

**MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Tuesday, April 4, 2023**

**Members present**

Jean Donaldson, Ann Cash, Gerry Parrott, Jennifer Kresge, Sindy Biederman, Don Huffman

Remote attendance: Janna Waldinger

**1. ORGANIZATION**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**B. FLAG SALUTE**

The salute to the Flag was led by Gerry Parrott.

**C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

President Huffman 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 Mrs. Biederman and a second by Mr. Parrott, the Agenda was amended to remove Item 2.B. 2021-22 Audit Presentation and Item 2.C. Presentation – *No Place for Hate*, Kent Boltz. Roll Call Vote was taken: *Ayes* – Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None. Mrs. Kresge not present to vote.

**F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by Ms. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Biederman, the Minutes of March 7, 2023 were approved. Roll Call Vote was taken: *Ayes* – Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Kresge, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None.

**G.** Public Comment was given.

**2. PRESENTATIONS**

A. Gopal Shanker of Récolte Energy presented an overview on the Planned Solar Generation and Micro-Grid Project for Solar Photovoltaic Systems and Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.

**3. CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, AND REPORTS**

- Mrs. Biederman reported that she invited the Board to attend the SpirtHorse event at American Canyon High School on Friday at 9:30 a.m.

- Mrs. Biederman reported that she joined Dr. Nemko for Legislative Week and appreciated being on the panel.
- Mrs. Biederman thanked Dr. Nemko for bringing Kate Rubins, NASA astronaut, to Napa students and the Napa community. Mrs. Biederman reported that she attended the event at the Napa Valley College.
- Mrs. Waldinger reported that she recently had occasion to hear from top cyber security executives and military personnel about the need for students to be trained as early as elementary school, as opposed to starting in college, in the area of cyber security education. The military experts are expecting a job shortage of 38,000 in the cyber security field.
- Mrs. Cash reported that she attended the CCBE County Board Governance conference recently and recommended the CCBE handbook to all Board members as an important reference.
- Mr. Donaldson reported on the CCBE workshop and thanked Josh Schultz for doing a good job educating the Board about the budget.
- Dr. Nemko read a few of the thank you letters from Vichy students thanking her for reading to them.
- Dr. Nemko passed around the thank you cards from the preschool children for the books we gave them over the holidays.
- Dr. Nemko presented a slideshow of the Kate Rubins astronaut event at Vintage High School and the Napa Valley College.
- Dr. Nemko reported that she was in Washington, D.C. for the Federal Advocacy trip where they saw six different public officials each day. Dr. Nemko reported there is a lot more traction over increasing the percentage of special education funding from the federal government.
- Dr. Nemko reminded the Board that a prototype of the plaque for Ed Henderson, former Napa County Superintendent of Schools, is at their places for their review.
- Dr. Nemko reported that she, Julie McClure, and Josh Schultz attended a meeting with Probation at Camille Creek recently. Dr. Nemko noted that our population in Juvenile Hall has gone way down because of the realignment on how they treat juvenile offenders. There are still students who are sent out of county, and they are trying to bring them back to the county. The goal is to make Juvenile Hall look more like a college dorm as opposed to a jail. This discussion will continue.
- Dr. Nemko reported on our Literacy for All Initiative that we will be implementing, along with Chartwell and UCSF, in the next school year. There is a bill that has been introduced which is bi-cultural and the goal is to identify children as early as preschool and to keep them out of special education because of this early assessment. Dr. Nemko further noted that Bob Wise, former Governor of West Virginia, has connected us with the Hunt Institute which does educational policy and is doing work in reading nationally. The Hunt Institute currently has two cohorts and is looking at the NCOE as a third regional cohort to get funding and expertise from the Hunt Institute.

- Dr. Nemko reported that Harry Chang, Director of the STEM program at UC Davis is interested, pending CDE funding, in inviting 20 teachers from Napa County to get a certification in computer science.
- Dr. Nemko reported that Rotary is holding a fundraiser for SpiritHorse in American Canyon on June 17.

#### **4. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

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

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

#### **5. ACTION ITEMS**

A. On a motion by Ms. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Board approved the Resolution Granting a Designated Period for St. Helena Unified School District CalPERS Golden Handshake. Roll Call Vote was taken: *Ayes* - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None.

B. On a motion by Mrs. Kresge and a second by Mrs. Cash, the Board approved the recommendation for a 5 percent allowable increase for Board compensation under Education Code 1090. Roll Call Vote was taken: *Ayes* - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None.

C. On a motion by Mrs. Kresge and a second by Mr. Donaldson, the Board approved, noting to change the date to 2023-24, 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. Roll Call Vote was taken: *Ayes* - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None.

D. On a motion by Mrs. Kresge and a second by Mrs. Biederman, the Board adopted Resolution 2023-07 (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. Roll Call Vote was taken: *Ayes* - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None.

#### **6. SCHEDULED MATTER**

Mrs. Kresge updated the Board on highlights from the CSBA Daily News Roundup: April 4, 2023. Mrs. Kresge referenced the articles to read are: LCFF; Student Behavior regarding discipline; Removing students from Juvenile Hall; Conditions of Children who are homeless; and, Learning Gaps with regard to results of the pandemic.

Mrs. Kresge encouraged the Board to view the website [www.Legiscan.com](http://www.Legiscan.com) to view all the bills pending the California Senate Education Committee.

Dr. Nemko noted on that list is AB 1496 Digital Equity Education Pilot Program which is a bill to provide funding for county offices to provide professional development training to teachers on how to use devices in the classroom.

## **7. INFORMATION ITEMS**

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

B. Mr. Schultz reported there are no Williams Uniform Complaints to report.

C. Mr. Donaldson updated the Board on the Mayacamas Charter School's progress with the school's opening in the fall. The update included staff recruiting, marketing efforts, targeted media run with various publications in April, Facebook ads coming, new enrollment, and accepting registration paperwork. Further, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade is full, and they are working hard to recruit more 8<sup>th</sup> graders. A lot of progress has been made on the operations side to include a food service program and kitchen setup.

D. Ms. McClure suggested the Board talk with students at Camille Creek on becoming a Student Board Member. Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Parrott, and Ms. Waldinger agreed to meet with students at Camille Creek on April 18 at 11:00 a.m. Ms. McClure will send a calendar invite to confirm the meeting date and time. Ms. McClure asked the Board if they would be interested in participating in a training for the new Student Board Member.

E. Update on Ed Henderson conference room plaque was reported in Correspondence, Communications, and Reports.

## **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 Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Nemko, Secretary  
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Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_