

**Sacramento County Board of Education Meeting Agenda at 6:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, September 28, 2021 VIA ZOOM/TELECONFERENCE CALL**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

President Talamantes called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. via teleconference call in Sacramento, California. Board members present were Joanne Ahola, Alfred Brown, Heather Davis, Harold Fong, Paul Keefer, Bina Lefkovitz, and Karina Talamantes. Also present were David W. Gordon, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; Nancy Herota, Deputy Superintendent; Teresa Stinson, General Counsel; Nicolas Schweizer, Associate Superintendent; Jerry Jones and Michael Kast, Executive Directors; Shanine Coats, Director; other staff; and Wende Watson.

Other staff present via teleconference were Brent Malicote and Jacqueline White, Assistant Superintendents; Coleen Johnson, Chief Administrator; Channa Cook-Harvey, Kristin Wright, and Rachel Perry, Executive Directors; and Tim Herrera, Director.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Keefer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

A. No Approval of Minutes

**4. Adoption of Agenda**

Mr. Brown moved to adopt the agenda. Mr. Fong seconded the motion, which carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Lefkovitz – yes

Mr. Keefer – yes

Mr. Fong – yes

Ms. Davis – yes

Mr. Brown – yes

Ms. Ahola – yes

Ms. Talamantes – yes

**5. Official Correspondence**

There was no official correspondence.

**6. Visitor Presentations**

A. General Public

Mr. Herrera read public comments from the following:

Richard Mello

## B. Employee Organizations

There were no requests for presentations from Employee Organizations.

## 7. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Gordon reported on the following:

### LOCAL DISTRICT UPDATES

- Arcohe: Testing is going well. Increased number of staff getting vaccinated. Two outbreaks last week impacted two classrooms. Low number of students enrolled in independent study.
- Center: COVID cases are decreasing. A lot of stress on staff and students. 80% + staff are vaccinated. Others are testing. They are experiencing a sub shortage.
- Elk Grove: COVID cases are decreasing. 79 quarantined/64,000 students. They are not permitting indoor facility use.
- Elverta: No changes. Some positive cases from their last report. District staff is undergoing testing.
- Folsom Cordova: 21,000 students/53 positive cases/630 quarantined. COVID cases among vaccinated and unvaccinated. Testing in progress. 20 students with mask exemptions. Implementing new form to be required from medical provider for students with mask exemptions. Quarantined students are participating in independent study. The district is negotiating compensation for teachers.
- Galt Elementary: COVID cases are decreasing. They have experienced no issues with mask wearing. 85% of Certificated and 50% of Classified are vaccinated. Testing starts October 11.
- Galt High: Nine positive cases/85 quarantined/2,200 students. 28 students are enrolled in independent study. The district is increasing pay for subs. They have no mask exemptions on file.
- Natomas: (Unavailable for this morning's call.)
- River Delta: 89% staff are vaccinated. The district is considering increasing sub pay. 22 students are enrolled in independent study, which is down from 36. They are experiencing staff shortages. They have five positive COVID cases – down from 11 a few weeks ago.
- Robla: COVID cases are decreasing. 12 positive cases. The district has a new agreement for independent study going for ratification tomorrow with an increased pay rate. 77 students enrolled in independent study. They are experiencing staff shortages: Special Ed & subs. 85% staff are vaccinated.
- Sacramento City: 89 positive COVID cases. 80% staff vaccinated. The board will vote regarding a "vaccine mandate" on October 5. The district is experiencing a shortage of staff for independent study.
- San Juan: COVID cases are decreasing. The district is experiencing staff shortages.
- Twin Rivers: COVID cases are decreasing. 88% staff vaccinated. The district is experiencing staff shortages.

### COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

- Our enrollment continues to grow, and we have 18 students enrolled at Hickey and 18 enrolled at Colley.
- Thanks to our CNTS team, we have an updated messaging and alert system that is integrated with our PA system to ensure staff and student safety.

### SENIOR EXTENSION

- Our enrollment continues to grow. We have 339 students enrolled with 31 in our Galt program.
- We have had such a strong response from students about our Visual Artist in Residence that we are adding another session with students and artist Milton Bowens.

## EL CENTRO

- SCOE continues to partner with area Community Based Organizations and Earth Mama Healing has started their work with our students in the hall.
- Currently there are 34 students in the NCCT program and 18 in the Culinary Arts program.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATE

- Classes that were combined are doing well.
- Independent Study classes are also doing well.
- Staffing continues to be a struggle for our paraprofessionals and substitutes. This becomes a major concern when staff are out for long periods of time due to quarantine protocol.
- Staff are doing an outstanding job educating and caring for all students during this challenging time.

