

**MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, December 12, 2023**

Members present

Jean Donaldson, Gerry Parrott, Janna Waldinger, Ann Cash
Don Huffman, Sindy Biederman
Remote Attendance: Jennifer Kresge

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 Janna Waldinger.

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

At the request of Mrs. Biederman and a second by Mr. Donaldson, Item B. Students of the Month was moved to precede Item A. Trevor Paige presentation.

At the request of President Huffman Item 7.B. Ad Hoc Committee Mayacamas Charter Middle School was removed from the agenda noting that the function of the Ad Hoc Committee has been completed at this time. Ayes - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Biederman, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman. Noes - None.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mrs. Cash and a second by Mr. Parrott, the Board approved the Minutes from the December 7, 2023 meeting. Ayes - Mr. Parrott, Mr. Donaldson, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Cash. Noes - None.

G. Public Comment was given

The Board elected the following officers for the coming year:

President – Don Huffman – nominated by Ms. Waldinger and seconded by Mrs. Cash. Ayes - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Biederman, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman. Noes – None.

Vice President – Janna Waldinger – nominated by Mrs. Kresge and seconded by Mr. Parrott. Ayes - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Biederman, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman. Noes – None.

Trustee Representative – Jennifer Kresge – nominated by Mr. Parrott and seconded by Ms. Waldinger. Ayes - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Biederman, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman. Noes – None.

H. Establishment of Meeting Time/Date and 2024 Board Calendar

On a motion by Ms. Waldinger and a second by Mr. Parrott, the Board agreed that the date and time of the meetings will remain the same: 3:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month. Board Calendar for 2024 was approved. Ayes - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Biederman, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman. Noes – None.

I. Public comment was given.

At President Huffman’s request, Frank Zotter, Senior Associate General Counsel, School & College Legal Services of California, clarified that Mrs. Kresge’s remote participation was allowable and consistent with legal requirements, because she notified the Board of her need to care for her grandchild, which falls under the “just cause” provision of Government Code 54953. The Board needs to be notified of a “just cause” request before any action is taken at a meeting, but the request does not require Board approval. Mr. Zotter noted that the “just cause” provision of Government Code 54953 may be used by a board member no more than two times in a year.

2. PRESENTATIONS

A. Trevor Paige, CSBA Public Affairs and Community Engagement Representative, provided a presentation and answered questions from the Board regarding potential changes to CSBA/CCBE 2024.

B. Students of the Month: Jovani Arguello Marin and Brian Veiga were honored by the Juvenile Court and Community School staff: Nancy Dempsey, Director; John Hillyer, Assistant Principal; and, Angela Higdon, Dean of Student Achievement.

After a brief reception to honor the students, the Board resumed the meeting.

3. CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, AND REPORTS

- Mrs. Biederman reported on the Veterans Day ceremony at American Canyon High School in collaboration with the American Canyon Troop Support and the City of American Canyon as part of its digital photography contest. There were 12 entries from Ms. Leahy’s art class, and a 94 year old Korean War veteran selected the top three winners. All 12 entries will be displayed at American Canyon High School.
- Mr. Donaldson reported that he attended sessions on Artificial Intelligence at the CSBA conference and learned about the plans shown for AI to be introduced to teaching methods in the schools.
- Dr. Nemko reported that she attended Sal Kahn’s session at CSBA where the Khanmigo tutoring device was presented. Everyone bought books

which he signed, and it was an informative session. Dr. Nemko further reported that Jason Hovi, Director of Business Partnerships, will attend the innovation conference where KahnMigo will offer free subscriptions to KhanMigo for any teacher who comes whose district or principal approves of them using it. Dr. Nemko reported that they are also looking at Amira which is an embedded tutoring device for reading.

- Dr. Nemko reported that she attended the American Canyon Choir Christmas concert, the Napa High Choir that performed at Congressman Mike Thompson's holiday reception, and the Vintage High School choir as well.
- Dr. Nemko reported that NCOE staff met with seven members from the CDE to review regional technical assistance grants for Career Technical Education (CTE). It will take awhile to get the funding, and they will send us the forms that we have to fill out in terms of what the scope of work will encompass.
- Dr. Nemko reported that she visited Bel Aire Elementary on Monday and will visit Donaldson Way Elementary tomorrow.
- Dr. Nemko reported that the NCOE is having a learning session here at lunch time on Thursday to review the DEI survey and data.
- Dr. Nemko reported that staff is very happy about the services the NCOE provides with regard to mental health services including the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and reminded the Board that they have access to all of these services too.
- Julie McClure reported on the regional and statewide work the NCOE and Dr. Nemko have done and will be presenting at a variety of different conferences over the coming months.
- Dr. Nemko reported her concern about the antisemitism associated with University of California campuses and ethnic studies. Dr. Nemko noted that she will be talking with Senator Scott Wiener, who heads the Jewish Caucus, about calling the heads of UC campuses into the state legislature to answer the same questions the presidents of the three elite college campuses were recently asked.
- Dr. Nemko reported that the NCOE is sending home for the holidays, with every preschool child, a gift-wrapped book. In addition, students and their families at Camille Creek will receive gifts as well.
- Angela Higdon, Dean | Student Engagement, reported that Camille Creek is very proud of the Golden Bell award they received at CSBA. Ms. Higdon provided an update on some of the many events Camille Creek students have taken part in including an event called Mad City Money in partnership with Travis Credit Union, students cooking and selling tamales made in the culinary kitchen at Camille Creek, and, as part of the trades tour, a group of students went on a tour to the iron workers, plumbing and steam fitters, and electrical workers unions.

- Mrs. Kresge reported that she attended the Legal Symposium for Experienced Board Members at CSBA and listed the topics presented.

4. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

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

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. On a motion by Ms. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Board approved the Napa County Teacher Induction Program Assurances. Ayes - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Biederman, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman. Noes – None.

B. On a motion by Mrs. Biederman and a second by Mrs. Cash, the Board approved Resolution 2023-23: Outdoor Equity Program with Phillips Elementary School. Ayes - Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Cash, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Biederman, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman. Noes – None.

6. SCHEDULED MATTER

The Board tabled Scheduled Matter to the next meeting.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. The Personnel Activity Report was presented.

B. At the request of Mr. Huffman and with Board approval, the Board removed Update Ad Hoc Committee Mayacamas Charter Middle School from the agenda.

C. Frank Zotter, School and College Legal Services, advised the Board on matters pertaining to the County Board interest in obtaining special legal counsel (Board Bylaw 9124 – Attorney).

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

9. NEXT MEETINGS OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The next regular meeting of the Napa County Board of Education will be held Tuesday, January 9, 2024.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Nemko, Secretary
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Approved _____ Date _____