

**MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Tuesday, August 5, 2025**

**Members present**

Jean Donaldson, Gerry Parrott, Jennifer Kresge, Janna Waldinger, Sindy Biederman, Don Huffman

Absent: Jennifer Kresge

**1. ORGANIZATION**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**B. FLAG SALUTE**

The salute to the Flag was led by Josh Schultz.

**C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Ms. Waldinger reviewed the instructions for public participation via teleconference. Ms. Waldinger reported that board meetings now provide live translation in multiple languages, along with other accessibility options, to ensure that all participants can attend and engage fully.

**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. Donaldson, the Agenda for the August 5, 2025 meeting was approved. Ayes – Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Biederman, Ms. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Wade-Gravett. Noes – None.

**F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by Mrs. Biederman and a second by Mr. Parrott, the Minutes from the regular meeting on July 8, 2025 were approved. Ayes – Mr. Donaldson, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Biederman, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Wade-Gravett. Noes – None.

**G.** Public Comment was given.

**2. PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Newly appointed Napa County Superintendent of Schools, Joshua Schultz, was sworn into office by Napa County District 5 Supervisor Belia Ramos.
- B. Sara Sitch, Director, Community Programs introduced Asha Levert-McDowell, Assistant Director of Expanded Learning, Napa County; and Melissa Moore, Assistant Director of Expanded Learning, Sonoma County, who shared an overview of key accomplishments and highlights from the NCOE Expanded Learning Summer Programs 2025.

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

- Mr. Schultz reported that he attended the Pac 6 regional conference and summarized the presentations as follows:
  - Ken Shelton, author of *The Promised and Perils of AI in Education: Ethics and Equity Have Entered the Chat*.
  - Terilyn Finders, Chief Client Services Officer, AALR Education Law firm, on communication protocols for helping boards develop standards on communications.
  - State Superintendent Tony Thurmond focused on the federal funding matter.
  - State Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire provided a state update.
- Mr. Schultz reported that he had his first all-county superintendents' phone meeting yesterday.
- Mr. Schultz shared that his calendar is quickly filling with meetings, and he has been prioritizing meetings with staff and learning about their work in a deeper way from a distinct perspective.
- Mr. Schultz reported that he attended the Expanded Learning staff training day at Napa High.
- Mr. Schultz reported that he will join NCOE's Early Childhood Services team for their training on Friday.
- Mr. Schultz reported that he plans to join Mrs. Biederman for *Meet Me in the Street* in American Canyon.
- Mr. Parrott invited Mr. Schultz to join him to visit schools in his district.

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

- A. On a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Mr. Parrott, the Board approved Consent Agenda Item 4.A. Temporary County Certificates. *Ayes* – Mr. Donaldson, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Huffman, Ms. Waldinger. *Noes* – None.
- B. On a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Mr. Parrott, the Board approved Consent Agenda item 4.B. (Board Member Compensation) for Mrs. Kresge. *Ayes* – Mr. Donaldson, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Huffman, Ms. Waldinger. *Noes* – None.

### **5. ACTION ITEMS**

- A. On a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Mrs. Biederman, the Board approved Change Orders for the Napa Early learning Center Project. *Ayes* – Mr. Donaldson, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Wade-Gravett, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Huffman, Ms. Waldinger. *Noes* – None.

### **6. SCHEDULED MATTER**

- A. Mr. Parrott updated the Board on the U.S. Supreme Court decision on religious rights. Mr. Schultz shared that Kaitlyn Schwendeman, Attorney for School & College Legal Services reported that, at this time, the U.S. Supreme Court was

ruling on preliminary injunctions, and the ruling is only binding in Montgomery County in Maryland. Mr. Parrott shared a few quotes from Brian Bond, CEO of PFLAG National, and Liz King, Senior Program Director for Educational Equity from the Leadership conference on Civil and Human Rights.

## **7. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- A. The Personnel Activity Report was presented.
- B. Mr. Schultz reported on federal actions affecting education funding for California, noting that the Senate Appropriations Committee approved maintaining funding levels for fiscal year 2026. Mr. Schultz further reported that the California County Superintendents arranged for a call with the U.S. Department of Education to discuss recent developments.
- C. Ms. McClure reported that Board members received information regarding how to access their Press Democrat subscriptions, which are tied to their email accounts. Ms. McClure further noted that Napa Valley Register credentials will be provided to the Board members shortly.
- D. Nancy Dempsey provided a First Reading for Board Policy 5131.8 Mobile Communications Devices for the Board's review. Board Policy 5131.8 is scheduled for a second reading and approval at the September meeting.

Board Member Don Huffman requested that the policy be revised to specify that disciplinary measures include bullying.

- E. Mr. Schultz reported on the Public Disclosure of 2025-26 Collective Bargaining Agreements and Salary Schedules.
- F. Mr. Schultz reported that the new CBO has not been officially announced, but an announcement is expected in the near future.
- G. Ms. McClure reported that a potential student board member was present. Ms. McClure noted that school will begin soon, an application process will take place, and the Board will be presented with a candidate(s) for interview(s) in September.

**8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** 1) Mentis presentation; 2) Mayacamas presentation.

## **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, September 2, 2025.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joshua Schultz, Secretary  
es

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED