

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 2, 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 January 12, 2021
Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 2, 2021
- IV. Adoption of Agenda
- V. Official Correspondence
- VI. Visitor Presentations
 - A. General Public
 - B. Employee Organizations
- VII. Superintendent's Report
- VIII. New Business
 - A. Adoption of Consent Agenda
 1. Accept Report on Personnel Transactions
 2. Award Diplomas to Court and Community School Students
 3. Approval of the 2020-2021 School Accountability Report Cards for Court and Community Schools and Special Education Programs
 4. Donation to the Sacramento County Academic Decathlon
 - 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. \$4,000,000 California Dyslexia Initiative (CDI) from the California Department of Education – State General Fund for the 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 fiscal years
 2. \$1,495,609 Computer Science in Rural California: Training, Implementation, Teaching, and Learning Project from the Small School Districts Association (SSDA) for the 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025 fiscal years
 - D. Authorization to Enter into Contracts for E-Rate Services
 - E. Board Report – Foster Youth/Homeless Services
- IX. Board Reports, Comments, and Ideas
 - A. Board Members
 - B. Board President
 - C. Committees
- X. Items for Distribution
 - A. March/April Events
 - B. March/April Site Visits
- XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings
 - A. March 16, 2021
- XII. Adjournment

I. President Ahola called the meeting to order at 6:30 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; Jerry Jones, Executive Director of Technology; other staff; and Wende Watson, Executive Assistant.

Other staff present via teleconference were Teresa Stinson, General Counsel; Nicolas Schweizer, Associate Superintendent; Brent Malicote and Matt Perry, Assistant Superintendents; Coleen Johnson, Chief Administrator; Michael Kast, Executive Director; Kristin Wright, Executive Director; Channa Cook-Harvey, Executive Director; Rachel Perry, Executive Director; and Tim Herrera, Director.

II. Ms. Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. On a motion by Ms. Davis and seconded by Mr. Brown, the minutes of the regular meeting of January 12, 2021 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

On a motion by Mr. Fong and seconded by Mr. Keefer, the minutes of the regular meeting of February 2, 2021 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. Mr. Fong 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. There were no requests for visitor presentations from the general public.

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

VII. Superintendent Gordon said a summary of the Governor's and legislator's school reopening plans will be shared with the Board, and reported on the following:

LOCAL DISTRICT UPDATES

- Arcohe: Students are back for in-person instruction in a hybrid model.
- Center: Students in K-6 are scheduled to return March 22. Grades 7-12 return after the county is in the Red Tier for five days.
- Elk Grove: Students start returning to school March 16 and March 17 for TK-3 at year-round schools. Additional sites will return for in-person instruction throughout March and April contingent on their grade and calendar schedule.
- Elverta: School is open for all students.
- Folsom Cordova: 50% of elementary students are in classrooms. 6th grade returns in-person has not yet been approved by SCPH. The district hopes to return March 15 if the county is in the Red Tier.
- Galt Elementary: Student orientation scheduled for March 18 & 19 with elementary students returning March 22. Teachers will be in classrooms a week prior to prepare. The reopening of middle school is dependent on Red Tier.
- Galt High: Plan to return two weeks after the county is in the Red Tier. There is a board meeting this Thursday to make final decisions regarding opening.
- Natomas: Elementary Cohorts A and B returned for orientation February 23 and February 24, respectively. PreK-2 started in-person March 1. On March 8, Natomas will add grades 3-6 (self-contained). By March 8, PreK-6 will be 100% in the concurrent model.
- River Delta: In Sacramento County, TK-2 classes will reopen for Hybrid Learning on March 4. Grades 3-6 will open March 11. Middle and high schools will reopen when the county re-enters the Red Tier and remains there for five consecutive days.
- Robla: Schools will reopen March 22 through March 26 for in-person instruction for those students whose family decided to send them back to school in cohort transition models.
- Sacramento City: Reopening plans are still being discussed and the board is expected to adopt a reopening plan soon.
- San Juan: Plans and agreements are in place to return to in-person learning for ALL grade levels once Sacramento County reaches the Red Tier. Students will return after spring break if in Purple.
- Twin Rivers: Teachers return March 22; TK-6 starts April 6; and 7-12 starts April 12 if in Red Tier.

Vaccinations for all Sacramento County districts are going well.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY VACCINATION EFFORTS

- This week, we will be launching a community vaccination clinic, which will also serve educators and childcare priority clients, on March 4 and 5, in collaboration with Safeway. It will be at the SCOE Conference Center. For SCOE staff, we are prioritizing vaccinations for school staff who are currently providing in-person instruction, as well as those staff members who are scheduled to provide in-person instruction in the near future. We expect to complete vaccinations for all SCOE staff and Fortune Charter staff in the next few weeks. We will continue to work with Safeway to offer vaccination clinics in the community in the coming weeks, as doses are available.

COURT AND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS/Adult Re-Entry UPDATE

- Senior Extension is increasing 1:1 appointments weekly and is readying the program to return to normal operations following state and county protocols.
- Community School Base programs are increasing 1:1 appointments, several students are attending daily.
- The CARE programs are ready to return to classrooms when districts return schools to the respective sites.
- El Centro is developing plans for a 21st Century Learning and Career Center model to serve long-term students (those formerly served by the Division of Juvenile Justice).
- Staff from all SCOE Adult Re-Entry programs are now supporting clients from their program sites.

SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATE

- Mod/Severe programs are now being offered in-person as well as with distance learning at the following sites: Galt High School, McCaffrey Middle School, Dry Creek Elementary, Rio Linda Prep Academy, Rio Linda High School, and Vernon Greer Elementary.
- Students will be brought back into the classroom during the week of March 1 at Natomas High School, Wilson C. Riles, and Spinelli.
- Student and staffing projections for the 2021/2022 year continue to be in process.
- All infant and preschool program services continue to be conducted virtually.
- We are working on dates to bring back students at Palmiter Jr./Sr. High School and all Elk Grove locations.

SCOE CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

- Congratulations to James Wagon, a Maintenance Custodian at Sly Park, for being selected SCOE's Classified Employee of the Year 2021. We hosted a virtual celebration last week. Several of our Trustees attended.
- The interview panelists said James brings a positive customer service-oriented attitude to his job and serves as an optimistic contributor to the team chemistry at Sly Park.
- James has been a SCOE employee since June 2005.

SENIOR EXTENSION GRADUATION

- On Thursday, February 25, we hosted a virtual graduation ceremony for students in our Senior Extension Program. We celebrated the successes of 60 graduates.
- Ray Green, from the Sierra Health Foundation, and the Sacramento Chapter of My Brother's Keeper, served as the keynote speaker. He gave a wonderful message telling graduates to "embrace and celebrate this moment."
- Since the start of the program, we have helped nearly 600 students earn their high school diplomas.

ACADEMIC DECATHLON

- Congratulations to Vista del Lago High School, from the Folsom Cordova Unified School District, for winning the 2021 Sacramento County Academic Decathlon competition. This is the first time the school has won the countywide competition. The announcement of the results was made during an online award ceremony.
- Bella Vista came in second and Folsom High was third.
- The entire competition was conducted online due to COVID-19 restrictions. SAFE Credit Union is providing \$10,000 in scholarships this year to be distributed among the top-scoring students.
- This year's theme: The Cold War. Vista del Lago will now advance to the statewide California Academic Decathlon.

MOCK TRIAL WINNERS

- Congratulations to Rio Americano High School for winning the 2021 Sacramento County Mock Trial Championship. Elk Grove High earned second place.
- We announced the winners during a virtual awards ceremony on Sunday, February 28.
- Like AcaDeca, Mock Trial also was conducted virtually, and it took a great deal of coordination, led by our Student Events Coordinator Craig Irish and the team from C-SAPA.

