

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Date: February 1, 2023

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

Board Members Present: Susan Alvaro (remotely), Chelsea Bonini, Hector Camacho, Jr., Jim Cannon, Beverly Gerard, Ted Lempert, Joe Ross

Board's Attorney Present: Gina Beltramo, Deputy County Attorney

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

Other Staff Present: Kevin Bultema, Marco Chávez, Niambi Clay, Patricia Love, Tami Moore, Lorrie Owens

Youth Commission Liaison Present: Seth Weinfield

1. **OPENING ITEMS**

A. Call to Order

Board President Beverly Gerard called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

B. Discuss/Act on Resolution No. 23-4 Finding that the Ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic State of Emergency Presents Imminent Risks to the Health or Safety of Attendees and that it Continues to Directly Impact the Ability of Members of the San Mateo County Board of Education to Meet Safely in Person

After a motion by Board Member Lempert and a second by Board Member Cannon, Resolution No. 23-4 was unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross) approved, by roll call vote.

C. Approval of Agenda

After a motion by Board Member Cannon and a second by Board Member Alvaro, the February 1, 2023, agenda as presented was unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross) approved, by roll call vote.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no persons wishing to address the Board.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. January 18, 2023, Regular Board Meeting

After a motion by Board Member Lempert and a second by Board Member Ross, the Minutes of the January 18, 2023, Regular Board Meeting as presented were unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross) approved, by roll call vote.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

B. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 23-5 Recognizing February 6-10, 2023, as National School Counseling Week

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

5. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION

A. Receive Report on SMCOE's 2022-2027 Strategic Planning Process for SMCOE School Sites

Kris Shouse, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services Division, presented an update on SMCOE's 2022-2027 Strategic Planning process for SMCOE school sites.

Board Member Bonini referred to the demographic composition and the goal of diversifying staff. She also asked how the team adjusts and accounts for biases in the debriefing. Associate Superintendent Shouse replied that no one is forced to participate on the steering committee but they encourage a diverse membership. She also shared the entire leadership team is collaborating with Dr. Lori Watson on race work, which is embedded in the strategic planning process with school programs. Dr. Watson will join the last two sessions of strategic planning with the sites to go through the plan with an equity and diversity lens.

Board Member Bonini referred to ableism and how it is being thought about. Sarah Notch, Executive Director, Special Education and Instruction, Educational Services Division, spoke of how County Office programs are implementing Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) within each program. Associate Superintendent Shouse added that districts may have done everything in their Tier 1 and Tier 2 supports, but that doesn't mean that Tier 1 and Tier 2 supports cannot be applied to students receiving Tier 3 supports.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION (continued)

Board Member Alvaro recalled her previous experience working within the cycle of “Plant, Grow, Harvest, Plow,” which sounds similar to the Plan, Do, Study, Act process the team is using.

6. BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION

A. Receive 2021-2022 Fiscal Audit Report

Kevin Bultema, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services Division, introduced Sheldon Chavan, Certified Public Accountant and Partner with the firm of Chavan & Associates, LLP, who presented the 2021-2022 Fiscal Audit Report.

Mr. Chavan discussed inquiries as part of the audit process in response to a question by Board Member Bonini. He explained when items are identified through interviews, it is his team’s job to determine what issues have merit. He said the process is taken seriously, and information is not shared with anyone other than the audit team or in sensitive cases, the partners and managers. He noted this year’s audit yielded no results that were significant to the audit or rose to the level of abuse or fraud from any of their risk assessment inquiries.

7. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. Superintendent’s Comments

Superintendent Magee shared she attended a series of meetings in Monterey last week including the kickoff of the California County Superintendents’ year-long training series for new county superintendents. She also reported she continues to represent the superintendents as a liaison with the California County Boards of Education (CCBE).

Superintendent Magee addressed the tragic events that unfolded in Half Moon Bay last week. She called it a serious and sobering experience for which she has no words.

8. BOARD MEMBERS

A. Discuss/Act on Process for Filling Upcoming Board Vacancy

Gina Beltramo, Deputy County Attorney, informed the Board about their options regarding the process to fill the upcoming Board vacancy.

After robust discussion, Board Member Alvaro made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member Cannon, to fill the vacancy by appointment. The motion passed unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross), by roll vote, to approve filling the vacancy by appointment.

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

The Board continued its in-depth discussion about the appointment process, focusing on timelines, approaches to interviews, verification of applicants, review of applications, and other details. Once all thoughts and questions were expressed and considered, Board Member Ross made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member Camacho, to approve the following:

- Having an application due date of February 20
- Reviewing applications at the March 1 Board meeting
- Conducting interviews and making an appointment at the March 15 Board meeting
- Inviting applicants to attend both Board meetings

The motion was unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross) approved, by roll call vote.

Board President Gerard asked how the Board wanted the vacancy publicized. The Board discussed posting in print publications prevalent in the trustee area, using SMCOE social media platforms, sharing with district leaders within the trustee area, and posting on the Board's webpage.

B. Second Reading and Potential Action on Updated Board Policy 5141 Regarding Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions

Superintendent Magee presented a second reading of updated Board Policy 5141 regarding Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions.

After Board discussion, Board Member Cannon made a motion to approve, which Board Member Lempert seconded. The Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross) approved updated Board Policy 5141 regarding Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions, by roll call vote.

C. Receive Update from Board Policy Subcommittee

Board President Gerard shared there was an update from the Board Policy Subcommittee in the Board packet.

