

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Date: March 20, 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

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

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

Youth Commission Liaison Present: Bethany Zhao

1. OPENING ITEMS

A. Call to Order

Board President Chelsea Bonini called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Approval of Agenda

After a motion by Board Member Gerard and a second by Board Member Lempert, the March 20, 2024, agenda as presented was unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) approved.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following speakers provided live public comment:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT (continued)

- Christian Morales, SMCOE employee and California School Employees Association (CSEA) 887 Vice President

3. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

- A. March 2024 Employee of the Month Laurie Mouton, Senior Accounting Assistant, Internal Business Services, Business Services Division

Board President Bonini recognized the March 2024 Employee of the Month Laurie Mouton, Senior Accounting Assistant, Internal Business Services, Business Services Division, and honored her on behalf of the Board.

4. INTRODUCTION OF NEW/RECENTLY PROMOTED STAFF

- A. Introduction of Allen Co, Manager, District Business Services, Business Services Division

Allen Co introduced himself in his new role as Manager, District Business Services, Business Services Division.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. March 6, 2024, Regular Board Meeting

After a motion by Board Member Cannon and a second by Board Member Alvaro, the Minutes of the March 6, 2024, Regular Board Meeting were unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) approved.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- B. Receive Staffing Reports
- C. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 24-12 Recognizing March 31, 2024, as César Chávez Day
- D. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 24-13 Recognizing April 2024 as Public Schools Month
- E. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 24-14 Recognizing April 2024 as Autism Acceptance Month
- F. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 24-15 Recognizing School Volunteers and April 2024 as National Volunteer Month

After a motion by Board Member Gerard and a second by Board Member Lempert, the Consent Agenda was unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) approved.

7. BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION

A. Receive, Review, and Approve with Positive Certification the 2023-2024 Second Interim Financial Report

Kevin Bultema, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services Division; Minette Manio, Executive Director, Internal Business Services, Business Services Division; and Marian Reyes, Manager, Fiscal Services, Business Services Division, presented the 2023-2024 Second Interim Financial Report.

Board Member Alvaro asked how the team was looking at multi-year projections given the state budget challenges that could impact Proposition 98. Deputy Superintendent Bultema said the impact to SMCOE may be less than what one might see in some of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) districts. Deputy Superintendent Bultema underscored that this is a risk factor and the team is paying close attention.

Board Member Alvaro added the impact could last several years. Deputy Superintendent Bultema discussed how in 2008 there were deferrals and deficits and indicated that the current budget landscape is starting to line up to what happened then. He emphasized that reserves would help, and SMCOE is in a good position to get through this.

Board President Bonini asked about the money brought to the county offices for differentiated assistance. Deputy Superintendent Bultema confirmed it is in the LCFF numbers with a specific manager code. He discussed how those dollars will ebb and flow as districts go in and out of differentiated assistance.

Board President Bonini asked about the Hillcrest budget and the change reflected regarding property tax transfers. Deputy Superintendent Bultema said all the funds are unrestricted, it's just a difference in reporting the revenue coming directly from property tax or from a contribution. Property taxes have grown overall so instead of contributing unrestricted dollars, which is LCFF money, the team is specifically direct charging the property tax revenues.

After a motion by Board Member Gerard and a second by Board Member Lempert, the 2023-2024 Second Interim Financial Report was unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Torres) approved.

8. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. Public Disclosure of the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools and California School Employees Association (CSEA) and its Chapter 158 for 2023-2024

Kevin Bultema, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services Division, and Tami Moore, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources, Office of the Superintendent, presented the public disclosure of the collective bargaining agreement between the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools and California School Employees Association (CSEA) and its Chapter 158 for 2023-2024.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT (continued)

B. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Magee shared that she and Board President Bonini discussed the logic of having the county attorney sitting with the Board when the agenda does not include items requiring legal guidance. They concluded that the County Attorney's Office will be represented at the dais when there is reasonable legal need for their presence.

Superintendent Magee said it was wonderful to have Board Member Lempert as the keynote speaker at the 17th District PTA Founder's lunch and congratulated him on being awarded the PTA's Golden Oak Award. She said the Golden Oak Award is the most prestigious of the PTA's honorary service awards. She expressed her appreciation for the service Board Member Lempert has provided to the county over his many years in a variety of elected roles.

Superintendent Magee noted the previous Friday, in celebration of Read Across America, she was honored to read to a lively class of third graders at Sunset Ridge Elementary School in Pacifica, and she enjoyed it very much.

Superintendent Magee talked about Senator Dodd's bill, SB 1380, that is making its way through the legislation process. It focuses on the processes of a charter school appeal. If a school district governing board denies a petition, others are prohibited from submitting a substantially similar petition to the county board as a county-wide charter school. County Offices of Education would be required to deny any petition they find to be substantially similar. Superintendent Magee indicated she would forward additional information for the Legislative Subcommittee.

Superintendent Magee shared the End of School Year Celebration would be held at Gateway School on May 15 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Additionally, the students at Gateway will present their Career and Technical Education (CTE) Showcase on the morning of May 30. The showcase will conclude a three-week master CTE class, a unique pilot program provided by an outside agency called Collaborative Education Advisors. Superintendent Magee stated she hoped the Board could attend to support students as they present about their learning and the projects they developed.

6. BOARD MEMBERS

A. Receive Update from the Gateway Board Subcommittee

Board Member Bonini reported the Gateway subcommittee met in February as well as the previous day (March 5). In February, they discussed and asked questions about the progress of the Gateway design team. In the second of the two meetings, the subcommittee's questions focused on the timeline of the project, what the design group had been doing, and the role of the subcommittee. Board Member Bonini said the subcommittee would like to attend a design team meeting. Board Member Bonini shared her excitement about what is being planned for short-term and long-term projects.

Board Member Torres noted the subcommittee would like to have another meeting, hopefully before the next Board meeting, to examine the data from the discovery sessions.

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

Board Member Gerard noted the subcommittee also discussed the students from Stanford's Youth and Educational Law Policy Lab class being on the Gateway campus.

Board Member Gerard agreed it was important to get clarity on the subcommittee's participation in the design process. At the next Board meeting, the subcommittee hopes to discuss the design team's vision statement with the full Board.

Board President Bonini asked if the discovery data was a shareable, public report. Superintendent Magee replied that it was not a public document. It was drafted as an internal tool to guide the design team's work. She suggested that when the subcommittee meets again, they can capture the key takeaways from the data to share with the Board.

B. Report Out on the 2024 CSBA County Board Governance Workshop

Board Member Torres reported he attended the 2024 CSBA County Board Governance Workshop featuring some excellent sessions and he met many wonderful county board members. He noted Board Member Gerard attended and participated on a panel, and he enjoyed seeing her in action.

Board Member Torres shared that the letter sent out by the Board addressing the change in governance structure had everyone talking, and people were supportive. He noted that the session focused on questions and answers in regard to CCBE did not go well. The letter was not acknowledged, even though Vernon Billy, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director, CSBA, and the CSBA Board were present. The discussion format limited comments. For example, when county board members listed their topics of concern, the CSBA facilitators simply re-read them. He, along with other county board members, walked out during that part of the session and came back for the next workshop. Board Member Torres expressed his disappointment that an apology was not issued, the letter was not acknowledged, and county board members did not have the opportunity to share.

Board Member Gerard added that overall, the workshop went well. They worked hard to include as many county board members as possible as facilitators and panelists. She explained how the session addressing the transition of CCBE to CSBA was supposed to be productive, but it was tightly controlled. Board Member Gerard noted the upcoming week would be a big week for board meetings across the state with many boards considering the letter and developing similar communications to distribute.

Board Member Gerard agreed it was disappointing the San Mateo County Board letter was not acknowledged. It was disconcerting to be directed to talk to their Regional Directors if they have further concerns. She tried to contact and speak with San Mateo's regional director earlier in the day but had not yet received a response. Board Member Gerard stressed it was important for the Board to talk to others about this, so she has been meeting frequently with other county board members to strategize next steps.

Board President Bonini shared she also reached out to the region representative Alisa MacAvoy by email to show they are making a good faith effort. She asked Ms. MacAvoy whether they are

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

planning to address the letter at the meeting the upcoming weekend. Ms. MacAvoy only indicated she forwarded the letter to the CSBA President, Albert Gonzalez, and Mr. Billy.

Board Member Gerard confirmed they are now moving on to plan the September conference. She underscored CSBA will not allow any county board members on the committees outside of the 15 people in the transition group.

Board Member Torres added that people were upset that the handbook and other resources were no longer available because the CCBE part of the website has been taken down.

C. Suggested Topics for Future Board Agendas

There were no suggested topics for future Board agendas.

D. Board Member Comments

Board Member Alvaro

Board Member Alvaro thanked her fellow Board members for not giving up on the situation with CSBA.

Board Member Alvaro noted the following day she would be attending the *Right to Read* virtual screening by the County Office.

Board Member Alvaro thanked Deputy Superintendent Bultema and his team for a clear and easily understood budget presentation.

Board Member Alvaro congratulated Board Member Lempert for being a Golden Oak Award recipient and Ms. Mouton for her well-deserved Employee of the Month honor.

Board Member Camacho

Board Member Camacho thanked Deputy Superintendent Bultema and his team for the helpful budget presentation.

Board Member Camacho shared that the previous week in his day job he attended the Small School Districts' Association (SSDA) Conference, which was partly founded because they were not sure CSBA could represent the needs of small school districts. They are an independent, non-profit association of school board members in small school districts, including some districts in our county. He also mentioned the California Association of Black School Educators and California Latino School Boards Association are further examples of independent groups. When individuals have felt their needs were not being met through professional development through CSBA, these associations have provided other avenues for Board members to gather. These are not sections of CSBA, but independent, non-profit membership associations.

