

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Date: May 15, 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, Hugo Torres

Board Members Absent: Ted Lempert

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 (left at 8:50 p.m.)

1. OPENING ITEMS

A. Call to Order

Board President Chelsea Bonini called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

B. Approval of Agenda

After a motion by Board Member Gerard and a second by Board Member Cannon, the May 15, 2024, agenda as presented was approved by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, and Torres) and one absent (Lempert).

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following speaker provided live public comment:

PUBLIC COMMENT (continued)

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

3. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

- A. May 2024 Employee of the Month Rashami Kaur, Administrative Assistant II, Curriculum and Instruction Services, Educational Services Division

Board President Bonini recognized the May 2024 Employee of the Month Rashami Kaur, Administrative Assistant II, Curriculum and Instruction Services, Educational Services Division, and honored her on behalf of the Board.

4. INTRODUCTION OF NEW/RECENTLY PROMOTED STAFF

- A. Introduction of Lansiné Touré, Coordinator, Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)

Lansiné Touré introduced himself in his new role as Coordinator, Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA).

- B. Introduction of Dhanya Unni, Executive Director, District Business Services, Business Services Division

Dhanya Unni introduced herself in her recently promoted role as Executive Director, District Business Services, Business Services Division.

5. 2024 PRESENTATION TO HONOR VOLUNTEERS IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH, THE RECOGNITION AWARD WINNERS, AND YOUTH COMMISSION LIAISON BETHANY ZHAO

- A. Recognition of 2024 Volunteers from the Court and Community School Sites
- B. Recognition of 2024 Youth Climate Ambassador Program Volunteers
- C. Recognition of 2024 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Fair Judges
- D. Recognition of 2024 Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) Mixed Delivery Planning Committee Members
- E. Recognition of 2024 San Mateo County Tobacco Education Coalition Youth Advisory Group (YAG) Leaders
- F. Recognition of 2024 California Distinguished Schools Honorees
- G. Recognition of 2024 California Classified School Employee of the Year (CSEY) Awardee in the Paraprofessional Services
- H. Recognition of 2024 California Green Ribbon School Award Winners
- I. Recognition of 2024 San Mateo County Outdoor Education Cabin Leader of the Year
- J. Recognition of 2024 San Mateo County Office of Education Student Program Award

2024 PRESENTATION TO HONOR VOLUNTEERS IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH, THE RECOGNITION AWARD WINNERS, AND YOUTH COMMISSION LIAISON BETHANY ZHAO (continued)

- K. Recognition of 2024 Art Takes a Bus Ride Winners
- L. Recognition of 2024 San Mateo County Youth Over Profit Public Service Announcement (PSA) Winners
- M. Recognition of 2023-2024 Youth Commission Liaison Bethany Zhao

Superintendent Magee introduced the 2024 presentation to honor volunteers in recognition of National Volunteer Month, the recognition award winners, and 2023-2024 Youth Commission Liaison Bethany Zhao.

On behalf of the Board, Board President Bonini and Superintendent Magee honored the following groups of volunteers:

- The 2024 Volunteers from the Court and Community School Sites
- The 2024 Youth Climate Ambassador Program Volunteers
- The 2024 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Fair Judges
- The 2024 Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) Mixed Delivery Planning Committee Members
- The 2024 San Mateo County Tobacco Education Coalition Youth Advisory Group (YAG) Leaders

Superintendent Magee and Board President Bonini then honored the following recognition award winners:

- The 2024 California Distinguished Schools Honorees
- The 2024 California Classified School Employee of the Year (CSEY) Awardee in the Paraprofessional Services
- The 2024 California Green Ribbon School Award Winners
- The 2024 San Mateo County Outdoor Education Cabin Leader of the Year
- The 2024 San Mateo County Office of Education Student Program Award
- The 2024 Art Takes a Bus Ride Winners
- The 2024 San Mateo County Youth Over Profit Public Service Announcement (PSA) Winners

Lastly, Board President Bonini recognized 2023-2024 Youth Commission Liaison Bethany Zhao.

5. 2024 RECEPTION TO HONOR VOLUNTEERS IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH, THE RECOGNITION AWARD WINNERS, AND YOUTH COMMISSION LIAISON BETHANY ZHAO

- A. 2024 Reception to Honor Volunteers in Recognition of National Volunteer Month, the Recognition Award Winners, and Youth Commission Liaison Bethany Zhao

The meeting was recessed at 8:12 p.m. for a reception to honor the volunteers in recognition of

2024 RECEPTION TO HONOR VOLUNTEERS IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH, THE RECOGNITION AWARD WINNERS, AND YOUTH COMMISSION LIAISON BETHANY ZHAO (continued)

National Volunteer Month, the recognition award winners, and Youth Commission Liaison Bethany Zhao.

The meeting resumed at 8:36 p.m.

