Institute. The topics and scope of training was developed with Sacramento County leads and Trish Hatch, the CEO of Hatching Results.
- Counselors are receiving training on how to use student data to prioritize programming and measure effectiveness, and how to implement the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) National Model.

SAC REPUBLIC VIDEOS

- Because schools have resumed with distance learning this year, SCOE and the Sacramento Republic Football Club are partnering to help kids stay active.
- We are partnering to produce a series of physical education videos being aired on educational television and posted online.
- In the enrichment videos – developed in partnership with SCOE and leading P.E. teachers from Sacramento County – players and team staff lead students in grade-appropriate lessons.

EQUITY UPDATE

- This is a reminder that on January 12, we will be providing you all with an update on our progress in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION OF NEW GERBER COMMUNITY SCHOOL SITE

- The steel framing for the Admin buildings, the multipurpose room, the classrooms, and the shade structure have gone up. Each building will provide flexible space for a wide variety of programs and can be reconfigured for specific programming. The five-classroom wing will have four classrooms that can serve as academic classrooms but will be versatile enough to be transformed into a technology lab or school media learning center. A fifth classroom is customized to meet the needs of our Senior Extension Program students, especially young parents with children.

A discussion followed regarding the criteria used for the safe reopening of schools, including communication with students, staff, families and bargaining units, safety protocols, effective collaboration, and surveillance testing for staff.

VIII.A. Mr. Brown 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. Declared equipment listed as Surplus Property and authorization to auction property Pursuant to Education Code

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: Jelani Kante King, Minerva Kropp, and Shakrukh Noorzaee from Cordova Lane Senior Extension; Andrew Devon Evans, Octavio Jesus Orozco, Jelon Antonio Ramirez, and Yuneek'e Princess Savoy from Elinor Lincoln Hickey Senior Extension; Paul Frank Bowa, Jr., Jose Galvan-Gonzalez, Dolores Nicole Grayson, and Roberto Emilio Salazar from Gerber Senior Extension; and Sandesh Adhikari, Joshua Alexander Castellanos, and Da Jhun Haney from North Area Senior Extension.

VIII.B. Ms. Talamantes moved, and Mr. Fong 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 Ms. Talamantes and 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. \$417,346 Friday Night Live/Club Live/Friday Night Live Mentoring Programs grant from the Sacramento County Department of Health Services for the 2020-2021 fiscal year
2. \$219,380 Tobacco-Use Prevention Education Administration County Technical Assistance Leadership grant from the California Department of Education for the 2020-2021 fiscal year
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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

Tim Herrera read two Public Comments regarding the Fortune Annual Report from the following individuals:

Simeon Gant
Tak Allen

VIII.D. Teresa Stinson, General Counsel, introduced Nancy Brownell, Consultant, who provided the Fortune Annual Report to the Board. Margaret Fortune provided an update.

A discussion followed about the content of the report and a number of Board members commented on the quality and content of the report.

VIII.E. The 2019-2020 Annual Report of Sacramento County *Williams Reviews* was provided in the Board packet.

VIII.F. Mr. Herrera provided information on Operation Recognition to the Board. Trustees are in support of the proposed changes.

IX.A. Mr. Brown – no report.

Ms. Davis thanked Trustee Brown and Ms. Fortune for expressing themselves and she appreciated it. She noted that the Family Engagement series event went really well, great participation.

Ms. Lefkovitz reported that the CSBA Conference is coming up. It is all virtual. The agenda looks great. Today, you received a flier from CSBA re training. The work of the SCOE Scholarship Committee is proceeding. The following are members of the committee: Bina Lefkovitz, Alfred Brown, Lee Seale, Chet Hewitt, Pam Haynes, Eduardo Aguilar, and David W. Gordon. She stated that the process for applying is getting worked out, as well as the finalized donation letter.

Mr. Keefer commended SCOE and Galt transition teams getting them launched in the community and thanked the Fortune team for the work they have done. He would like to see qualitative/quantitative one pager from Fortune. Good work with AVID. Thank you to Trustee Ahola and whole staff.

Mr. Fong asked about the Robla project and Superintendent Gordon said he would provide a report. He suggested that this be adopted as a project that we can look at and develop as a means to close the achievement gap. He also stated that we need to find a way for the public schools to successfully close the achievement gap.

Ms. Talamantes reported that she facilitated a donation of free PPE for our schools, which included masks, sanitizer, office supplies, and more. She reported that her sister recently had a baby, and her brother is having his first child in February.

IX.B. President Ahola asked Superintendent Gordon for the Fortune Report from last year that Rachel Perry created for all the trustees. Fortune School is a public school and part of the public school system.

IX.C. There were no committee reports.

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

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

XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings:

A. December 8, 2020

XII. Mr. Brown moved to adjourn the meeting in memory of SCOE employee Heather Styers. 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 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Gordon
Secretary to the Board

Date approved: February 2, 2021