## EMPLOYEE COVID TESTING

- We began COVID-19 testing of unvaccinated employees working in El Centro in September, which was mandated by the CDPH for detention centers.
- Testing is being conducted Wednesday afternoons at the SCOE Conference Center. A team of trained SCOE staff is administering the testing. It has gone very smoothly with quick results.
- Beginning October 1, we will begin COVID-19 testing of other unvaccinated employees, per CDPH mandate.
- Beginning next week, several additional testing “hubs” will roll out for our programs/school site located throughout the county.
- Trained SCOE staff will be facilitating these hubs and will be using the BinaxNow rapid test.

## GRAND JURY REPORT RESPONSE

- You are aware we were recently notified by the Sacramento County Grand Jury to respond to their report “Requirement for COVID-19 Vaccination for Eligible Sacramento County Public K-12 School Districts.”
- The report was released on August 26 and a letter was sent to Board President Talamantes dated September 14.
- We are in the process of preparing our response in consultation with Sacramento County Public Health and our local school district partners.

## CDE MENTAL HEALTH WEBINAR

- On Wednesday, September 15, he participated in a webinar hosted by State Superintendent Tony Thurmond for local educational agencies and education partners to discuss how schools can support students, families, and communities by addressing and investing more in mental and behavioral health services.
- He spoke of SCOE’s work to make schools Centers of Wellness in Sacramento County by placing mental health specialists in our schools.
- Also talked about the CalHOPE Student Support project, which is a statewide group we are coordinating, made up primarily of county offices of education. The effort is focused on building school district capacity for social-emotional competency and crisis response.

## LEARN AT LUNCH

- Our Learn at Lunch series is back, in virtual form. We kicked it off September 15 with a fun civics lesson because Constitution Day was September 17.
- It was a fun and interactive session where attendees learned about the history of Constitution Day, the resources to understand the importance of the Constitution, and some fun and interesting

facts.

- For instance, did you know that the Constitution is fairly brief? It is only 4,400 words long and spread out over only four pages.
- It is also the oldest and shortest written Constitution of any major government in the world.
- Many thanks to SCOE's civics experts Frank Pisi and Charley Gilmore for sharing their expertise.

## **8. New Business - Adoption of Consent Agenda**

Action (Consent): A. Approval of Consent Agenda Items - David W. Gordon

Ms. Davis moved, and Mr. Brown seconded adoption of the consent agenda. By such action, the Board:

1. Accepted report on Personnel Transactions
2. Awarded diplomas to Court and Community School Students

Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Lefkovitz – yes  
Mr. Keefer – yes  
Mr. Fong – yes  
Ms. Davis – yes  
Mr. Brown – yes  
Ms. Ahola – yes  
Ms. Talamantes – yes

Jacqueline White, Assistant Superintendent, announced that the following students will be awarded a diploma: Luis Octavio Perez and Maliyah Latrice Walton from Nathaniel S. Colley, Sr. Senior Extension; 2 candidates from El Centro Jr./Sr. High School; Zaymon Dorsey-Thomas, Kurt Hodges, Rykkaya Adysha Marie Jenkins, Hailee Rae Robertson, and Omar Bassam Slekh from Elinor Lincoln Hickey Senior Extension; and Catherine Mary Ross from North Area Senior Extension.

## **9. New Business - Approval of Contracts – Nicolas Schweizer**

Mr. Keefer moved, and Mr. Fong seconded approval of the contracts. Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Lefkovitz – yes  
Mr. Keefer – yes  
Mr. Fong – yes  
Ms. Davis – yes  
Mr. Brown – yes  
Ms. Ahola – yes  
Ms. Talamantes – yes

## **10. New Business - Authorization to Submit Grant Applications/Service Contracts - David W. Gordon**

A. No Grant Applications/Service Contracts

## 11. New Business - Other

Action: A. Public Hearing of Capital College & Career Academy Countywide Charter Petition

President Talamantes announced the public hearing on the Capital College & Career Academy Countywide Charter School Petition. The public hearing is to provide petitioners, parents, school districts, and citizens with an opportunity for comment and input on the proposed countywide charter petition. This Board's responsibility is to hear and consider the charter petition under applicable provisions of the Charter Schools Act, Board Policy, and Administrative Rules and Regulations. Copies of Education Code section 47605.6 and Board Policy and ARR 2400 have been provided to Boardmembers and are posted on the SCOE website.

President Talamantes opened the public hearing at 6:48 p.m.

Keven Dobson presented the Capital College & Career Academy charter petition to the Board. He was allotted 15 minutes to make this presentation. Student Trey Braxton, who has signed a letter of intent expressing his interest in attending CCCA, also presented.

Next, Dr. Nancy Herota, Deputy Superintendent, General Counsel Teresa Stinson, and Nick Schweizer, Associate Superintendent of Business Services, presented SCOE's analysis of the CCCA petition and SCOE's Recommended Findings of Fact to the Board. SCOE was allotted 15 minutes to make this presentation.

