

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Date: February 7, 2024

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

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

County Attorney Present: John Nibbelin, County Attorney (remote)

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

Other Staff Present: Marco Chávez, Niambi Clay, Patricia Love, Tami Moore, Kris Shouse, Mary Yung

Youth Commission Liaison Present: Bethany Zhao (left at 7:52 p.m.)

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 February 7, 2024, agenda as presented was unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) approved.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following speaker provided live public comment:

- Janice Pellizzari, SMCOE teacher and San Mateo County Educators Association (SMCEA) President

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

- A. Susan Ryan, Coordinator, College and Career Technical Education, Educational Services Division

Susan Ryan introduced herself in her new role as Coordinator, College and Career Technical Education, Educational Services Division.

- B. Andrea Burnett, Coordinator, P-3 Quality Improvement Initiative, Educational Services Division

Andrea Burnett introduced herself in her new recently promoted role as Coordinator, P-3 Quality Improvement Initiative, Educational Services Division.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. January 24, 2024, Regular Board Meeting

After a motion by Board Member Cannon and a second by Board Member Gerard, the Minutes of the January 24, 2024, Regular Board Meeting were unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) approved.

5. **BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION**

- A. Discuss/Act on Resolution No. 24-7 Authorizing a Short-Term Financing Loan for the San Carlos School District

Superintendent Magee provided information on Resolution No. 24-7 Authorizing a Short-Term Financing Loan for the San Carlos School District.

Board Member Alvaro asked if there was any discussion or California School Boards Association (CSBA) advocacy about putting an end to the financial consequences when districts flip from Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) status to Basic Aid or from Basic Aid status to LCFF.

Superintendent Magee shared that Senator Becker has been working for several years to shape legislation that might provide more stability to a district experiencing this flip. She said that Deputy Superintendent Bultema had met with Senator Becker's staff and the SMCOE team has also consulted with the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team (FCMAT) and the Department of Finance, seeking input and looking for solutions to address the problem.

After a motion by Board Member Lempert and a second by Board Member Gerard, Resolution No. 24-7 was unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) approved.

6. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION

A. Discuss/Act on a Modification to the Summer Session Calendar for Court and Community Schools

Sarah Notch, Executive Director, Center for Access and Engagement, Educational Services Division, and Janice Pellizzari, SMCOE Teacher, provided information on a modification to the summer session calendar for Court and Community Schools.

Board Member Alvaro asked if the Gateway summer school schedule was the same as the Hillcrest summer school schedule. Executive Director Notch replied that traditionally it has been, but this year the team is assessing whether they will have enough students to run a full summer program. She discussed looking at seniors who might be credit deficient and trying to boost them over the finish line in summer, so the team is looking at Gateway. This calendar request is for all of the Court and Community Schools to have flexibility, based on enrollment numbers. For this year, Hillcrest would be the site most affected.

After a motion by Board Member Alvaro and a second by Board Member Torres, the modification to the summer session calendar for Court and Community Schools was unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) approved.

B. Receive Update on Gateway School Programs

Executive Director Notch provided an update on Gateway School Programs.

Board Member Torres asked if the Career Technical Education (CTE) instruction had already happened. Executive Director Notch said it was currently underway at Hillcrest and will conclude the following Thursday. For Gateway, it will happen during the last two weeks in May. Board Member Torres noted he would love to see the product of that work, so if the Board had the opportunity to visit the sites, he would definitely make the time.

Board Member Gerard asked if the Gateway teachers were included in development of the programming. Executive Director Notch explained that yes, all of the efforts have been driven from the Strategic Plan process, which the staff was heavily involved in developing.

Board Member Gerard asked if the team had talked to students and families about their needs and feelings. Executive Director Notch described how the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) 5-Star work, along with the incentives work, was all student-driven. The team talked with students about what would be motivating, what expectation-setting on campus meant to them, and what they wanted to see. She emphasized it was important to include student voice and have them be part of the collective which is building the enhancements.

Board President Bonini expressed her appreciation for the tie-in with the Strategic Plan.

Board President Bonini asked if the Gateway work was aligned with the ongoing work with the National Equity Project. Executive Director Notch confirmed the work was related because the team started the Gateway Learning Series last year and heard a lot from students, staff, partners, and

districts. That input, along with the work in the school strategic planning, informed where they are going this year. Tonight's presentation was also given to the Gateway Design participants two meetings ago, providing them with a baseline understanding of what is currently going on at Gateway.

Board President Bonini referred to the spring schedule enhancements and classes at the College of San Mateo, and asked if that was related to or integrated with Middle College. Executive Director Notch explained the work is on the Gateway campus in partnership with Project Change.

