

REGULAR MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, April 6, 2021

Members present

Sindy Biederman, Jim Haslip, Jennifer Kresge, Gerald Parrott, Ann Cash, Don Huffman, Janna Waldinger

1. ORGANIZATION

A. CALL TO ORDER

President Ann Cash called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

B. FLAG SALUTE

The salute to the Flag was led by Janna Waldinger.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

President Cash read the instructions for public participation via teleconference.

D. WELCOME VISITORS

Visitors were welcomed to the meeting.

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Mrs. Waldinger. Ayes – Mrs. Cash, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Biederman. Noes – None.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the March 2, 2021 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Mrs. Biederman. Ayes – Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Cash, Dr. Haslip, Mrs. Biederman. Noes – None.

G. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

David Gracia, newly elected to the CSBA Delegate Assembly position, asked the Board for their input on things they are interested in him conveying to the CSBA Delegate Assembly. Mr. Gracia asked to come to the next Board meeting to get input from the Board members on the topics that interest them.

Mrs. Waldinger asked Ellen Sitter to send a copy of the Napa County Office of Education annual Legislative Brochure to Mr. Gracia.

Mr. Huffman commented on the topic of Public Comment procedure and suggested the Board review the procedure.

Mrs. Kresge volunteered to contact the CCBE governance parliamentarian on behalf of the board to get further clarification on Public Comment procedure.

2. PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Schultz reminded the Board that the Annual Audit Report is being presented later in the year instead of in December, because the State amended the deadline for filing audits. Mr. Schultz further noted that based on the Board's interest in understanding the pension liability and its effect on our net position, Michael Ash, CPA, will walk the Board through this topic in the audit report.

- A. Michael D. Ash, CPA, of Christy White Associates, presented NCOE's audit report for the period ending June 30, 2020. Mr. Ash announced the report has been given an unmodified opinion, and this is the highest rating possible.
- B. Approval of Annual Audit Report: on a motion by Mrs. Kresge and a second by Dr. Haslip, the Board approved the NCOE's audit report for the period ending June 30, 2020. Ayes – Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman, Dr. Haslip, Mrs. Biederman, Mrs. Cash, Mr. Parrott. Noes – None.
- C. Sara Sitch, Director Community Programs and Barbara Thorsen, Assistant Director Community Programs, introduced the AmeriCorps team: Hunter Soileau, Statewide Leader; Katie Kline, Recruitment Leader; Shane Staab, Recruitment Leader; and, Lydia Sannella, who works with our volunteer homeless and foster program as a VIP member; and, Chris Meza, Site Supervisor. Ms. Sitch noted that the Expanded learning Program has had the fortunate opportunity to serve students in the COOL Schools and ACE programs.

Dr. Nemko noted how proud the NCOE is of our collaboration with the volunteer center and our staff who provide incredible services to our students, and we wanted to share with everyone the MLK Day project.

Ms. Sitch noted that April 7 is National Service Recognition Day, so we wanted to connect with the Board about AmeriCorps and the NCOE role in AmeriCorps. Ms. Sitch reported on our AmeriCorps Expanded Learning Program and our statewide programs and the services provided to serve students through our COOL School and ACE program in Napa County and Sonoma County. These programs provide a safe and vibrant environment for our highest needs students and give them access to enrichment activities and academic support.

Barbara Thorsen provided an overview of the VIP program and reported that the program has 120 members placed throughout the state who are building a volunteer infrastructure within education organizations, nonprofit, and community programs education facilities. These agencies are left with a foundation for being able to have volunteers augment their programs. Ms. Thorsen noted that this past year, the key areas of service have been in food

security, food banks distribution centers, and vaccination centers as these are very critical areas of need and our funder recognized both of our programs, Expanded Learning and VIP, very highly for this service.

Further, Ms. Thorsen noted that our community partnership was enhanced with our partner from Marin, CVNL, and they very kindly thought of us and wanted our students in Napa and Sonoma Counties to benefit from this fantastic MLK book project they worked on. We are appreciative of Jim Tomlinson, *Manager, Center for Volunteer & Nonprofit*, and his VISTAS and his team at CVNL that provided books and snacks for our 250 students.

- D. Ken Burkhart, Superintendent Pope Valley Union Elementary School District, presented an overview, with slides, on the Current and Future Happenings/Status for PVUSD. The slide presentation showed an update on where the district has been, where they are now, and where they are going in the future. Mr. Burkhart reported on teacher and staff changes, new facilities improvements that include a new multi-purpose building, new restrooms for students, and planned improvements that include a propane school bus replacement program, and a new generator for the school.

Mr. Burkhart further reported that the PVUSD Board adopted a 2021-2022 academic calendar and with the adopted calendar they have extended the school year from 180 days to 185 days. Mr. Burkhart further reported that the PVUSD Board adopted the early transitional kindergarten program this year on a permanent basis.

Mr. Burkhart thanked Dr. Nemko and her staff for their support and continually keeping PVUSD in the loop on what is happening in Napa County.

- E. Nancy Dempsey, Assistant Principal, Court and Community School, provided an overview of the new three-year LCAP Development Progress for the Juvenile Court and Community School thus far. Ms. Dempsey updated the Board on the goals for Camille Creek as well as the progress made in the hybrid learning environment and a typical academic work day for our students. Students are required to do four hours of academic work each day and another hour of elective on-campus or at home. Some of the students are doing their work on Zoom and some are coming to school. Ms. Dempsey provided a snapshot progress report on students earning credits, academic outcomes, and assessments. A big goal is to connect with families. Each family has a case manager and conferences are available as needed. Parent survey results show College and Career Readiness and social/emotional skills are very important to families.

Lucy Edwards, Director, Continuous Improvement and Academic Support, updated the Board on the LCAP goals that align with Camille Creek's goals. Ms. Edwards outlined a broad goal cycle with metrics, actions, and services which included Camille Creek taking a look at some real targeted goals, learning and feedback from their stakeholders, graduating students, and

getting students college and career readiness prepared. Ms. Edwards noted that self-regulation and interpersonal skills are another targeted goal with the idea behind it to build a capacity around self-regulation and interpersonal skills that will serve the students in high school and beyond.

3. CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, AND REPORTS

- Dr. Nemko reported that Napa County is currently in the *orange tier*, but because 4 million people in the at-risk group have been vaccinated, it shifts the whole paradigm. Even if we go to the *red tier*, we will have a lot more freedom than before. Further, the Governor said the whole blueprint may go away by June.
- Dr. Nemko reported that, in line with the lower number of cases in the state, the NCOE has now opened our front door, and we have asked staff to come in for an extra day in the office. Staff has been coming in two days a week, and now they are invited to come back three days a week.
- Dr. Nemko congratulated Julie McClure and Caroline Wilson on the grant they acquired for Camille Creek.
- Dr. Nemko shared excellent news and reported that we've reached an agreement with the Department of General Services and by next week we expect all issues to be resolved. We have 30 buildings parked at the Napa Valley College which the college is anxious for us to take back!
- Dr. Nemko responded to a Board inquiry regarding the farm at Vintage noting that it has not been sold as yet but is in the final stages of being sold. There will be another farm, the current farm is still operating, and students bring in their farm animals.
- Dr. Nemko reported that Tony Thurmond, State Superintendent, called three weeks ago asking if she could speak during a webinar on school openings since Napa schools are open. Superintendent Thurmond asked that we share how we made this happen. Dr. Nemko invited Dr. Mucetti to join her, so both spoke. He then asked if they could do a press conference with him which they did and it turned out very well. Superintendent Thurmond asked Dr. Nemko to put together a document that would help other districts who haven't opened yet. Dr. Nemko provided a three page bullet-point document on the Napa County re-opening process.
- Dr. Nemko explained the process for *Action Item 5.H. Board Approval to Submit Three Conference Proposals to CSBA's Conference in December* and noted that CSBA requires approval of any items submitted. One of the submittals includes free mental health resources that teachers and counselors can use with students.

4. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

A. On a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Board approved Consent Agenda Item 4.A. (Temporary County Certificates). *Ayes* – Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Kresge, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

B. No action was taken on Consent Agenda Item 4.B. (Board Member Compensation).

5. ACTION ITEM

A. On a motion by Dr. Haslip and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Board approved Resolution 2021-6 (Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators) that will allow the Napa County Office of Education to ensure, in emergency situations, that all classrooms are fully staffed with qualified certificated personnel in accordance with Education Code 44258.9. *Ayes* – Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Parrott, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

B. On a motion by Mrs. Biederman and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Board approved the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) Waiver Blanket Statement indicating that the county intends to employ substitute teachers on CBEST Waivers during the school year. *Ayes* – Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Parrott, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

C. On a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Dr. Haslip, the Board approved Resolution 2021-7: of the Napa County Board of Education to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission, Requesting that Napa County Remain in a Single House of Representative District and for Recognition of the Community of Interest of Napa, Sonoma, and Lake Counties. *Ayes* – Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Parrott, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

D. On a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Dr. Haslip, the Board approved Resolution 2021-8: of the Napa County Board of Education to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission, Requesting that Napa County Remain in a Single State Assembly District and in Recognition of the Community of Interest of Lake, Napa, Sonoma, and Yolo Counties. *Ayes* – Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Parrott, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

E. On a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Dr. Haslip, the Board approved Resolution 2021-9: of the Napa County Board of Education to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission, Requesting that Napa County Remain in a Single State Senate District and for Recognition of the Community of Interest of Napa, Solano, Sonoma, and Yolo Counties. *Ayes* – Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Parrott, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

F. The Board approved the recommendation for a 5 percent allowable increase for Board compensation under Education Code 1090. On a motion by Dr. Haslip and a second by Mrs. Waldinger, the Board approved the allowable 5 percent increase with an effective date of April 1, 2020. *Ayes* – Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Parrott, Dr. Haslip, Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Biederman, and Mrs. Kresge. *Noes* – Mr. Huffman.

G. On a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Mrs. Waldinger, the Board approved Change Order 03 for Holly and Associates in Excess of Contingency. *Ayes* – Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Parrott, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

H. On a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Dr. Haslip, the Board approved

to Submit Three Conference Proposals to CSBA's Conference in December. *Ayes* – Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Parrott, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

6. SCHEDULED MATTER

Mrs. Cash asked Mr. Schultz to highlight some of the important legislation going on in the Capitol and in the State government.

Mr. Schultz reported that some of the different Bills that are moving forward at the state level are to expand broadband access, Bills to change rules for layoffs for classified employees, and Bills to authorize county offices of education to appoint student members if the high school petitions them. Further, there is question as to what kind of flexibility or not we will have next year if we continue to offer distance learning to those who want it. There is no specific legislative bills out there as yet, but there is talk behind the scenes. In current law, in order to claim ADA, learning needs to be done in-person.

Mr. Schultz reminded the Board that we can expect to have more change orders on the Holly and Associates contract related to several different issues.

Mrs. Cash asked the Board for their strong support of SB 767 to ensure that all school districts in California receive excellent technology support. The Bill will provide grants of up to three years of support and are eligible for renewal. Mrs. Cash asked the Board to send a copy of the letter from the Board in support of SB 767.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. The Board accepted the Personnel Activity Report as presented.

B. Mr. Schultz, on behalf of Lucy Edwards, reported no complaints under the Williams Uniform Complaints Procedures Quarterly Report.

Mr. Schultz reported there is legislation being proposed to change the Williams Uniform Complaints Procedures identification criteria, which is very out of date. The proposal is to change the identification for schools that have a high percentage of teachers who are not properly credentialed.

C. Ms. McClure updated the Board on the COVID program at the NCOE noting that we have had one positive case in March and one in the month of April. We also had one case that was a false positive.

In terms of vaccination for our student programs, they are above eight percent and overall we are over 75 percent with immunizations, and that number may be higher. We have provided lots of opportunities for the vaccine for our staff, and all of the protocols continue.

D. The Board agreed on June 8 as the date for the second Board meeting in June.

E. Dr. Nemko invited the Board to send a note of thanks to staff by forwarding your comments to Dr. Nemko, and we will send to staff via email. The office will have a small gift of appreciation for staff, as we do every year, on May 5, Teacher/Staff Appreciation Day.

F. The Board was undecided about having the May 4 meeting in-person. Ms. Biederman suggested possibly doing both in-person and virtual.

G. Dr. Nemko gave an update on SB 767 *Support Digital Technology Equity Bill*, to be introduced by Senator Josh Becker of San Mateo, in Item 6.A. Scheduled Matter.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

9. NEXT MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The next regular meeting of the Napa County Board of Education will be on Tuesday, May 4, 2021.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Nemko, Secretary
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Approved _____ Date