Board President Bonini noted that Item 12D would be addressed immediately after Item 9A to allow Youth Commission Liaison Zhao to speak to Item 12D prior to the Board moving to Closed Session.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 26, 2024, Board Budget and LCAP Study Session Special Board Meeting

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

B. May 1, 2024, Regular Board Meeting

After a motion by Board Member Alvaro and a second by Board Member Gerard, the Minutes of the May 1, 2024, Regular Board Meeting were approved by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, and Torres) and one absent (Lempert).

8. CONSENT AGENDA

B. Receive Staffing Reports

C. Adopt Resolution No. 24-24 Regarding Expenditures of Education Protection Account Funding

D. Adopt Resolution No. 24-25 Authorizing 2023-2024 Budgetary Increases, Revisions, and Transfers at Year End

E. Adopt Resolution No. 24-26 Authorizing Temporary Borrowing ("Bridge Loans") in 2024-2025 for Small School Districts with Average Daily Attendance (ADA) of 901 or Fewer

F. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 24-27 Honoring San Mateo County Office of Education Certificated and Classified Employees

G. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 24-28 Recognizing June 2024 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month

H. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 24-29 Recognizing May 2024 as Foster Youth Awareness Month

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

9. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. Public Disclosure of the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools and the Unrepresented Groups – Confidential Employees and Management Employees – 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 the Unrepresented Groups – Confidential Employees and Management Employees – 2023-2024.

12D. Discuss/Act on Consideration of Board Support for Letter Concerning Girls and Boys State

As noted above, the Board next addressed Item 12D.

Youth Commission Liaison Zhao shared she is one of the delegates to the American Legion's Boys and Girls State Program, as well as one of hundreds of females who do not have the same opportunity in the program as their male counterparts because of gender. She reported the American Legion is a veteran's organization that holds Boys and Girls State in California, which brings together 1,000 students from across the state for a week of learning about the government through interactive activities. The program selects two delegates to attend Boys Nation, the national program, but females are not allowed to participate. Youth Commission Liaison Zhao explained the national program is prestigious where participants learn about civic engagement, meet the President, and get a private tour of the White House and Pentagon. She underscored it is difficult to champion women in politics when they are barred from mock politics and in support of gender equity, asked the Board to support a statement to end this blatant discrimination and consider signing on to her letter.

Board Member Alvaro asked if there were female veterans in the American Legion. Youth Commission Liaison Zhao replied that there are, but they are not proportionally represented in American Legion leadership.

Board Member Gerard shared she appreciated Youth Commission Liaison Zhao bringing this issue to the Board's attention because such discrimination is unfair.

Board Member Cannon asked about next steps. Board President Bonini replied that Youth Commission Liaison Zhao drafted a letter and the Board was being asked to sign onto the letter to show their support.

After a motion by Board Member Cannon and a second by Board Member Gerard, the Board voted to support Youth Commission Liaison Zhao's letter by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, and Torres) and one absent (Lempert).

B. Superintendent's Comments

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT (continued)

Superintendent Magee noted it was special to recognize a Gateway student at the award event earlier in the evening. She thanked those in the Gateway support community for supporting the student including Greg Fry, Coordinator, School Climate, Educational Services Division.

Superintendent Magee reminded the Board about the San Mateo Pride Parade taking place on Saturday, June 8. The County Office will have a contingent walking, and everyone is welcome to join.

Board President Bonini noted Youth Commission Liaison Zhao would be leaving the meeting at the start of Closed Session and asked if she had any comments. Youth Commission Liaison Zhao shared she has been working with the Center for Ecoliteracy, which represents the School Meals For All Coalition. They are advocating for the continuation of California's free school meal program for students because hungry students can't learn if they are worried where their next meal will come from. She emphasized the importance of continuing this program. Youth Commission Liaison Zhao also shared she had met with Senators Josh Becker and Scott Wiener to discuss this issue.

Youth Commission Liaison Zhao said her high school held Therapeutic Tuesday in partnership with the San Mateo County Office of Behavioral Health and Recovery, which provided funding and resources to support the student wellness event. Students engaged with therapy dogs and self-care activities, and took time out of their school day to attend to their well-being.

Youth Commission Liaison Zhao noted in February she attended a conference with the Civic Education Center. Californians for Civic Learning was one of the sponsors and after connecting with one of its leaders, she was invited to join their Executive Committee, which she is excited about.

Youth Commission Liaison Zhao thanked the Board for supporting her American Legion letter.

Youth Commission Liaison Zhao announced the Youth Commission Showcase is Thursday, May 23. The Board should have received invitations, and she would love for them to attend.

Lastly, Youth Commission Liaison Zhao thanked the Board for working with her during the past year and said she was excited to serve for another year.

10. CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL, INITIATION OF LITIGATION PURSUANT TO §54956.9(c): ONE CASE

A. Conference with Legal Counsel, Initiation of Litigation Pursuant to §54956.9(c): One Case

At 8:50 p.m., Board President Bonini announced the meeting would move into Closed Session to engage in Conference with Legal Counsel, Initiation of Litigation Pursuant to §54956.9(c): One Case.