Board President Bonini discussed the CTE break and asked how that impacts credit recovery and other ongoing basic skill classes. She also asked if the Gateway teachers are shifting gears and delivering that content or if something else was happening during that time in terms of instruction. Executive Director Notch explained that in order to get enough instructional minutes to give credit for a semester, they need bell-to-bell time. In planning this work, Kris Shouse, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services Division, met with several teachers who gave input about the configuration and scheduling, but yes, they need the full bell-to-bell time to meet the requirements for an A-G semester's worth of CTE credit.

Board President Bonini asked when the adoptions would come to the Board. Executive Director Notch responded the team is just now beginning the process. The goal is to bring the adoptions to the Board in May, which would provide time to select the materials to pilot, collect data, look at student outcomes, make recommendations driven by data to present to the Board, and still have time to complete the logistical pieces such as ordering, shipping, and training. Board President Bonini summarized the process would take place in the spring and go into effect for the next school year. Executive Director Notch confirmed that was correct.

7. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Magee began by addressing the recent storms which have impacted schools and students being able to attend school. There were a number of schools throughout the county which were closed for various reasons, largely related to access to power and not having the necessary resources on campus. Some schools were able to open without power. Superintendent Magee emphasized that weather and climate continues to impact the education of students, so elevating solutions to the climate crisis has become extremely important.

Superintendent Magee discussed the recognition the Communications Team received from the California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA) for three of their publications. She congratulated Patricia Love, Executive Director, Strategy and Communications, Office of the Superintendent, and her team for their exceptional work which is always consistent and cohesive. She expressed appreciation for Executive Director Love's leadership and all she provides for the County Office and the county in her communications efforts. The team will receive their awards in Sacramento in a few weeks.

Superintendent Magee shared details about a few events on the horizon. The County Office is partnering with Thrive Alliance, the Silicon Valley Community Foundations, and Stanford Haas Center for Public Service the following Thursday at the Burlingame Community Center with an event focused on elevating racial justice in San Mateo County. The event will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and will bring together community partners and school districts to highlight specific actions they have taken to elevate racial justice inside their organizations. The County Office hopes it will be a wonderful learning and networking opportunity for everyone. The event is open to the Board and they may reach out to Jennifer Perna, Executive Assistant to the Board, Office of the Superintendent, if they are interested.

Superintendent Magee reminded the Board that SMCOE has been developing its Labor Management Team. One of the team's goals was to bring a regional convening to the County Office, and she is happy to announce that the County Office will host a day-long regional Labor Management Institute on Monday, February 26. The SMCOE team will assist with the welcome and provide supports during the day while the Jefferson Elementary School District, which has been doing a lot of work with their labor management team, will be highlighting their progress.

Superintendent Magee shared that earlier in the day she received and accepted an invitation from CSBA President-Elect Albert Gonzales to serve on the CSBA Superintendent's Advisory Council, which he chairs. The council assembles superintendents and board members three times a year in Sacramento, as well as through virtual meetings, to address policy issues and urgent matters facing public education.

Lastly, Superintendent Magee wished a happy upcoming birthday to Marco Chávez, Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services Division. She noted the best possible birthday present for him would be a 49er Superbowl win.

8. CLOSED SESSION: INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE APPEAL 24-1 (IAA-24-1)

- A. Hear Interdistrict Attendance Appeal 24-1 (IAA-24-1) Filed on Behalf of a Student Currently Residing in the Franklin-McKinley School District, but Requesting to Attend School in the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District

At 7:52 p.m., Board President Bonini announced the meeting would move into Closed Session to hear Interdistrict Attendance Appeal 24-1 (IAA-24-1) filed on behalf of a student currently residing in the Franklin-McKinley School District but requesting to attend school in the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District.

9. OPEN SESSION: REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

- A. Report on Action Taken in Closed Session on Interdistrict Attendance Appeal 24-1 (IAA-24-1)

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 8:50 p.m.

After a motion by Board Member Gerard and a second by Board Member Cannon, IAA-24-1 was approved for the remainder of the school year and an additional four years, by unanimous (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) vote.

10. **BOARD MEMBERS**

A. Cast 2024 Ballot for the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly

Board Member Gerard asked if the Board was casting a ballot for her seat. Board President Bonini clarified the vote was for a different seat – the candidates were Sophia Layne, Patricia Murray, and herself. There were three seats and three incumbents.

After a motion by Board Member Gerard and a second by Board Member Torres, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) voted to approve the three candidates – Chelsea Bonini, Sophia Layne, and Patricia Murray – running for the CSBA Delegate Assembly.

B. Adopt Resolution No. 24-8 Implementing Board Policy BP 9250 to Compensate Susan Alvaro for Her Absence from the January 24, 2024, Board Meeting Due to Illness

After a motion by Board Member Gerard and a second by Board Member Cannon, the Board approved Resolution No. 24-8 Implementing Board Policy BP 9250 to compensate Susan Alvaro for her absence from the January 24, 2024, Board Meeting Due to Illness, by a vote of six in favor (Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) and one recusal (Alvaro).

C. Board Member Comments

Board Member Alvaro

Board Member Alvaro noted it was good to be back and she was sorry to miss the last meeting.

