

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 12, 2021

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 February 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. 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. \$609,205 First 5 California's Dual Language Learner Pilot Expansion-Local Administrative Agency from the First 5 California Commission for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 fiscal years
 2. \$146,292 Title III County Office of Education Regional English Learner Specialists Agreement from the California Department of Education for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 fiscal years
 - D. Accept Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020
 - E. First Reading of the Revisions to Board Policy 5145.3 – Prohibition on Discrimination and Harassment
 - F. First Reading of New Board Policy 5145.7 – Prohibition on Sexual Harassment
 - G. First Reading of the Revisions to Board Policy 1312.3 – Uniform Complaint Procedures
 - H. First Reading and Proposed Eliminations of the Following Board Policies:
BP 1150 – Distribution of County School Directory
BP 2700 – Governance
BP 2800 – Part C – Local Interagency Agreements
BP 3800 – Supplementation of State/Federal Funds
BP 3900 – Maintenance of Effort
BP 3321 – Purchasing
 - I. Approval of Proposed Board Meeting Dates for 2021-2022

- J. Board Report – Court and Community Schools: Student Support, Progress Monitoring, and Innovations
 - IX. Board Reports, Comments, and Ideas
 - A. Board Members
 - B. Board President
 - C. Committees
 - X. Items for Distribution
 - A. January/February Events
 - B. January/February Site Visits
 - XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings
 - A. February 2, 2021
 - B. February 16, 2021
 - XII. Adjournment
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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; Nicolas Schweizer, Associate Superintendent; Jerry Jones, Executive Director of Technology; other staff; and Wende Watson, Executive Assistant.

Other staff present via teleconference were Teresa Stinson, General Counsel; 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. Mr. Keefer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. No Approval of Minutes

IV. Mr. Fong moved to adopt the agenda. 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

V. There was no official correspondence.

VI.A. Tim Herrera read a Public Comment from Scott Rafferty regarding the method of electing governing board members in San Juan Unified School District.

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

VII.A. Nora Hernandez, Para-educator, Special Education Department, Palmiter Jr./Sr. High School, was recognized and honored as the classified employee of the month for February.

Ju Park, Teacher ED, Special Education Department, Bannan Creek School, was recognized and honored as the certificated employee of the month for February.

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

GOVERNOR NEWSOM BACK TO SCHOOL PLAN

- On December 30, Governor Newsom announced a plan to encourage more schools to reopen for in-person instruction, provided health and safety practices are implemented and followed.
- Participating districts would receive an additional \$450 per student, plus an additional amount per student based on the number of high needs students in their district, as defined by the Local Control Funding Formula.
- Funds will come out of extra state funding allocated for K-12 schools through the Proposition 98 formula that will be available because of an unexpected budget surplus this year.
- Schools in counties in the “purple” tier could reopen provided the average daily rate of infections is not higher than 28 per 100,000 residents.
- The program would be phased in, starting February 15 for students in TK-2nd grade, and for students in 3rd-6th grade on March 15. The plan does not mention middle and high school students.
- Everyone in a school — both adults and children — would have to be tested for the virus regularly, even those with no symptoms.
- The cost of testing would be covered by employee health plans. For individuals without private insurance or are not enrolled in MediCal, school districts may have to cover the costs.
- At school sites, everyone would be expected to wear masks. But school staff must wear surgical masks, which will be distributed to schools at no cost by the state.
- By February 1, districts must submit a COVID safety plan with the approval of school employee unions and the plan must meet new Cal/OSHA regulations. The timeline would be pushed back for districts in counties with high infection rates until the infection rates fall below 28 cases per 100,000 residents.
- The Governor’s plan needs Legislative approval.

- SCOE is working with County Public Health to develop a plan to expedite vaccinations to school staff once vaccines become available to us.

COURT AND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS UPDATE

- Our school within the Youth Detention Facility, El Centro Jr./Sr. High School, is providing distance learning via Zoom and Edgenuity. Probation is evaluating when to return to in-person instruction weekly based upon community COVID data.
- El Centro is also finishing its WASC visit tomorrow. The visit began Sunday and has progressed daily supported by in-person/in-facility support by Principal Barb Modlin, Director Marc Nigel, and our SCOE Teachers in Charge, Brian Griffith and Bryan Teafatiller. This team has ensured conversations with students, staff, and probation personnel occur seamlessly.
- Our community school students engage in daily wellness check-ins and attend classes via Zoom. And each site provides one-to-one scheduled appointments for students.
- The Senior Extension program is providing daily wellness activities in addition to one-to-one appointments. Our online workforce readiness efforts continue to expand with a new Preventing Sexual Harassment certification via our Food Safety certification vendor.
- All CARE programs continue to provide classes via Zoom and online instruction options that vary by the host district.
- You will hear much more regarding the Court and Community School Program during the COVID pandemic during tonight's Board Report.

SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATE

- Mod/Severe programs at Galt High continue to offer both in-person and distance learning options. Staff are operating far beyond expectations with their commitment to safety, flexibility, creativity, and dedication to their students.
- We continue to be in constant communication with districts regarding restart dates and reopening plans.
- The districts where we have programs are already operating cohorts for students with special needs are Twin Rivers, Natomas, Center, and Galt Elementary. We are in communication with those districts regarding the possibility of opening up SCOE programs.
- In preparation, teachers are working in their classrooms and planning on appropriate changes to their classroom environment to allow for physical distancing.
- All infant program services continue to be conducted virtually. Including assessments and other meetings.

SCOE RESILIENCY SCHOLARSHIP

- We are pleased to report the SCOE Resiliency Scholarship is opening its application process to SCOE students this week.

- Scholarships of \$500-\$1,000 will be awarded to help support ten graduating SCOE students in pursuing post-secondary education and vocational training and development.
- Scholarship recipients also will be matched with a mentor to help navigate their post-secondary education and training.
- SCOE's court and community schools, Palmiter and Senior Extension, have established liaisons to inform students nearing graduation about this scholarship opportunity and assist them with the application process.

CA SEL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

- Tomorrow, we will be hosting the first meeting of the California Social Emotional Learning Community of Practice.
- Joining this meeting will be representatives from every County Office in the state, the California Department of Health Care Services, the California Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission, the UC Berkeley Greater Good Science Center, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- This Community of Practice can, and will, be a potentially life-saving opportunity for the students and families we serve.
- Bringing together the systems of Healthcare, Mental Health, and Education, supported by experts in Social Emotional Learning, we will build the capacity of County Offices of Education and provide tools and resources for classroom interventions for all California students and their families.

ONGOING SCOE EQUITY WORK

- As you know, equity is serving as a foundation for our efforts and we are working to collectively focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion in every SCOE department.
- As part of this work, on January 25, the National Equity Project will be facilitating a learning session with SCOE leaders and managers as we kick off our year of capacity building and deeper focus on equity.
- We will be holding a brief equity update at the February 2 Board meeting and an equity study session shortly thereafter.

SPEAKERS SERIES: EQUITY WORKSHOP

- On February 4, we will be hosting a virtual workshop in our ongoing SCOE Speakers Series. The event is titled "Excellence Through Equity" featuring educator and author Dr. Pedro Antonio Noguera. He is the Dean of the Rossier School of Education and a Distinguished Professor of Education at the University of Southern California.
- The session will also focus on social justice, the needs for a whole child focus in schools, rising mental health needs and the opportunity the pandemic has provided to reshape and redesign schools.
- The session is from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. To register please contact Wende Watson.

ACADEMIC DECATHLON

- We are approaching Academic Decathlon season and the 41st Sacramento County Aca Deca – which is on February 6 – will be virtual this year.
- To help decathletes prepare, last month we coordinated the Capitol Region Scrimmage for 30 schools and over 400 students from throughout the region. The scrimmage was organized by SCOE Student Events Coordinator Craig Irish and his team.
- The educational tune-up was to prepare for this year's statewide and national competition where the topic is "The Cold War."
- We also are producing a virtual awards ceremony and will provide you with information on how you can view the event as we get closer.

JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR PROJECT

- On January 22, we will be participating in a live video conference with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor.
- Over 400 students will be participating and have an opportunity to ask questions to Justice Sotomayor.
- Each student also 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, we hosted a wonderful virtual graduation ceremony to recognize the successes of four SCOE students who graduated from our special education program for young adults with moderate to severe disabilities.
- Thanks to Special Education Executive Director Michael Kast, Area Principal Guy Holman, and the rest of the special education team for organizing the virtual celebration.

SCOE CLOSED

- Reminded everyone that all SCOE Offices will be closed on Monday, January 18, 2021 for the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

THANKS TO SCOE STAFF

- Special thanks to our SCOE employees who, during the holidays, made an extra effort to support others in need.
- Our Special Education staff nominated 16 families in need of donated gifts, clothing, and food.
- Our Special Education staff recruited a team of "SCOE Elves" who made donations, shopped, wrapped, and delivered gifts to families.
- This is another great example of the generous people we are so fortunate to have in our organization.

Ms. Talamantes commented about the great work in the efforts to move vaccinations forward by partnering with County Public Health and the Districts to develop a plan.

VIII.A. Mr. Brown moved and Mr. Fong 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

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: Robert Campbell-Garcia and Brianna Inez Vivanco from Cordova Lane Senior Extension; Jacqueline R. Morones and Jonathan Williams from Elinor Lincoln Hickey Senior Extension; 2 candidates from El Centro Jr./Sr. High School; Diamond Burns from Elinor Lincoln Hickey Jr./Sr. High School; Christian Javier Barnes and Marcus Jacob Maldia from Gerber Senior Extension; and Ashley Picardal from North Area Senior Extension.

VIII.B. Ms. Davis moved and Ms. Talamantes 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 Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Keefer, 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. \$609,205 First 5 California's Dual Language Learner Pilot Expansion-Local Administrative Agency from the First 5 California Commission for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 fiscal years

2. \$146,292 Title III County Office of Education Regional English Learner Specialists Agreement from the California Department of Education for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 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. Accept Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Nicolas Schweizer, Associate Superintendent, introduced Jesse Deol, Partner of James Marta & Company, LLP, who presented the summary of the Audit Report.

Mr. Keefer moved, and Mr. Brown seconded the motion to accept the Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020. 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. President Ahola announced this is the First Reading of the Revisions to Board Policy 5145.3 – Prohibition on Discrimination and Harassment.

Chair Keefer of the Policy Committee recommended that the First Reading of Revisions to Board Policy 5145.3 – Prohibition on Discrimination and Harassment move forward to Second Reading at a future Board Meeting.

VIII.F. President Ahola announced this is the First Reading of New Board Policy 5145.7 – Prohibition on Sexual Harassment.

Chair Keefer of the Policy Committee recommended that the First Reading of New Board Policy 5145.7 – Prohibition on Sexual Harassment move forward to Second Reading at a future Board Meeting.

VIII.G. President Ahola announced this is the First Reading of Revisions to Board Policy 1312.3 – Uniform Complaint Procedures.

Chair Keefer of the Policy Committee recommended that the First Reading of Revisions to Board Policy 1312.3 – Uniform Complaint Procedures move forward to Second Reading at a future Board Meeting.

VIII.H. President Ahola announced this is the First Reading and Proposed Eliminations of the Following Board Policies:

- BP 1150 – Distribution of County School Directory
- BP 2700 – Governance
- BP 2800 – Part C – Local Interagency Agreements
- BP 3800 – Supplementation of State/Federal Funds
- BP 3900 – Maintenance of Effort
- BP 3321 – Purchasing

Chair Keefer of the Policy Committee recommended that the First Reading and Proposed Eliminations of the Board Policies move forward to Second Reading at a future Board Meeting.

Ms. Stinson provided a brief explanation of the proposed changes and eliminations, explained that second readings will go before the Board at the next meeting, and answered questions posed by the Board. The Board heard Trustee Fong's request that the Board review the eliminations closely and suggested that the County School Directory be published online.

VIII.I. Ms. Talamantes moved, and Mr. Fong seconded the motion to approve the Proposed Board Meeting Dates for 2021-2022. 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

Mr. Fong suggested there be two meetings in July and/or August for 2022.

Mr. Brown thought this should be considered.

Ms. Lefkovitz requested a list of Board Reports and dates.

Superintendent Gordon noted that we typically have two meetings in August as this is when the Board Retreat is held.

Note: A revision was made to the Board Meeting dates for 2021-2022 due to a typographical error. October 12 was revised to October 19. The updated schedule was sent to the Board.

VIII.J. Dr. Matt Perry provided a report on Court and Community Schools: Student Support, Progress Monitoring, and Innovations to the Board.

IX.A. Mr. Fong would like a meeting with the school district reorganization committee to obtain information and updates on SJUSD's at large or by district elections.

Ms. Lefkovitz noted that there are so many good things that SCOE is working on and appreciated the proactiveness in preparing a plan to get the vaccine out to school staff. She also appreciated all the work happening with the SCOE Scholarship Committee.

Mr. Brown commented that the Academic Decathlon is soon. He serves as an interview judge and suspects they could use some volunteer help. As far as the SCOE Scholarship Committee, he has been talking to potential donors and is expecting multiple donations from various contacts. He will be sending the letters in the next couple of months.

Mr. Keefer was looking forward to the year and doing great things with SCOE.

Ms. Davis thanked Trustee Talamantes for attending the Board meeting on her birthday. She commented that she was very sad to hear about all the steps necessary to reopen schools and was lifted tonight after hearing from fellow Board members and was grateful to work with them. Her two sons attend school in Elk Grove and their principal sent a letter encouraging families to look at the things that cause anxiety. She hopes that families feel well supported, that students are being heard, and we are supporting their mental health. Thanked everyone for the continued work they do.

Ms. Talamantes would like to learn more about the Board's role in district reorganization. We are waiting for the census data to come back for the City of Sacramento due to redistricting; not sure how that applies to school districts.

IX.B. President Ahola read one of the poems from 916 Ink publication from 2016 written by student Elijah.

IX.C. There were no committee reports.

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

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

XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings

- A. February 2, 2021
- B. February 16, 2021

XII. Mr. Brown moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Keefer 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 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Gordon
Secretary to the Board

Date approved: March 2, 2021