VIII.A. Ms. Talamantes 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 School Students
3. Approved the 2020-2021 School Accountability Report Cards for Court and Community Schools and Special Education Programs
4. Accepted donation to the Sacramento County Academic Decathlon

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. Perry announced that the following students will be awarded a diploma: Jose Alfredo Martinez-Carillo, Raeanna Moore, Albert Lupe Guerra, and Tarrique Lavey Cache Newman from Cordova Lane Senior Extension; 6 candidates from El Centro Jr./Sr. High School; Eric Espinoza from Elinor Lincoln Hickey Senior Extension; Selina Abell from Gerber Jr./Sr. High School; Anthony Shelton, Eaundrey Silas Nanez, Keveonna Unique Singleton, Josie Collins, Joserie Howard, and Alyssa Marie Roberts-Simmons from Gerber Senior Extension; and Ana E. Muratalla, Rickey Dale Huckabee, and Imari Lynette Barnes from North Area Senior Extension.

VIII.B. Ms. Lefkovitz moved, and Ms. Davis seconded approval of the contracts. 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. Lefkovitz, seconded by Mr. Fong, 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. \$4,000,000 California Dyslexia Initiative (CDI) from the California Department of Education – State General Fund for the 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 fiscal years
2. \$1,495,609 Computer Science in Rural California: Training, Implementation, Teaching, and Learning Project from the Small School Districts Association (SSDA) for the 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025 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. Authorization to Enter into Contracts for E-Rate Services

Jerry Jones, Executive Director, presented this item to the Board.

Mr. Brown moved and Ms. Lefkovitz seconded approval of Authorization to Enter into Contracts for E-Rate Services. 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. Brent Malicote, Assistant Superintendent, introduced Trish Kennedy, Director of Foster Youth and Homeless Services, and Tara Turrentine, Coordinator of Project TEACH. Ms. Kennedy and Ms. Turrentine provided a report on the Foster Youth/Homeless Services to the Board.

Board members expressed appreciation for the work being done by this department and a brief conversation was held about some ways the program could best serve homeless and foster youth.

IX.A. Ms. Lefkovitz commented that she was happy to see and hear tonight's presentation. She also appreciated the last equity session and looks forward to the next equity session.

Ms. Davis – no report.

Ms. Talamantes – no report.

Mr. Fong recommends that the Board attend the NSBA virtual conference that is taking place in April. He commented that he had previously requested more information about redistricting and wants to know the role of the Board in redistricting. He also noted that there are no recordings of the minutes posted on the SCOE website. He requested more detailed minutes. He was concerned that the Asian Pacific Islander (API) students returning to schools are at risk of being bullied about the Coronavirus.

Mr. Keefer recently heard a presentation from two former police officers about implicit bias and appreciated the way it ties in with the work being done with SCOE. He felt we hit a soft spot in Sacramento County towards the Foster/Homeless Youth. There seems to be a continuum of services and opportunities for SCOE to brainstorm and figure out how to fill some of the gaps that were brought up tonight.

Mr. Brown thanked Superintendent Gordon for the school reopening and vaccine updates. Tonight's Board report touched his heart, and he was happy to learn about the ways SCOE is serving Homeless and Foster Youth students.

IX.B. President Ahola attended a Zoom meeting with a group planning to start a HART program in Fair Oaks and Orangevale and will be volunteering there. Next month, she will be volunteering at Natomas High School Vaccine Clinic. There are ways for others to volunteer at vaccine clinics if interested.

IX.C. There were no committee reports.

X.A. There was no distribution of the March/April Events item.

X.B. There was no distribution of the March/April Site Visits item.

XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings

A. March 16, 2021

President Ahola read an excerpt from student, R.I., at El Centro Jr./Sr. High School, titled, "Patience".

XII. Mr. Keefer moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Brown 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 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Gordon
Secretary to the Board

Date approved: April 20, 2021