

MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Members present

Jean Donaldson, Ann Cash, Janna Waldinger, Gerry Parrott, Jennifer Kresge, Sindy Biederman

Absent: Don Huffman

1. ORGANIZATION

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Sindy Biederman called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

B. FLAG SALUTE

The salute to the Flag was led by Jean Donaldson.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Vice President Biederman reviewed the instructions for public participation via teleconference.

D. WELCOME TO VISITORS

Visitors were welcomed to the meeting.

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Ms. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Agenda was amended and approved to move *Item 7.E. Update Ad Hoc Committee Mayacamas Charter School* after Item G. Public Comment. Ayes – Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman. Noes – None.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mrs. Biederman and a second by Mrs. Waldinger, the Minutes of January 10, 2023 were approved and amended to show *Item 7.D. Update AB 361 Open Meetings* tabled to the February meeting. Ayes – Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Kresge, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Biederman. Noes – None.

G. Public Comment was given.

Item 7.E. Update Ad Hoc Committee Mayacamas Charter School

Dr. Nemko introduced spokespersons Jolene Yee and Lauren Daley prior to their report on the current status of the Mayacamas Charter Middle School.

Ms. Yee reported on the progress of the Mayacamas Charter Middle School and noted that they view themselves as a community school with a strong focus on innovation and highly individualized education.

Ms. Daley updated the Board on the leadership aspect for Mayacamas. She noted that they have hired a Head of School, Cathy Adams, former River School Principal.

They are in the process of hiring a Director of Operations, and core teacher. Ms. Daley further reported on the school's marketing endeavors, salary and benefits packages, finalizing their lease, enrollment update, and teacher recruitment efforts.

Public comment was given.

Mr. Schultz reported that Mayacamas Charter Middle School provided a template MOU that Mr. Schultz and others have reviewed internally as well as reviewed by legal counsel. Mr. Schultz further reported that we have sent comments to Mayacamas Charter Middle School representatives, and Mayacamas Charter Middle School representatives are reviewing the comments. Mr. Schultz will send a marked-up copy to the Ad Hoc Committee for Mayacamas Charter Middle School and, once the Ad Hoc committee agrees, it will then be presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Schultz also noted that we need a policy on charter school oversight, and he is working on sample policies to send to the Ad Hoc Committee for review.

2. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Ms. Biederman provided an overview and introduction for artwork being presented by Ms. Stepney, teacher, Donaldson Way Elementary School teacher.

Ms. Stepney presented her art project, created by her students at Donaldson Way Elementary, for Martin Luther King Day. The art project is titled *I Have a Dream*, and is being loaned to the Napa County Office of Education for display.

- B. Nancy Dempsey, Director, Juvenile Court & Community Schools, and Jeff Scott, Teacher, introduced and congratulated Camille Creek Students of the Month: Rafael Betancourt Tamayo and Jesus Avila Tolento.

- C. Dr. Nemko reported on the partnership between Camille Creek and SpiritHorse Academy. Dr. Nemko noted that our students go to the academy on Friday morning to take care of formerly abused horses by feeding and grooming them. The students also have the opportunity to ride the horses, and noted it's been a transformative experience for many of our students.

Anne Vallerga, Assistant Principal, Juvenile Court and Community Schools, provided an overview of the SpiritHorse program and turned the presentation over to student, Jovani Arguello, who explained why he enjoys the SpiritHorse program.

After a brief reception to honor the students, the meeting resumed at 4:00 p.m.

3. CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, AND REPORTS

- Mr. Parrott reported that he and Mrs. Biederman have visits scheduled for Redwood Middle School, along with a few NVUSD Board Trustees, on February 17; and, a visit to Camille Creek on February 22 for a school tour. Mr. Parrott further reported that he and Mrs. Biederman visited Northwood Elementary

two weeks ago with NVUSD Board Trustees and had an opportunity to tour the school.