Tim Herrera and Shanine Coats read public comments submitted to the Board by the following:

Carmen Luna  
Edward Primasing  
Wendy Nelson  
Timothy Blood  
Kathleen Murphy  
Ramon Hopkins  
Ian McQuoid  
Doyle Smith  
Cameron Hart  
Anette Smith  
James Fritch  
Trent Baker  
Amanda Goldman  
Sapphire Delaney  
Larry Glover-Meade  
Xavier Gomez  
Matt Kelly  
Curtis Ferreira  
Matt Michalak  
Dustin Parciasepe  
Patricia Ramirez  
Jane Einhorn  
Jane Macaulay  
Cecil Sigafoose  
Andrew Tschaplizki and Kelly Melanson

John Pellman  
Antonio Acevedo  
Dan Branton  
Matthew Kelly  
Mirza Lopez and Carlos Valez  
Alexander Hampton  
Nikolas Wells  
Pedro Cortes  
Deborah Maus  
Antonio Newson  
Anatoliy Gavriyuk  
Rena Abduhsalam  
Richard Mello  
Neildon JnCharles  
Ralph Hamp  
Kirsten Spall  
Nicholaus Knight  
Anthony DeVita  
Dominique Gonzales  
Arion Quintana  
Deborah Wilder  
Megan Valles  
Mary Teichert  
Michele Henry  
Alejandro Becerra  
Stephanie Hannah  
Meredithe Peer  
Larry Stiver  
Dustin Phillips  
Nunila Gutierrez  
Tim Cowdrey  
Sua Xaynhalath  
Manivanh Garcia  
Phit Xaynhalath  
Joseph Garcia  
James Ford  
Jose Garcia  
Alexander Heredia  
Ben Fell  
Jonathan Schwartz  
James Hanacek, IV  
Nicole Goehring  
Brooke Higman  
Sherry Balian  
Janelle Ruley  
Scott Binnings  
Patrick Walsh  
Jason Pengel  
Jud Riggs  
Amanda Reynaud  
Jennifer Matulich  
David Murillo

MJ Kiwan  
Craig Sweeney  
Linda Farley  
Jessica Walden  
James Moore

President Talamantes closed the public hearing at 8:31 p.m.

The Board asked questions and deliberated.

Ms. Lefkovitz moved, and Ms. Ahola seconded the motion to adopt the SCOE Recommended Findings of Fact and deny the Capital College & Career academy Countywide Charter Petition. Motion carried 6 ayes, 1 no (Davis), 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Lefkovitz – yes  
Mr. Keefer – yes  
Mr. Fong – yes  
Ms. Davis – no  
Mr. Brown – yes  
Ms. Ahola – yes  
Ms. Talamantes – yes

Mr. Dobson thanked the SCOE staff and Board Members. He stated that he will continue to fundraise and strengthen CCCA's proposal.

Information: B. Board Report - Sacramento County School Based Mental Health Update - Brent Malicote

This agenda item was postponed to the October 19, 2021 Board Meeting.

## **12. Board Reports, Comments, and Ideas**

Reports: A. Board Members

Ms. Ahola commented that she is a charter supporter and would like to see CCCA come back again with a revised proposal.

Mr. Brown stated as an educator he appreciated what education can do for a child. He hopes that CCCA can strengthen its proposal.

Ms. Lefkovitz wondered if SCOE should revisit the charter policies. She does not agree with the one-step process of a hearing and action taken in one night. She asked Ms. Stinson about our policies.

Ms. Stinson responded that the Board's charter policy is robust, detailed, and appropriate.

Ms. Davis expressed that her no vote represented her opinion, and although it differs from other Board Members, she respects everything she heard tonight.

Mr. Fong shared some of the same comments made by Bina. We do need to look at our charter school policies. He agreed that vocational training is needed. He mentioned that Santa Clara County

Office of Education and school districts have countywide charters. A program is needed for kids that do not want to attend college and prefer something more hands-on.

Mr. Keefer thought the process was constructive. He also commented that the CCCA programs need to be equitable and feels there are access issues in the current proposal. He commended the Board for working hard and appreciates everyone on the Board.

Reports: B. Board President

President Talamantes thanked the staff for their work. There are at least 28 different apprenticeship programs that she is aware of. She would like to see SCOE work with these programs to increase workforce development. There is an Executive Committee Meeting tomorrow. The discussion will be regarding Board meetings and staff priorities.

Reports: C. Committees

There were no committee reports.

### **13. Items for Distribution**

A. There was no distribution of the October/November Events.

B. There was no distribution of the October/November Site Visits.

### **14. Schedule of Future Meetings**

A. October 5, 2021

B. October 19, 2021

### **15. Adjournment**

Mr. Keefer moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Ahola seconded the motion, which carried 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 0 abstentions based on the following Roll Call vote:

Ms. Lefkovitz – yes

Mr. Keefer – yes

Mr. Fong – yes

Ms. Davis – yes

Mr. Brown – yes

Ms. Ahola – yes

Ms. Talamantes – yes

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Gordon

Secretary to the Board

Date approved: