

MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Members present

Jean Donaldson, Janna Waldinger, Don Huffman, Gerry Parrott, Sindy Biederman, Jennifer Kresge, Nadine Wade-Gravett, Ernie Villalvazo Diaz

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 Jean Donaldson.

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 Mr. Parrott and a second by Ms. Waldinger, the Agenda for the November 12, 2024 meeting was approved. *Ayes* – Mr. Vallalvazo Diaz, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Parrott, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None. Mrs. Kresge not present to vote.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Ms. Waldinger and a second by Mr. Parrott, the Minutes from the October 1, 2024 and October 15, 2024 meetings were approved. *Ayes* – Mr. Vallalvazo Diaz, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Parrott, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None. Mrs. Kresge not present to vote.

G. Public comment was given.

2. PRESENTATIONS

On a motion by Mr. Parrott and a second by Ms. Waldinger, the Board approved moving Item 2.C. before Item 2.B. *Ayes* – Mr. Vallalvazo Diaz, Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Parrott, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Kresge. *Noes* – None.

- A. Carolynne Beno and Roslynn Manansala-Smith, Fiscal Crisis Management Assistance Team (FCMAT), provided an update on completed oversight activities for Mayacamas Charter Middle School and plans for the future months.

In addition, Assistant Superintendent Lucy Edwards provided an update of academic support provided by Mayacamas Charter Middle School.

- B. Camille Creek Student of the Month, Guillermo Mendoza, was tabled to the December meeting.
- C. College and Career Readiness/Napa Valley College Business Fair: Gillie Miller, Director, College and Career Readiness, introduced Anna Eshoo, Program Manager; Fernando Bautista, Program Coordinator; and, Odalis Alanis, Program Specialist who provided information on the program's partnership with the Napa Valley College on a recent youth entrepreneurship fair. Ms. Eshoo described how the youth entrepreneurship program invited students of all ages to create different businesses and showcase their products at the fair to promote entrepreneurship.
- D. Student Mia Alonso Mendez, Unidos Middle School, presented on her quest to move the Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta Statue from downtown Napa to a local park where everyone can view it.

The Board took a short break.

3. CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, AND REPORTS

- Mr. Vallalvazo Diaz reported on current happenings at Camille Creek: the launching of the Camille Mobile; Hispanic Heritage Month celebration; Fall Family night; Fantastic Friday lunch; Fun Friday with root beer floats for students who come to school on time; and the new field that has students excited to play flag football and soccer. Mr. Vallalvazo Diaz further reported that the Spirit Horse program now offers structured lessons to go along with weekly visits.
- Mr. Donaldson reported that he attended an informational webinar for the County Board Member Services.
- Mrs. Wade-Gravett thanked Josh Schultz and Julie McClure for the time they spent familiarizing her with the NCOE.
- Ms. Waldinger congratulated Mr. Parrott for his deep commitment to the student community of Napa County and for ensuring the vulnerable students in our community have a voice.
- Mrs. Biederman reported on the Golden Bell nominations for the NVUSD Wellness Center. As gratitude for her participation as a validator, the district paid for Mrs. Biederman's Golden Bell Ticket. Mrs. Biederman strongly suggested the Board visit the schools and their programs.
- Mrs. Biederman reported on her visit to the science classroom at Back to School Night in American Canyon Middle School.
- Mrs. Biederman reported she attended the Veterans Day ceremony in American Canyon which included the American Canyon Middle School choir, Donaldson Way students reciting the Pledge of Allegiance as well as a patriotism photography contest for the American Canyon High School, with prizes awarded sponsored through Troop Support.
- Mrs. Biederman reported she attended the band competition at Memorial Stadium in Napa.

- Dr. Nemko reported on the Board Trustee openings at Howell Mountain Elementary School District.
- Dr. Nemko reported on her visit to the garden at the Donaldson Way open house.
- Dr. Nemko reported on her visit to Silverado Middle School.
- Dr. Nemko reported she recently met the woman who is the head of the cafeteria at Silverado Middle School and enjoyed hearing about the fresh food the students are being served. Dr. Nemko further reported that she enjoyed a nutritious lunch with the students.
- Dr. Nemko reported that the election will most likely be certified on December 3.
- Dr. Nemko reported that in addition to winning the Golden Bell for Napa Infant Program Plays, we will receive a check for \$1,000 from Caldwell Flores Winters, sponsor of Golden Bell Awards at CSBA, because they think the program is very innovative.
- Dr. Nemko updated the Board on the Literacy Grant and the strategies we are working on to get students proficient in reading. With the work we are doing, we hope to see some legislation this year.
- Dr. Nemko reported that she met the new Superintendent at SHUSD, Jodi McClay. Together they visited the St. Helena Elementary school and enjoyed a presentation by Festival Napa Valley featuring two musicians playing guitar and cello for over an hour.
- Dr. Nemko reported on the SPP-TAP grant for disproportionality and noted that we received an additional \$250,000 from the state.
- Dr. Nemko reported that we signed an MOU with Child Start, so our early childhood center is getting closer.
- Dr. Nemko reported that Nimbus Arts will start the mural for the preschool in March.
- Dr. Nemko reported that Gillie Miller's 8th grade Career fair is March 13 at the Napa Fairgrounds. Her team is making a video that will be shown to the 8th grade students in advance.
- Dr. Nemko reported that Napa County Reads is March 6. The author will be in Calistoga and Silverado, and the event will be streamed. A link will be available for those who cannot attend in person.
- Dr. Nemko reported that we were asked to be a site for the State Superintendent *Move the Needle* conversation. The premise is to identify what it will take to move the needle regarding test scores.
- Dr. Nemko reported that she was asked to speak at the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco on ethnic studies. Dr. Nemko noted that she received an email from a parent in American Canyon who saw the meeting online and wants to talk further about it.
- Dr. Nemko reported that she attended the *If Given a Chance* reception and met a man who was in our Chamberlain program 30 years ago and is now an office manager in a large company in Napa. Dr. Nemko further noted that the former student said he always wanted to be a mentor to young people. He scheduled a visit to Camille Creek and told the students his story and offered any student, who is interested in learning how to drive a forklift, a job if he/she wanted. Dr. Nemko noted that she invited the Board of *If Given a Chance* to come to Camille Creek for lunch to talk about all the opportunities available to the students.

- Dr. Nemko reminded the Board that Mrs. Biederman wanted us to put on an event about human trafficking. Dr. Nemko further reported that we will be partnering with Monarch in Napa for an event they are having in January on this topic.

4. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

A. On a motion by Mrs. Kresge and a second by Mrs. Biederman, the Board approved Consent Agenda Item 4.A. (Temporary County Certificates). *Ayes* – Mr. Villalvazo Diaz, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, 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. Wade-Gravett, the Board approved the School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA). *Ayes* - Mr. Villalvazo Diaz, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Parrott, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None.

Public comment was given.

B. On a motion by Ms. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Wade-Gravett, the meeting dates for December were amended to establish the annual organization meeting on December 16, and the regular Board meeting to be held on December 10. *Ayes* – Mr. Villalvazo Diaz, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Parrott, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None.

Public comment was given.

6. SCHEDULED MATTER

Mrs. Kresge reported that the legislators are on recess and will reconvene December 3.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. The Personnel Activity Report was presented.

B. Dr. Lucy Edwards provided a summary of the annual Williams Visitation Report in accordance with the Williams Settlement Act of 2004.

At the request of Mrs. Biederman, Dr. Edwards indicated that for next year's report we will add the demographic as well as the data findings from the dashboard that trigger a particular school site to be on the list.

C. Mrs. Kresge reported that the ACCBE is the revision of CCBE and noted that their main purpose is to represent county boards of education because the county boards' role and responsibilities are different than districts'. Mrs. Kresge noted

that ACCBE is looking for membership at this time, and we need to make a decision as to whether our Board wants to become a member. ACCBE is ironing out the logistics regarding dues, etc.

- D. Mr. Huffman asked Board Members to express any interest that may have in holding a position of President, Vice President, or Trustee Representative.

Mr. Donaldson expressed interest in the position of Vice President.
Ms. Waldinger expressed interest in the position of President.
Mr. Parrott expressed interest in the position of Trustee Representative.

Mrs. Biederman expressed interest in ongoing professional development for the Board. The Board agreed that this will be a good topic for discussion at the Board Retreat.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: 1) ACCBE Update; 2) Board Retreat Agenda

9. NEXT MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The next regular meeting of the Napa County Board of Education will be held Tuesday, December 10, 2024.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Nemko, Secretary
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Approved _____ Date _____