

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 11, 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 July 14, 2020
- 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. Declaration of Equipment Listed as Surplus Property and Authorization to Dispose of Equipment Pursuant to Education Code (Technology)
    4. Accept Donations to Community School and Special Education School Sites
  - 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. \$1,898,299 Sacramento School-Based Mental Health and Wellness grant from Medi-Cal for the 2020-2021 fiscal year
    2. \$690,000 Seeds of Partnership grant from the California Department of Education for the 2020-2021 fiscal year
    3. \$358,743 Quality Counts California Workforce Pathways grant from the California Department of Education/Early Learning and Care for the 2020-2021 fiscal year
    4. \$257,700 WorkAbility I grant from the California Department of Education for the 2020-2021 fiscal year
    5. \$750,000 Distance Learning Curriculum and Instructional Guidance grant from the California Department of Education for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 fiscal years
  - D. Public Hearing and Adoption of Resolution No. 20-08 – Determination of Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials Sufficiency Pursuant to Education Code Section 60119 (Juvenile Court Schools)
  - E. Second Reading and Adoption of Revisions to Board Policy 2400 – Charter School Petitions
  - F. Informational Item: Revisions to Administrative Rules and Regulations 2400 – Charter School Petitions

- G. Second Reading and Adoption of Revisions to Board Policy 5141.52 – Suicide Prevention
  - H. Board Report – Schools as Centers of Wellness Mental Health Clinicians Initiative
  - IX. Board Reports, Comments, and Ideas
    - A. Board Members
    - B. Board President
    - C. Committees
  - X. Items for Distribution
    - A. August/September Events
    - B. August/September Visits
  - XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings
    - A. September 1, 2020
  - XII. Adjournment
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I. President Ahola called the meeting to order at 6:31 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; Brent Malicote, Assistant Superintendent; Jerry Jones, Executive Director of Technology; other staff; and Wende Watson, Executive Assistant.

Also, other staff via teleconference were Tammy Sanchez, Associate Superintendent; Matt Perry, Assistant Superintendent; Coleen Johnson, Chief Administrator; Michael Kast, Executive Director; Kristin Wright, Executive Director; and Tim Herrera, Director.

II. Ms. Talamantes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. On a motion by Mr. Fong and seconded by Ms. Talamantes, the minutes of the regular meeting of July 14, 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. Mr. Keefer 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 reported on the following:

- SCOE schools have been provided with resources for managing anxiety and emotional wellbeing during COVID-19 and resources to promote SEL over distance learning. All Community School programs (CARE, Community Schools, and Senior Extension) have mental health clinicians engaging with students that staff identify as needing or requesting mental health support. These programs also receive support from our SCOE School Psychologists that support enrolled special education students. Each of the above programs are receiving SEL supports from seven of our partnering nonprofits funded by the City of Sacramento CARES act funding. Students in El Centro Jr./Sr. High School receive full support from SCOE Special Education Psychologists via iPads on Zoom meetings. Every student in the Youth Detention Facility receives mental health support directly from Sacramento County Behavioral Health clinicians who are stationed inside the Juvenile Hall. In Special Education, school psychologists are checking in with all students on their caseloads. They are doing their best to provide a similar service to what they would normally provide during regular school operations.
- Summarized back to school plans and supports being provided by each school district in the county. Districts deserve a lot of credit for ensuring they have adequate devices and connectivity.
- Summarized back to school plans and supports for SCOE court and community schools, CARE programs, Senior Extension, special education programs, infant development, and preschool programs, including community building, academic and social emotional learning, and access to distance learning technology and materials.
- Congratulated Belinda Foster from Twin Rivers Unified and Lynda Bettencourt from Elk Grove Unified on being named the Sacramento County Teachers of the Year for 2021. We did a virtual ceremony for them. Congratulated SCOE's own Carissa Jones, our Culinary Arts

instructor at El Centro, for her nomination. Thanks to Board President Joanne Ahola for participating in the Zoom call – via video – and announcing the winners.

- This past week we hosted a FREE virtual workshop to support local educators in strengthening their students and their own capacity for distance learning. It was a sell out, so we are actually repeating that program.
- The Nor Cal Cyber Stories Camp, we collaborated with several partners and the program was free for 50 students from the Sacramento Region put on by the Square Root Academy, 916 Ink, and Sacramento Area Youth Speaks. Three of our valued community partners.
- Thanks to our Early Learning team, which recently co-hosted a virtual forum for Sacramento County Childcare operators. We partnered with First 5 Sacramento and Child Action, Inc., in county resources and referral agency on this particular program.

Board members expressed appreciation for the report and asked additional questions about how students are being served. Superintendent Gordon and Assistant Superintendents Malicote and Perry responded to the Board's questions.

VIII.A. Mr. Keefer moved, and Mr. Brown seconded adoption of the consent agenda as revised. By such action, the Board:

1. Accepted report on Personnel Transactions
2. Awarded diplomas to Court and Community School Students as revised
3. Declared Equipment Listed as Surplus Property and Authorization to Dispose of Equipment Pursuant to Education Code (Technology)
4. Accepted donations to Community School and Special Education School Sites

Mr. Fong wanted to draw trustees' attention to the transition in staff. We will be losing Tammy Sanchez to retirement in December. He asked Tammy if she came on at the same time as him.

Ms. Sanchez said she came before Mr. Fong was on the Board. She has been with SCOE for over 25 years.

Mr. Fong appreciates her service of 25 years and her ability to deliver financial reports in a concise way and thinks she should be recognized.

Superintendent Gordon said that we recognize employees' years of service at Employee Recognition Day.

Ms. Talamantes appreciates what Tammy has done for the Board.

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 announced that the following students will be awarded a diploma: Julia Cecilia Castro and Amont Raqon Salter from Cordova Lane Senior Extension; Christopher James Lockett from Elinor Lincoln Hickey Jr./Sr. High School; Kevin Gabriel Campos, Milia Kayla Mays, and Jasmine Pope from Elinor Lincoln Hickey Senior Extension; 1 candidate from El Centro Jr./Sr. High School; and Nicolas Dimitrius Douglas, Belinda Marie Nykole James, Angelique Xania Lumentut, Kevin Isidro Trejo Ortiz, and Cody Vue from North Area Senior Extension.

VIII.B. Mr. Brown 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 Ms. Davis, and seconded by Ms. Lefkovitz, 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. \$1,898,299 Sacramento School-Based Mental Health and Wellness grant from Medi-Cal for the 2020-2021 fiscal year
2. \$690,000 Seeds of Partnership grant from the California Department of Education for the 2020-2021 fiscal year

3. \$358,743 Quality Counts California Workforce Pathways grant from the California Department of Education/Early Learning and Care for the 2020-2021 fiscal year
4. \$257,700 WorkAbility I grant from the California Department of Education for the 2020-2021 fiscal year
5. \$750,000 Distance Learning Curriculum and Instructional Guidance grant 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. Public Hearing and Adoption of Resolution No. 20-08 – Determination of Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials Sufficiency Pursuant to Education Code Section 60119 (Juvenile Court Schools) as revised.

President Ahola opened the Public Hearing at 7:36 p.m.

There were no public comments.

President Ahola closed the Public Hearing at 7:36 p.m.

Mr. Fong moved, and Ms. Lefkovitz seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 20-08 – Determination of Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials Sufficiency Pursuant to Education Code Section 60119 (Juvenile Court Schools) as revised.

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 Second Reading and Adoption of Revisions to Board Policy 2400 – Charter School Petitions.

Ms. Stinson, General Counsel, reviewed the policy and changes made after the first reading. If it is of interest to the Board, she proposed adding the following language to be inserted within the "Petition Hearing Procedures" section:

*The Board is committed to a charter hearing process that considers input from petitioners, stakeholders, and the community, while providing sufficient opportunity for meaningful discussion and deliberation by the Board. To help achieve these goals, Board meetings at which charter petitions are considered may be expected to last longer than usual and/or may be scheduled at mutually convenient alternative times.*

After discussion, the Board expressed support for including this additional language.

The Board discussed other provisions in the policy and supported the addition of language clarifying that parents and community members would have the opportunity to comment under the Board's usual public participation guidelines.

President Ahola called for a motion to adopt revisions to Board Policy 2400 – Charter School Petitions as amended. Ms. Davis moved, and Ms. Talamantes seconded the motion. Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstention 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.F. An informational item on the Revisions to Administrative Rules and Regulations (ARR) 2400 – Charter School Petitions was provided in the Board packet.

Ms. Stinson summarized ARR 2400 and attachments A, B, and C, reviewed additional provisions to be added regarding charter schools' annual goals and outcomes, and responded to questions and feedback from the Board.

If the Board has additional comments, it may submit them to Ms. Stinson. In addition, as suggested by Trustees Talamantes and Lefkovitz and supported by other Board members, SCOE's equity team will review ARR 2400. Any additional substantive revisions to ARR 2400 will be presented to the Board.

