

## **APPROVED**

### **MINUTES OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

|                          |                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Meeting Date:            | September 18, 2024                                                                               |
| Meeting Location:        | San Mateo County Office of Education<br>101 Twin Dolphin Dr.<br>Redwood City, California 94065   |
| Board Members Present:   | Susan Alvaro, Chelsea Bonini, Jim Cannon,<br>Beverly Gerard, Ted Lempert, Hugo Torres            |
| Board Members Absent:    | Hector Camacho, Jr.                                                                              |
| County Attorney Present: | Lisa Cho, Deputy County Attorney                                                                 |
| Staff Officials Present: | Nancy Magee, Secretary; Jennifer Perna,<br>Executive Assistant                                   |
| Other Staff Present:     | Kevin Bultema, Marco Chávez, Lisa Cho,<br>Patricia Love, Tami Moore, Sarah Notch, Kris<br>Shouse |

#### **1. OPENING ITEMS**

##### **A. Call to Order**

Board President Chelsea Bonini called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

##### **B. Approval of Agenda**

After a motion by Board Member Gerard and a second by Board Member Lempert, the September 18, 2024, agenda as presented was approved by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Bonini, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) with one member absent (Camacho).

#### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following speakers provided live public comment:

**PUBLIC COMMENT (continued)**

- Christian Morales, SMCOE employee and California School Employees Association (CSEA) 887 Vice President
- Janice Pellizzari, San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) teacher and San Mateo County Educators Association (SMCEA) President

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

A. Introduction of Marcela Miranda, Executive Director, College, Career, and Community Partnerships, Educational Services Division

Marcela Miranda introduced herself in her recently promoted role of Executive Director, College, Career, and Community Partnerships, Educational Services Division.

B. Introduction of Marco Sanchez, Supervisor, Information Systems, District Business Services, Business Services Division

Marco Sanchez introduced himself in his recently promoted role of Supervisor, Information Systems, District Business Services, Business Services Division.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. September 4, 2024, Regular Board Meeting

After a motion by Board Member Gerard and a second by Board Member Cannon, the Minutes of the September 4, 2024, Regular Board Meeting were approved by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Bonini, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) and one member absent (Camacho).

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

B. Receive Staffing Reports

C. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 24-45 Recognizing October 2024 as LGBTQ+ History Month

D. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 24-46 Recognizing October 2024 as National Dyslexia Awareness Month

E. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 24-47 Recognizing October 2024 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month

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

6. **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION**

A. Receive Report on New 2024-2025 Programming for Court and Community Schools

Kris Shouse, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services Division, and Sarah Notch, Executive Director, Center for Access and Engagement, Educational Services Division, provided a report on the new 2024-2025 programming for Court and Community Schools.

Board Member Torres asked if all teachers or just the one teacher assigned English Language Development (ELD) instruction were trained in ELD instruction. Associate Superintendent Shouse replied only the ELD instructor who is teaching ELD is certified in that area.

Board Member Torres asked which ELD curriculum, if any, was being utilized. Associate Superintendent Shouse confirmed that StudySync is the current adopted curriculum.

Board Member Gerard referred to the students enrolled in Project Change and attending classes at the community college, and asked what will happen if they leave our program prior to completing their college course. Associate Superintendent Shouse explained Project Change staff and the community college instructors are working with probation on the interface and providing safe links for the students who have left the program to ensure they can access and complete the course.

Board Member Gerard asked if eventually all teachers would be trained in Career and Technical Education (CTE). Associate Superintendent Shouse explained information will be provided for interested teachers on how to obtain a CTE credential, but it will not be a requirement that staff be certified.

Board Member Alvaro asked if there are plans to offer music education next year. Executive Director Notch shared the leadership team wants to implement a rotation of all five arts areas. Board Member Alvaro discussed how music education creates different connections in the brain and has great value.

Board President Bonini referred to CTE credentialing and asked what underlying credentials the teachers have. She said her understanding is that no teachers are single-subject certified in math and science and asked what the team is doing in that regard. Associate Superintendent Shouse described how alternative settings have flexibility in teaching assignments. Teachers are not always credentialed subject-specific and there are also multiple-subject credentialed teachers teaching in the system. In terms of the CTE credentialing, those who already have teaching credentials can add a CTE credential. Industry partners can also qualify for a teaching credential. Specific to our programs, teachers have the opportunity to add a CTE credential to their subject matter credential.