Board Member Alvaro wished a happy birthday to Deputy Superintendent Chávez.

Board Member Alvaro discussed the recent storms and how many people on the coastside have been without power. She shared that several agencies rose to the occasion including Coastside Hope in El Granada, the Half Moon Bay Library, and the Mariners Church. These organizations opened up for community members and had heat, electricity charging, Wi-Fi, snacks, and hot coffee. She is always impressed with how the community rises to the occasion to take care of each other.

Board Member Alvaro wished everyone a Happy Lunar New Year. Many of her English Language Learner (ELL) students are Asian and assure her the Year of the Dragon will be a better year for everyone.

Board Member Lempert

Board Member Lempert shared that his youngest daughter was with him at the meeting that evening. His two older daughters were in attendance at his swearing in many years ago but his youngest daughter had not been born yet, so it was nice to have her at the meeting.

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Board Member Cannon

Board Member Cannon had no comments.

Board Member Camacho

Board Member Camacho thanked the County Office for hosting many recent events for county school board members, including the Capitol Advisors Budget Perspectives Workshop and the San Mateo County School Boards Association (SMCSBA) Legislative Brunch. The brunch was co-organized by Board President Bonini, and he thanked her for her efforts. Board Member Camacho shouted out Executive Director Love and Zack Jones, Media Technician, Integrated Technology Services, Business Services Division, for providing last-minute virtual access to board members who could not attend the brunch in person.

Board Member Gerard

Board Member Gerard wished Deputy Superintendent Chávez a happy birthday.

Board Member Gerard reported she had attended another meeting with the CSBA transition committee since her last report and has another one on Friday. They plan to assemble the speakers for the County Board Governance Workshop, which is for any board members who would like to attend. She has been working hard to get the word out so the workshop can be a success. It is also extremely important that the CCBE Conference in September is successful because it creates momentum for holding a conference in 2025.

Board Member Gerard shared she attended the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee meeting, which was interesting. She and Board Member Alvaro also attended the virtual Capitol Advisors Budget Perspectives Workshop.

Board Member Gerard reported she met with County Attorney Nibbelin the previous Friday to discuss the CSBA input letter. She had received good feedback from the Board and gathered information from other board members throughout the state. They are putting together what she hopes will be an effective letter.

Board Member Gerard noted she attended the SMCSBA Legislative Brunch. Board President Bonini and Sequoia Union High School District Board Trustee Carrie DuBois did a wonderful job organizing the informative event. She wished more board members had been able to attend, but the threat of poor weather was a factor.

Board Member Camacho asked about the days for the CCBE Conference in September. Board Member Gerard confirmed the dates would be Friday through Sunday. Initially they were going to do something special on Thursday, but she was unsure if that would still happen. She said she would be able to provide more information at the coming Board meetings.

Board Member Torres

Board Member Torres wished everyone a happy Black History Month. He thanked Diane Chau and Robert Chua for their invitation to the Chinese American Voters Education Committee Lunar New Year reception to honor Assemblymember Phil Ting and other community leaders, which was a beautiful event.

Board Member Torres commended the Santa Clara County Board of Education for passing their Gaza cease-fire resolution.

Board President Bonini

Board President Bonini shared that along with Superintendent Magee, she attended Fred Korematsu Day at the courthouse, which was organized by the County Attorney's Office and several other organizations. She attended the reenactment in the morning and it was a rewarding experience. Oxford Day Academy was one of the participating schools. Staff from the County Office were part of the presentation, including Jae Takahashi, Manager, Media and Integrated Technology Services Operations, Business Services Division, who portrayed Mr. Korematsu. Lisa Cho, Deputy County Attorney, as well as others from the County Attorney's Office, were also participatory.

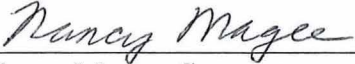
Board President Bonini thanked the County Office, including Executive Director Love; Jared Prolo, Executive Director, Research and Systems Planning, Educational Services Division; and Media Technician Jones for hosting the SMCSBA Legislative Brunch the previous weekend. She discussed the Transition to Independence Fair the upcoming weekend, which Superintendent Magee and a number of staff members plan to attend. She expressed her appreciation for the effort put into that event. Unfortunately she will not be able to attend, but she encouraged everyone to join because it will be a fantastic event.

Board President Bonini congratulated Executive Director Love and the Communications Team for their impressive achievements and well-deserved honors.

Board President Bonini noted she had been to every event discussed by Board Member Gerard. The following day she will have the opportunity to visit the San Mateo-Foster City School District's first grade teachers' summit focused on their work on the science of reading. A region representative from Decoding Dyslexia California and staff from other districts will be in attendance. There will be a site visit, a panel, and debriefing afterwards. She is excited for the event.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m. Board President Bonini announced the next regular meeting would take place on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.



Nancy Magee, Secretary
jlp