- Mrs. Biederman reported that she attended an event at American Canyon High School put on by the Filipino Club.
- Dr. Nemko reported on Leadership Napa Valley Education Day which took place at Camille Creek on March 3.
- Dr Nemko reported that she did a presentation on Ethnic Studies at the ACSA conference.
- Dr Nemko reported that we have the Napa County Reads author visit on March 9 at the Jarvis Conservatory at 6:00 p.m. The book chosen for this year's middle school students is *The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora*. The culinary programs will prepare mango smoothies for the people who come. The author will be in Calistoga in the morning and Silverado Middle School in the afternoon, and the event will be livestreamed at the school.
- Dr. Nemko reminded the Board of the astronaut, Kate Rubins, visit March 28 at Vintage High School during the day (time to be determined) and Napa Valley College at 6:00 p.m.
- Dr. Nemko reported that our group from the Lead to Literacy grant presented, at the Superintendents' Council meeting, the idea about being a *Countywide Literacy For All* county using the Science of Reading. Dr. Nemko noted that all the superintendents are interested, and our teams developing a plan for the training that we are going to do over the summer in Napa. Dr. Nemko further reported that we will bring people up from Chartwell and UCSF.

4. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

B. On a motion by Mrs. Kresge and a second by Mr. Donaldson, the Board approved Board Compensation (Don Huffman). *Ayes* – Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Kresge, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. On a motion by Ms. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Board approved the Juvenile Court and Community School Comprehensive School Safety Plan. *Ayes* - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

B. On a motion by Ms. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Board approved the Juvenile Court and Community School (SPSA) School Plan for Student Achievement. *Ayes* - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

C. On a motion by Mrs. Kresge and a second by Mrs. Waldinger and Mr. Parrott, the Board approved Board Bylaw 9250 Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other

Benefits. Ayes - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman. Noes – None.

6. SCHEDULED MATTER

Mrs. Kresge reminded the Board of the CSBA Governance workshop March 10-11 where Dr. Nemko will present on the Camille Creek Community School.

Mrs. Kresge also reminded the Board of the virtual Legislative Action Week March 14-16.

Mrs. Kresge reminded the Board to review and to keep up with the CSBA's California School News Weekly Updates on the CSBA website. This site provides information on plans to recruit new teachers, registration for Legislative Action Week, how to support African American students, and cyber security.

Dr. Nemko reported on the Digital Education Equity Bill noting the premise is that we are no longer providing funds for county offices of education to train teachers for technology. We are proposing a pilot for four offices to train the teachers to see what difference that would make in students achievement.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

B. Mr. Schultz reminded the Board of the Updated Brown Act Virtual Meeting Requirements as outlined in the School & College Legal Services letter provided in the Board agenda packet.

C. Mr. Schultz reported on the Financial Audit Status noting that we initially requested an extension through the end of January. We have requested another extension to March 31 as outlined in a letter in the Board Agenda packet. Mr. Schultz noted that all fixed assets are secure. The issue is we don't have them clearly and properly reconciled in our new financial system. Mr. Schultz reported that he is confident the matter will be resolved by or before March 31.

D. Ms. McClure presented a First Reading of Board Bylaw 9150 Student Board Members. This item will be brought back to the March meeting for Board approval.

Public Comment was given.

E. Update Ad Hoc Committee Mayacamas Charter Middle School was moved to precede Item 2. Presentations.

8. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION (5:30 p.m.)

The Board adjourned to closed session with respect to: Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Pending Litigation: *Napa Valley Unified School District vs. California State Board of Education.*

9. OPEN SESSION (5:55 p.m.)

10. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION (5:55 p.m.)

The Board reported no action taken.

Dr. Nemko reported that she or her designee will explore a Board training and will report back to the Board with available dates for the training.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS 1) Training CCBE Trustee Handbook; 2) Second Reading Board Bylaw 9150 Student Board Members; and 3) Safe Gun Storage Resolution.

12. NEXT MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The next regular meeting of the Napa County Board of Education will be Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Nemko, Secretary
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Approved _____ Date _____