D. Discuss Board Participation in a California School Boards Association (CSBA) Good Beginnings Workshop

Superintendent Magee provided information on the Board participating in a California School Boards Association (CSBA) Good Beginnings Workshop. The Board determined they would like to participate.

E. Discuss Board Calendar for Potential Special Sessions

Superintendent Magee provided information on the Board calendar for potential special sessions. She shared the Board members who responded to the availability request were able to attend a

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

Board Budget Study Session on Friday, April 28, 2023, from 12 noon – 1:30 p.m. She asked all Board members to hold this date on their calendars.

Regarding the Good Beginnings Workshop, Superintendent Magee reported that the Board members who responded to the availability request preferred one, six-hour workshop and were available on Friday, May 5, 2023. Superintendent Magee confirmed the next step would be to reach out to the CSBA trainers to check their availability for the tentative May 5 date.

F. Suggested Topics for Future Board Agendas

This agenda topic was not discussed.

G. Board Member Comments

Board Member Lempert

Board Member Lempert shared that getting through a clean audit is a big deal, and he didn't want the staff's hard work to go unnoticed.

Board Member Lempert referred to the events in Half Moon Bay happening so close to home. He recalled how the tragedy at Columbine was so rare at the time, but now it happens too often. Board Member Lempert encouraged all to not lose hope and continue efforts to make things better.

Board Member Alvaro

Board Member Alvaro congratulated Deputy Superintendent Bultema and his entire staff for their work on the Fiscal Audit Report.

Board Member Alvaro reported that she attended the Santa Clara County Office of Education's Capitol Advisors Budget Perspectives Workshop earlier that day.

Board Member Alvaro also referred to the editorial in the Daily Journal newspaper that day by Lorrie Owens, Chief Technology Officer, Integrated Technology Services, Business Services Division, focused on the importance of observing Black History Month. She noted the article was eloquent and thanked Chief Technology Officer Owens for always stepping up.

Board Member Alvaro shared she did not have words for the events in Half Moon Bay other than that she loves her community.

Board Member Ross

Board Member Ross listed the districts which needed to be added to the Board vacancy application include Portola Valley School District, the Woodside School District, the Las Lomas Elementary School District, the Menlo Park City School District, and the Ravenswood City School District.

Board Member Ross expressed appreciation to the entire business team for their excellent job on the Fiscal Audit Report.

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

Board Member Ross shared the concerns of his colleagues about the continued violence which never stops but is still surprising, especially when so close to home.

Board Member Cannon

Board Member Cannon related that the Capitol Advisors Budget Perspectives Workshop was interesting and helpful. He reflected on the many years during recessions when the budget hearings were a disaster and there was no positive outlook for school finance. The outlook may not be as good as it has been over the past few years, but it is still healthy, which is encouraging.

Board Member Camacho

Board Member Camacho shared he was selected for a fellowship for School Board Partners, which works with national cohorts of school board members throughout the country. He is in Cohort 5 with 50 other school board members, focusing on being anti-racist school board policy-makers. Kalimah Salahuddin, Trustee, Jefferson Union High School District Board, will be joining him, along with individuals from across California and the country. He noted it has been wonderful to connect with other school board members and be thought partners on the work, especially from a policy perspective. Board Member Camacho indicated he is excited to bring their conversations to the Board's policy work.

Board Member Camacho thanked everyone for the discussion around procedures for the Board vacancy and expressed hopes to obtain an excellent cohort of applicants for the position.

Board Member Camacho discussed the San Mateo County School Boards Association (SMCSBA) new member training, where a great crop of new school board members from throughout the county heard about the history of public education. It was heavy but necessary to sit in that discomfort, considering the amount of discomfort in which students sit. Greg Land, SMCSBA President, and Sophia Layne, SMCSBA Vice President, planned an excellent event. Board Member Camacho thanked Superintendent Magee for attending and providing the county context in the discussion.

Board Member Bonini

Board Member Bonini was excited to announce the Transition to Independence Fair would take place on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at El Camino High School in South San Francisco. There will be 50 resources at tables, Zumba, a band, and lunch sponsored by newly elected Supervisor Corzo. Everyone is invited to attend or volunteer to help.

Board Member Bonini thanked Alisa MacAvoy, Trustee, Redwood City School District, who serves as the CSBA Board member from the region and appointed Board Member Bonini to serve in Supervisor Corzo's former seat as a delegate for CSBA, beginning in May.

Board Member Bonini noted there are a number of Board Policies which are doubled, as old policies were never retired and sit behind the new ones, which is inconsistent. She expressed hopes to have a general agenda item to retire duplicate and inconsistent Board Policies.

Board Member Bonini shared exciting news from the Behavioral Health Commission regarding emergency psychiatric beds for youth in the county. There are currently zero beds in San Mateo

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

County for adolescent youth and older but there is a grant opportunity, for which the Behavioral Health Commission staff will be applying, to expedite a facility for youth in the county as young as six years old. They are preparing a form/letter to submit along with the grant, if anyone would like to add their support.

Youth Commission Liaison Weinfield

Youth Commission Liaison Weinfield expressed his appreciation for the discussion on filling the Board vacancy and said he looks forward to contributing the youth perspective. He looks forward to the interview process and providing a K-12 student perspective in the discussion.

Board President Gerard


Board President Gerard shared she heard a lot of positive reviews of the SMCSBA new board member training.

Board President Gerard congratulated Board Member Camacho and Board Member Bonini on their appointments.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m, in honor of the most recent victims of senseless gun violence in our state, including in San Mateo County in Half Moon Bay.

Board President Gerard announced the next Regular Meeting would take place on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.



Nancy Magee, Secretary

jlp