

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Date: August 21, 2024

Meeting Location: San Mateo County Office of Education
101 Twin Dolphin Dr.
Redwood City, California 94065

Board Members Present: Chelsea Bonini, Hector Camacho, Jr., Jim Cannon, Beverly Gerard, Ted Lempert, Hugo Torres

Board Members Absent: Susan Alvaro (due to illness)

Staff Officials Present: Nancy Magee, Secretary; Jennifer Perna, Executive Assistant

Other Staff Present: Kevin Bultema, Marco Chávez, Patricia Love, Tami Moore, Sarah Notch, Kris Shouse, Mary Yung

1. OPENING ITEMS

A. Call to Order

Board President Chelsea Bonini called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

B. Approval of Agenda

After a motion by Board Member Gerard and a second by Board Member Lempert, the August 21, 2024, agenda as presented was approved by a vote of six in favor (Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) and one absent (Alvaro).

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no persons wishing to address the Board.

3. **EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH**

- A. August 2024 Employee of the Month – Administrative Support Team for the Tinsley Voluntary Transfer Program: Jessica Ochoa, Administrative Assistant III, Systems for District Improvement, Educational Services Division, and Annabel Pettey, Administrative Assistant II, Systems for District Improvement, Educational Services Division

Board President Bonini recognized the August 2024 Employee of the Month, the Administrative Support Team for the Tinsley Voluntary Transfer Program: Jessica Ochoa, Administrative Assistant III, Systems for District Improvement, Educational Services Division, and Annabel Pettey, Administrative Assistant II, Systems for District Improvement, Educational Services Division, and honored them on behalf of the Board.

4. **INTRODUCTION OF NEW/RECENTLY PROMOTED STAFF**

- A. Introduction of Lauren Berlin, Coordinator, Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)

Lauren Berlin introduced herself in her new role as Coordinator, Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA).

- B. Introduction of Dr. Ben Gonzales, Executive Director, Safe and Supportive Schools, Educational Services Division

Dr. Ben Gonzales introduced himself in his new role as Executive Director, Safe and Supportive Schools, Educational Services Division.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. June 26, 2024, Regular Board Meeting

After a motion by Board Member Cannon and a second by Board Member Gerard, the Minutes of the June 26, 2024, Regular Board Meeting were approved by a vote of six in favor (Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) and one absent (Alvaro).

- B. July 10, 2024, Regular Board Meeting

After a motion by Board Member Gerard and a second by Board Member Torres, the Minutes of the July 10, 2024, Regular Board Meeting were approved by a vote of six in favor (Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) and one absent (Alvaro).

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- B. Receive Staffing Reports

CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

- C. Receive Adopt Joint Resolution No. 24-40 Recognizing September 2024 as Charcot-Marie-Tooth (CMT) Awareness Month

After a motion by Board Member Lempert and a second by Board Member Gerard, the Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of six in favor (Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) and one absent (Alvaro).

7. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION

- A. Receive Report on Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education

Marco Chávez, Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services Division, provided a report on Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education.

Board Member Gerard asked how many districts the team is currently working with. Deputy Superintendent Chávez replied that right now, the team is leading countywide learning with the first speaker event in a series launching on October 3. School and district partners will be invited to participate.

Board Member Lempert asked if county offices are doing this work on their own or if the work is being done at the state level. Deputy Superintendent Chávez reported the California Department of Education has partnered with the San Bernadino County Office of Education, who is leading statewide work in this area, but noted county offices are approaching the work in different ways.

Board Member Torres shared there have been several workshops on AI at the conferences he recently attended. He noted that Deputy Superintendent Chávez did an excellent job summarizing the main points into one presentation. Board Member Torres requested continued updates on what is happening in the county with policies, supporting teachers, and ensuring existing gaps are not further widened. Deputy Superintendent Chávez credited Patricia Love, Executive Director, Strategy and Communication and Julie Hilborn, Coordinator, Environmental Literacy and Sustainability, Office of the Superintendent, for highlighting the climate impact of AI.

Board President Bonini thanked Deputy Superintendent Chávez for the presentation and thanked Board Member Torres for requesting the item.

8. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

- A. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Magee welcomed everyone back after a brief summer break and noted getting away from the routine helps boost positive mental health and restores energy, spirit, and inspiration.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT (continued)

Superintendent Magee congratulated school program staff on the launch of the new school year for students earlier that week. She added that staff worked hard over the summer to prepare for the first day of school, with teams supporting each other to ensure a positive kick-off for students. She shouted out the Facilities and Technology staff who used the summer to clean and upgrade the sites so students could be welcomed back to campuses.

Superintendent Magee shared that Monday evening she attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Jefferson Union High School District (JUHSD) district office, which was extremely well-deserved. She described the beautiful board room, training rooms for staff, and conference and meeting spaces for parents and students. The building highlights the most contemporary technology and includes beautiful design features. She is happy for our JUHSD colleagues who made this new community resource come to life with innovative, courageous leadership.

Superintendent Magee reported the County Office kicked off its Science of Reading Initiative on August 2, with more than 80 educators and education leaders participating. Additionally, she shared Maria Vhahiotis, Coordinator, English-Language Arts, and Chad Slife, Coordinator, Center for Access and Engagement, have prepared an in-depth presentation on the subject of reading instruction for the County Board Member Services Conference in Monterey in September. They will be joined by Board Member Gerard, and the presentation is slated for the Saturday afternoon of the conference.

Superintendent Magee reminded the Board that the County Office is transitioning to a new financial system, which impacts every school district county-wide. She described the trainings going on every day, all day long and all year long. Attendees from all classes of work are learning how to use and implement the new system. She recognized the stellar leadership of Kevin Bultema, Deputy Superintendent. Superintendent Magee emphasized the process is organized and well-supported and is moving forward on this necessary and important step for the County Office and all school districts.

9. BOARD MEMBERS

A. Discuss/Act on Joint Resolution No. 24-41 In Support of Proposition 2: Kindergarten Through Grade 12 Schools and Local Community College Public Education Facilities Modernization, Repair, and Safety Bond Act of 2024

Superintendent Magee provided information on Joint Resolution No. 24-41 In Support of Proposition 2: Kindergarten Through Grade 12 Schools and Local Community College Public Education Facilities Modernization, Repair, and Safety Bond Act of 2024.

There were no questions from the Board.

After a motion by Board Member Gerard and a second by Board Member Torres, Joint Resolution No. 24-41 was approved by a vote of six in favor (Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) and one absent (Alvaro).

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

B. Receive Reports from the Board Ad Hoc Subcommittees and Representatives

There were no reports from the Board Ad Hoc Subcommittees and Representatives.

C. Suggested Topics for Future Board Agendas

There were no suggested topics for future Board agendas.

D. Board Member Comments

Board Member Lempert

Board Member Lempert had no comments.

Board Member Cannon

Board Member Cannon had no comments.

Board Member Camacho

Board Member Camacho had no comments.

Board Member Gerard

Board Member Gerard reported she has been busy with the transition meetings between the County School Boards Association (CSBA) and county board members. She sits on four different committees which met regularly through the summer. The transition group has nearly finalized the items they will be requesting from CSBA and the approval of the board of directors.

Board Member Gerard expressed concern about the registration numbers for the County Board Member Services Conference, which are lower than the previous year. She discussed how there are excellent sessions planned.

Board Member Gerard shared in terms of the handbook committee, CSBA is going back and forth and trying to figure out how to make money from the handbook. They also need to revamp the handbook, which should be done every two years.

Board Member Torres

Board Member Torres reported he attended the California Latino School Board Association (CLSBA) Unity Conference. CLSBA President Jorge Pacheco did an excellent job working with his team to organize a successful event.

Board Member Torres also shared he and Board Member Camacho attended the Latino Leadership Alliance Gala. It was wonderful to see the work being done with those cohorts.

Board President Bonini

Board President Bonini welcomed everyone back after the break. She expressed appreciation for the evening's presentations, especially the AI presentation.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m. Board President Bonini announced the next regular meeting would take place on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.



Nancy Magee, Secretary
jlp