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

Youth Commission Liaison Zhao

Youth Commission Liaison Zhao provided detailed updates on the efforts of the Youth Commission subcommittees, including the Civic Engagement Subcommittee, the Environmental Justice Subcommittee, the Educational Equity Subcommittee, and the Behavioral Health Subcommittee.

Youth Commission Liaison Zhao reported she attended a Civic Learning Summit in February. One of the attendees was impressed with her remarks as a panelist and introduced her to Assemblymember Gail Pellerin's staff, who scheduled a meeting with Assemblymember Pellerin to share her thoughts on mental health and civic engagement legislation.

Youth Commission Liaison Zhao congratulated Board Member Lempert on his Golden Oak Award.

Youth Commission Liaison Zhao said in her role as Liaison to SMCOE's Environmental and Sustainability Programs she reached out to the superintendent of her district about establishing a sustainability group. The Superintendent replied that she and her Cabinet are interested in starting a sustainability committee in the fall.

Board Member Lempert

Board Member Lempert congratulated Youth Commission Liaison Zhao on her fantastic leadership.

Board Member Lempert referred to the meeting's adjournment in honor of Don Shalvey, former San Carlos Superintendent. He described Mr. Shalvey as an incredible education leader locally, statewide, and nationally, a mentor to many, and a very close friend. Board Member Lempert discussed Mr. Shalvey's accomplishments and roles and noted there are not many people like him. He said we had lost a great one who was special to the education community in San Mateo County.

Board Member Cannon

Board Member Cannon shared he enjoyed Board Member Lempert's keynote speech at the 17th District PTA Founders Day Luncheon. When Board Member Lempert speaks about education, Board Member Cannon noted he walks away charged up and confident that things will get done. It was wonderful to attend with Superintendent Magee, Board President Bonini, and Board Member Gerard and to see many familiar faces from the last 20 years.

Board Member Cannon thanked Deputy Superintendent Bultema and Associate Superintendent Moore for the labor agreements. He remarked how it was a huge accomplishment to complete them.

Board Member Cannon thanked Deputy Superintendent Bultema and his team for the report, stating it is always wonderful to have solid financial news.

Board Member Gerard

Board Member Gerard congratulated Ms. Mouton on her Employee of the Month honor.

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

Board Member Gerard shared she also attended the 17th District PTA Founders Day Luncheon and congratulated Board Member Lempert on his Golden Oak Award, noting she enjoyed his presentation. She described how they recognized different PTAs in the county for their length of service, and some had been functioning for 80-100 years. She described her respect for the PTA and her own participation on previous PTAs.

Board Member Gerard thanked Deputy Superintendent Bultema and his team for the clear budget report, which was appreciated.

Board Member Gerard summarized her attendance at the County Board Governance Workshop, which was well-received.

Board Member Gerard reported she would be attending the May 15 End of School Year Celebration and the May 30 Gateway CTE Showcase, which she was excited about. She will also be attending the San Mateo County School Boards Association (SMCSBA) Quarterly Dinner Meeting the upcoming Monday.

Board Member Torres

Board Member Torres noted he was in San Antonio the previous week in his principal job for the Council for Exceptional Children special education expo, along with several members of his team. He was able to attend many phenomenal workshops.

Board President Bonini

Board President Bonini discussed the SMCSBA Quarterly Dinner Meeting on Monday, to be held at the San Mateo Union High School District Office. Dinner will be catered and served from 5:30-6:15 p.m. and there will be activities, including participation in a dyslexia experience. There will be a debrief with a panel, which will include Dr. Mary Yung, Executive Director, Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA); Pam Bartfield, Director, Curriculum and Instruction, San Mateo-Foster City School District; Dr. Marla Silversmith, Superintendent, Burlingame School District; Jennifer Salma, Decoding Dyslexia CA; and Giselle Hale, parent of two daughters with dyslexia and advocate on this front. Board President Bonini shared she would be moderating and that she organized the event.

Board President Bonini congratulated Youth Commission Liaison Zhao for her outstanding efforts, noting she is well-spoken and her passion comes through.

Board President Bonini congratulated Ms. Mouton on her Employee of the Month honor.

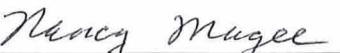
10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m. in honor of Don Shalvey, a former Superintendent of the San Carlos School District who put San Mateo County on the map in 1992 when he led the district's effort to sponsor the first charter school in the state and the second in the nation. Mr. Shalvey believed in the transformational power of a

ADJOURNMENT (continued)

good education and, throughout his career, he committed himself to making a quality education widely available to all students.

Board President Bonini announced the next regular meeting would take place on Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.



Nancy Magee, Secretary
jlp