Board President Bonini asked about the mathematics curriculum and how instruction is differentiated to address various skill levels of math. Associate Superintendent Shouse noted historically there is one math classroom for all students at Gateway, with differentiation provided within the classroom.

## **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION (continued)**

Board President Bonini also asked about reports showing that certain classes in our program are staffed by teachers without the proper credential requirements. Associate Superintendent Shouse confirmed that nearly all, if not all, the teachers have the appropriate credentials for the courses they teach, including the CTE Entrepreneurship Math course.

The following speaker provided live public comment:

- Johanna Rasmussen, Chair and Commissioner, San Mateo County Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJDP)

In response to the comment, Associate Superintendent Shouse reiterated our teachers have met the criteria to be able to teach the classes currently being taught at Gateway. Superintendent Magee added that students are earning A-G math and science credits. Associate Superintendent Shouse confirmed that students are earning credits within science and math as outlined in the official University of California A-G portal.

## **7. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

### **A. Superintendent's Comments**

Superintendent Magee reported she enjoyed participating in the County Board Member Services Conference in Monterey the previous weekend. She attended an informative session on charter schools and also attended the Shared Governance session with Board Member Gerard as a speaker. Chad Slife, Coordinator, Center for Access and Engagement, Educational Services Division, and Maria Vlahiotis, Coordinator, English-Language Arts, Educational Services Division, along with Board Member Gerard, presented an excellent session on the Science of Reading which was well attended and led to interesting conversations.

Superintendent Magee reported she also attended the California County Superintendents Meeting in Madera County Sunday through Wednesday. The California County Superintendents are maintaining the same three key priorities from the previous year – building a diverse workforce, supporting students who are multi-lingual and students with disabilities, and supporting whole-child outcomes. She shared she sits on the Students with Disabilities Advisory Group and at their meeting, they were introduced to the chair of the Special Education Administrators of County Offices (SEACO), who happens to be our own Executive Director Sarah Notch. Executive Director Notch discussed the curriculum work we are doing in our SMCOE special education program and how it aligns with the alternate pathway to graduation efforts happening across the state.

Superintendent Magee discussed the Employee Recognition Celebration which took place earlier in the day and was full of fun, vigor, games, and engagement. Staff members sang songs, played instruments, danced, and showcased their paintings, photography, and craftwork. Core Cabinet dressed up as Broadway musical characters. Superintendent Magee then recognized the four Board Members who earned service pins – Board President Bonini for one term, Board Member Torres for one term, Board Member Cannon for five terms, and Board Member Lempert for six terms.

## 8. **BOARD MEMBERS**

### A. Discuss/Act on Request to File Candidate's Statement Without Advance Payment of Estimated Cost

Lisa Cho, Deputy County Attorney, provided information on a request by Ester Adut to file a candidate's statement without advance payment of estimated cost.

Board Member Alvaro noted there was no proof or documentation included such as a W-2, which was provided in a previous situation and would help the Board make a decision. Deputy County Attorney Cho explained it was her understanding the candidate provided a release to the Elections Office to share her federal income taxes for the last two years, but that documentation has not been received by the Elections Office. Typically, that documentation would have been provided and shared with the Board for consideration.

Board Member Alvaro asked if the Board needed to make a decision that evening. Deputy County Attorney Cho confirmed the request from the Elections Office was that action be taken by the Board that evening because there is a tight schedule for printing and distributing candidate statements.

Board Member Cannon asked if Board approval of the request simply meant that payment would be deferred. Deputy County Attorney Cho confirmed that was accurate. Board Member Cannon asked whose responsibility it would be if payment was not eventually made. Deputy County Attorney Cho informed the fee was assessed by the Elections Office and they would have avenues to collect those fees. The Board would not have to cover the fees.

Board Member Alvaro indicated in a previous situation, the Board was told the County Office would be responsible. Deputy County Attorney Cho shared it was her understanding that the Elections Office would need to seek payment, but she was unsure of their enforcement mechanism. She underscored that this approval would not be a waiver of the fee; it is just a deferral until such time that the Elections Office knows the true cost of printing and mailing statements. The fee might be higher than the current estimate.

Board Member Cannon noted the fee seemed remarkably low. Deputy County Attorney Cho confirmed the applicant stated she has been asked to pay \$2,000. Board President Bonini added that the Board is now elected by trustee area and the fee would be up to seven times more if the elections were county-wide. Deputy County Attorney Cho shared if the request was denied, the candidate would have the choice to pay the estimated fee in advance and proceed forward or she could withdraw the candidate statement and run without one.

Board Member Gerard asked if in the previous situation the Board was asked to pay the fee. Board Member Alvaro stated that was her understanding. It would be a deferred fee but should the candidate not pay, the Elections Office would come to the County Office for payment. But that is not the information that Deputy County Attorney Cho received.

Board Member Lempert made a motion to deny the request to file a candidate's statement without advance payment of estimated cost, which was seconded by Board Member Alvaro.

**BOARD MEMBERS (continued)**

Board Member Cannon asked for further clarification on the motion. Board Member Alvaro asked Deputy County Attorney Cho for direction. Deputy County Attorney Cho shared her concern about the lack of financial documentation with the application. Board Member Alvaro asked if the motion should include reasons for the denial. Deputy County Attorney Cho explained there could be a discussion about concerns. After the decision, the County Office will send out a notice to the applicant and the Elections Office notifying them of the decision. But the code does not require reasoning for the motion. Because this is an open session discussion, the candidate could go back and read the minutes.

After a motion by Board Member Lempert and a second by Board Member Alvaro, the Board voted to deny the request to file a candidate's statement without advance payment of estimated cost by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Bonini, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) with one member absent (Camacho).

Deputy County Attorney Cho assured the Board that notices would be sent to the candidate and the Elections Office.

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

Board President Bonini reported the San Mateo County School Boards Association (SMCSBA) held an initial meeting and mapped out their events for the year. More information will be distributed soon.

**C. Suggested Topics for Future Board Agendas**

Board President Bonini requested an agenda item regarding County Office cell phone policies and how they are being implemented at Gateway for the 2024-2025 school year, in light of state guidance and the Board's prior position taken on social media impacts on students.

**D. Board Member Comments**

**Board Member Alvaro**

Board Member Alvaro congratulated everyone who was recognized at the Employee Recognition Celebration, including her fellow Board Members. She is proud of our staff and glad it was a successful event.

**Board Member Lempert**

Board Member Lempert noted he would have loved to attend the Employee Recognition Celebration, and he appreciated receiving his service pin.

**Board Member Cannon**

Board Member Cannon thanked Superintendent Magee for the service recognition.

**BOARD MEMBERS (continued)**

**Board Member Gerard**

Board Member Gerard shared she attended the Employee Recognition Celebration and represented the Board. She noted the County Office is staffed by incredibly talented people, she loved the costumes, and it was lovely to celebrate the employees.

Board Member Gerard reported she also attended the County Board Member Services Conference. She was pleased with the sessions and honored to be part of the County Office presentation on the Science of Reading. Coordinator Slife and Coordinator Vlahiotis did a wonderful job explaining a difficult concept. She also enjoyed participating in the Shared Governance session. However, the conference did not feel like a California county school boards conference; it felt like a mini-California School Boards Association annual conference. The warm camaraderie just wasn't there, and many others felt the same way. Board Member Gerard said there are efforts to establish an independent association of California county boards of education. She will keep the Board posted with updates.

Board Member Gerard congratulated the Board Members who received their pins.

**Board Member Torres**

Board Member Torres commented he also attended the County Board Member Services Conference. There were many excellent workshops which made it difficult to decide which to attend. He agreed the conference felt different from the previous year.

Board Member Torres thanked Superintendent Magee for his pin.

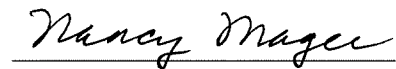
**Board President Bonini**

Board President Bonini expressed appreciation for the approval of Joint Resolution No. 24-46 Recognizing October 2024 as National Dyslexia Awareness Month and Joint Resolution No. 24-47 Recognizing October 2024 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Board President Bonini congratulated the recently promoted staff members who were introduced that evening.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m. Board President Bonini announced the next regular meeting would take place on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.



Nancy Magee, Secretary

jlh