Ms. Stinson thanked the Board for its thoughtful engagement and discussion. SCOE will do everything it can to keep improving its policies.

VIII.G. President Ahola announced this is the Second Reading and Adoption of Revisions to Board Policy 5141.52 – Suicide Prevention.

Mr. Brown moved, and Talamantes seconded the motion to adopt revisions to Board Policy 5141.52 – Suicide Prevention. Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstention 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.H. The Schools as Centers of Wellness Mental Health Clinicians Initiative report was tabled to the next Board Meeting on September 1, 2020. It was requested that it be the first item on the agenda.

IX.A. Ms. Lefkovitz thought it was a great discussion tonight.

Ms. Davis congratulated Ms. Bettencourt. She was her daughter's teacher. As far as teaching is concerned, she hopes it is encouraging for teachers to be recognized. Many of her teacher friends are really being stretched right now. She hopes they will feel this is their big opportunity to see what they really can do. She went to the Personnel Commission meeting via Zoom. There was a discussion that they are reframing Friday Night Live. We used to call students at risk and now we are calling students at promise. She thought this was really great.

Mr. Fong said during COVID, he hopes we find a way to get through this and still educate our kids. He's been trying to find articles about how COVID is impacting youth – whether they are asymptomatic or if affected differently. He would like information that talks about this so he can get a little bit clear in his mind about supporting or not supporting opening a school. The idea is to have the kids in the classroom but having the information to say it's safe to grandparents. He's been working from home and now when he receives an assignment, he does the work knowing what needs to get done so there's not that daily communication from the manager; other than the fact he turned in a report of the amount of work he did for that day. Do we really need that many managers around? He asked the Superintendent to review the management level and have the Budget Committee get a report from the Superintendent regarding the ratio of management to staff, and when people retire, do we need that position. Maybe we could look for a way where we can restack the management team without losing its effectiveness.

Mr. Brown stated education is not a business. Teachers work a long time putting together the outlines. He taught virtually years ago and had to set up outlines and plans for each class to last a certain amount of time. It's not as easy as running a business. It's a little bit different when you are dealing with human beings. He shared details of a

business within the Berkeley School District for reading support. They teach kids how to read forty hours and thinks it is something we could look at it. It is important that kids learn how to read. Once they learn how to read, the world opens up for them.

Mr. Keefer reported at Rotary today, Dr. Nelson from Sac State spoke. He showed great enthusiasm for how well things are landing over there considering how difficult it is. He spoke about he and his wife helping homeless students that are seeking shelter and food. Those students are a tip of the spirit and an indicator of our own students. He would say the virtue of fortitude that Dr. Perry and through Superintendent Gordon's leadership and the team seeking no excuses towards making sure our kids are in a good place. He expressed his thanks to the whole SCOE team. Sac State is working hard to produce great outcomes for our students that attend there and thinks SCOE is doing the same.

Ms. Talamantes reported she is currently working on Al Fresco learning and is currently working with the City of Sacramento, the library, and other partners to see if we can set up 2:00-6:00 p.m. onsite after school learning, like a tutoring program. She's excited about it because we need to prioritize our education. And continuing to work on digital equity, figuring out what are families still need, if they need better bandwidth, computers, whatever it may be. She helped her nephew with distance learning the other day and joined the SCOE gear meeting with Trustee Keefer. It was a good experience.

IX.B. President Ahola stated that the community events are far and few between right now, but she had an opportunity to participate with a nonprofit locally in her trustee area called, "About Kids". They operate a first day program where they talk about every kid deserves a great first day. Through social distancing and with masks, she helped distribute over 800 backpacks that were filled with amazing school supplies that are collected throughout the year from donations in our schools. These are distributed to kids all over Sacramento County including first day of school outfit and shoes. She wanted to say to SCOE educators and educators across the county, she wants to give them all a big hug as they go into the fall and teach our kids via distance learning. It's a challenge and they are raising to the challenge and putting in a lot of time to make sure our kids are learning. She's thinking about all educators as school begins over the next few weeks including her own children on Thursday. She wished all the parents luck who are not familiar with having their kids at home during school, although now we all have that experience as we move into a different environment for distance learning with more rigid requirements, which will be good for kids to make sure they are continuing to learn.

IX.C. There were no committee reports.

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

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

XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings:

A. September 1, 2020

XII. Mr. Keefer moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Talamantes 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 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Gordon  
Secretary to the Board

Date approved: September 1, 2020