11. OPEN SESSION: REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

A. Report on Actions Taken in Closed Session

OPEN SESSION: REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION (continued)

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 9:50 p.m.

Board President Bonini reported that in regard to Item 10A, the Board took no action.

12. BOARD MEMBERS

A. Discussion of Board Priorities for the 2024 San Mateo County Office of Education Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)

Superintendent Magee provided background information regarding assessing Board priorities for the 2024 San Mateo County Office of Education Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP). The top priorities of those who responded to the survey were support for English Learners, support for students with disabilities, educator professional development offerings, and expanding programming to allow for individualized learning plans.

Board Member Camacho expressed appreciation for this process for gathering feedback, which was a novel idea. Superintendent Magee agreed it provided concrete feedback about what is most important to the Board.

Board Member Torres noted two of the top priorities were relevant in his day job as a principal. His school's incoming enrollment reflects a large demographic of students who are English Learners and students with disabilities.

Board President Bonini asked how formative assessments fared in the requests. Superintendent Magee responded that topic was ninth in the list of priorities. She added that school leadership is working with staff on using formative assessments to inform instruction.

Board President Bonini noted she did not see preparation for a successful transition on the list, which is a goal for most of the students. Superintendent Magee indicated this is one of the prototype designs they are working on through the Gateway Design Process. The list of priorities the Board reviewed was created for teachers and focused on the teachers' sphere of influence.

Board President Bonini asked how the A-G course alignment would apply to teachers. Superintendent Magee explained that A-G course alignment is a systems issue which the school leadership team is working on. Documentation has been submitted for additional A-G course alignment, and once approval is received, that guidance will further inform teachers' instruction.

B. Second Reading and Action on Updated Policies

Superintendent Magee provided information on the second reading of the updated Board bylaw on the Attorney.

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

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

C. First Reading of Updated Policy on Closed Session

Superintendent Magee provided information on the first reading of the updated Board bylaw on Closed Session.

Board President Bonini added the Board Policy Subcommittee reviewed the policy along with Gina Beltramo, Lead Deputy County Attorney. There was some inconsistent language which has been addressed.

D. Discuss/Act on Consideration of Board Support for Letter Concerning Girls and Boys State

Item 12D was moved to after Item 9A – see above.

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

Board Member Alvaro shared the YMCA Partnership Subcommittee met earlier that evening with members of the YMCA, Superintendent Magee, Deputy Superintendent Bultema, Associate Superintendent Kris Shouse, and Allison Collins, Director, Outdoor Education. It was an excellent meeting, and she feels this is the best relationship the County Office has had with the YMCA in a long time. At the meeting, she shared concerns about fire mitigation, and she learned that the San Mateo Resource Conservation District and CAL FIRE are working together with the YMCA. They have a \$5 million fire mitigation grant and are in the process of putting further plans in place.

F. Suggested Topics for Future Board Agendas

There were no suggested topics for future Board agendas.

G. Board Member Comments

Board Member Cannon

Board Member Cannon shared the End of School Year celebration at Gateway earlier in the day was special with a wonderful atmosphere. The evening's volunteer and recognition awards celebration was also terrific.

Board Member Alvaro

Board Member Alvaro had no comments.

Board Member Camacho

Board Member Camacho had no comments.

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

Board Member Gerard

Board Member Gerard noted she was sorry she could not attend the End of School Year celebration because she was attending a meeting for the California County Boards of Education (CCBE) Handbook.

Board Member Gerard informed she would be attending the May Delegate Assembly the upcoming weekend. They will vote on whether to have a Region 14 to consist of county board members who served as the previous Board of Directors and will also elect a Region 14 Director.

Board Member Gerard shared the evening's volunteer and recognition awards celebration was heartwarming and every person so deserving of honor.

Superintendent Magee thanked and expressed her appreciation to Jennifer Perna, Executive Assistant to the Board, and Patricia Love, Executive Director, Strategy and Communications, Office of the Superintendent, for the heavy lift of the event and for coordinating the many details.

Board Member Torres

Board Member Torres said it was wonderful to see the volunteers and recognition award winners, especially the youth.

Board Member Torres reported he attended the Kent Awards the previous Friday to recognize the Safe Routes to Schools Program, and it was an excellent event.

Board President Bonini

Board President Bonini mirrored the comments of the other Board members, noted she would be at the May Delegate Assembly the upcoming weekend, and thanked Ms. Perna for her efforts in the evening's celebration.

Board President Bonini thanked Superintendent Magee for scheduling a Hillcrest site visit the following week, which she is looking forward to. Board Member Gerard noted she was sorry she could not attend. Superintendent Magee reminded the Board that her team would create a schedule of site visits for the upcoming year to allow the Board to plan.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:12 p.m. Board President Bonini announced the next regular meeting would take place on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.



Nancy Magee, Secretary
jlp