

MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Members present

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

1. ORGANIZATION

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. FLAG SALUTE

The salute to the Flag was led by Trevor Hudson, ACHS Varsity Football Coach.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

President Waldinger 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. Huffman and a second by Mrs. Biederman, the Agenda for the February 4, 2025 meeting was amended to move Item 2.E. under Item 2.B., with the remaining presentations adjusting accordingly. Ayes – Mr. Vallalvazo Diaz, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Mrs. Biederman, Mrs. Kresge, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman. Noes – None.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Donaldson and a second by Mr. Huffman, the Minutes from the regular meeting on January 14, 2025 were approved. On a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Mr. Donaldson, the Minutes from the January 14, 2025 Board Retreat were approved. Ayes – Mr. Vallalvazo Diaz, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Mrs. Biederman, Mrs. Kresge, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman. Noes – None.

G. There were no comments by the public.

2. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Angela Higdon, Principal, Juvenile Court and Community Schools, and welding teacher Gerid Eastham, recognized Camille Creek Student of the Month, Aneudy "Ricky" Guia Tello.
- B. Mrs. Biederman presented the Proclamation Honoring the American Canyon High School's CIF Division 5-A 2024 State Championship Football Team.

Coach Trevor Hudson, accompanied by the Assistant Coach, two students, and American Canyon High School Principal Karin Hatton, thanked the Board for recognizing their accomplishment.

The Board paused briefly for photos and cake to celebrate the Camille Creek Student of the Month as well as the American Canyon High School Football Coach and team.

- C. Lori Gonzalez, Pathway Coach, College and Career Readiness and Angela Higdon, Assistant Principal, Juvenile Court and Community Schools gave a presentation on Empowering Future Leaders with SkillsUSA and reviewed the program's accomplishments in Napa County.
- D. Roslynn Manansala-Smith from FCMAT presented the Mayacamas Charter Middle School's 2023-24 audit, as well as Mayacamas Countywide Middle School's 2024-25 LCAP and First Interim report.
- E. Bina Lefkovitz, President, Association of California County Boards of Education (ACCBE), gave an overview of ACCBE and its advocacy goals at the state, local, and federal levels.

3. CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, AND REPORTS

- Mr. Vallalvazo Diaz updated the Board on Camille Creek events, including student internships and his involvement in Leadership Napa Valley.
- Mr. Huffman reported that he attended the Fairfield Social Services Foundation event affiliated with the Solano County Unified School District. The benefactors from the foundation are students who are in the court and community schools' system in Solano County.
- Mrs. Biederman reported that she attended American Canyon High School's Academic Decathlon at the North Bay Regional competition. The team's academic performance qualifies them for the State Competition in March.
- Mrs. Biederman reported on the Days of Action Against Human Trafficking event that she attended on January 31.
- Jill Barnes, Director of Mental Health and Wellness, shared her insights on the Human Trafficking event and discussed how the NCOE can incorporate educational awareness into professional learning for staff at the NCOE.
- Mr. Donaldson encouraged the Board to consider serving on a mock board for the American Canyon High School decathlon if they have the opportunity to help.
- Ms. Waldinger reported on a Press Democrat article highlighting Ellyn Elson's efforts to recruit volunteers to support literacy in the schools and noted that they are still accepting volunteers.
- Ms. Waldinger reported that she attended Leadership Napa Valley Day with Barbara Nemko.
- Ms. Waldinger reminded the Board that the Executive Summary from the Board Retreat is at their seats.
- Dr. Nemko provided a report on the day's events at Napa Valley Leadership Day.

- Dr. Nemko reported that our office, thanks to Gillie Miller, Director, College and Career Readiness, is in charge of the State Career Technical Education conference in Sacramento March 2-3. Dr. Nemko encouraged the Board to inform Gillie Miller if they are interested in attending.
- Dr. Nemko reported that Dr. Lucy Edwards, Director, Continuous Improvement and Academic Support, is in charge of the CISC conference, which is the Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee Annual conference for the state, to be held in Anaheim February 19.
- Dr. Nemko reported that the 8th grade Career Fair is approaching.
- Dr. Nemko reported that the students from Calistoga Junior High visited the electrical apprenticeship program where they're learning about apprenticeship programs. A representative from the apprenticeship program will lead a parent workshop in Calistoga.
- Dr. Nemko reported there is a CTE event at the Napa Valley College for high school students to learn more about the programs being offered.
- Dr. Nemko reported that we're trying to expand the Reading Champions program. The program will be starting at Mayacamas next week.
- Dr. Nemko reported that Julie Herdell met with the faculty at Mayacamas to review better ways to engage the students who came to Mayacamas, because they weren't doing well at the district.
- Dr. Nemko reported the upvalley superintendents are meeting to determine how to provide Special Education services for their students. When the district reinstated its Special Education program, it only reclaimed its own special education students.

4. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

A. On a motion by Mr. Huffman 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, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None.

B. Consent Agenda Item 4.B. Resolution 2025-03 (Board Member Compensation for the February 4, 2025 meeting – Gerry Parrott) was approved on a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Mrs. Biederman. *Ayes* – Mr. Villalvazo Diaz, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None.

5. ACTION ITEMS

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

B. On a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Mr. Donaldson, the Board approved the LCAP Mid-Year Report. Mr. Villalvazo Diaz, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None.

- C. On a motion by Mrs. Biederman and a second by Mrs. Wade-Gravett, the Board approved the Napa County Board of Education Literacy for All Resolution 2025-04. *Ayes* – Mr. Villalvazo Diaz, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None.
- D. On a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Mrs. Biederman, the Board approved to rescind Board Policy 0470: COVID-19 Mitigation Plan. *Ayes* – Mr. Villalvazo Diaz, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman, Ms. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None.

6. SCHEDULED MATTER

On behalf of Mr. Parrott who was not present, Dr. Nemko reported that she reached out to Senator Chris Cabaldon, requesting his support for a COLA for CTEIG.

Dr. Nemko reported that she contacted Congressman Mike Thompson to request support for a bill promoting holocaust education in the schools.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. The Personnel Activity Report was presented.
- B. Mr. Schultz gave a brief update on the executive orders issued by the new administration.

The Board requested that updates on executive action changes from the new administration affecting schools and the community be included in future agendas.

- C. Mr. Donaldson reported that the Personnel Standing Committee is still gathering information, and a full report will be provided soon.
- D. Dr. Nemko reminded the Board that they had all received a draft of the legislative agenda and encouraged them to send any advocacy suggestions to Ellen Sitter. Dr. Nemko added that they are collaborating with the California County Superintendents and ACSA on legislative priorities.

Mr. Huffman urged advocacy to ensure that local property taxes designated for education remain in the local community and are not diverted to state expenses.

- E. Ms. Waldinger discussed the possible new design format for the Board agenda to include our logo and mission statement.

Ms. Waldinger and Mrs. Biederman agreed to review the notes from the Board retreat and propose a mission statement. Mrs. Waldinger also requested that the Board Members names be listed on the agenda.

- 8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** 1) Immigration protection update; 2) Impact on new administration's executive orders; 3) Legislative Agenda for review; 4) Board

Agenda format and mission statement; 5) Congratulate American Canyon High School Decathletes.

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, March 4, 2025.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Nemko, Secretary
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Approved _____ Date _____