

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 7, 2010

Agenda

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of November 16, 2010
- IV. Adoption of Agenda
- V. Official Correspondence
- VI. Visitor Presentations
 - A. General Public
 - B. Employee Organizations
- VII. Superintendent's Report
 - A. Recognition of the January 2011 Employees of the Month
- VIII. New Business
 - A. Selection and Provisional Appointment of Board Member to Fill Vacancy in Trustee Area IV
 - B. Adoption of Consent Agenda
 1. Report on Personnel Transactions
 2. Award Diploma to Court School Student
 - C. Authorization to Submit Grant Applications/Service Contracts and Accept Funding if Awarded; and Approval of Contracts, Positions, and Other Expenditures Associated with the Grants as Outlined in the Proposed Budgets
 1. \$100,797 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance grant from the California Department of Public Health for the period January 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011
 2. \$145,878 Title III Year 2 and 4 Technical Assistance grant from the NCLB, Title III for the period July 1, 2010 through December 31, 2011
 - D. Approval of 2010-2011 Budget Revision No. 1
 - E. Approval of First Interim Financial Report for the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year
 - F. Public Hearing and Approval of Use of Funds Under Categorical Flexibility
 - G. Cancellation of January 4, 2011 Board Meeting
 - H. Second Reading and Adoption of Revisions to Board Policy 2400 – Charter School Petitions
 - I. Second Reading and Proposed Elimination of Board Policy 2500 – Countywide Charter School Petitions
 - J. Informational Item – Revisions to ARR 2400 – Charter School Petitions
 - K. Informational Item – Elimination of ARR 2500 – Countywide Charter School Petitions
- IX. Board Reports, Comments, and Ideas
 - A. Board Members
 - B. Board President
 - C. Committees
- X. Items for Distribution
 - A. December/January Events
 - B. December/January Visits

XI. Adjournment

I. President Fong called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. in the Board Room of the David P. Meaney Education Center, Sacramento County Office of Education, 10474 Mather Boulevard, Mather, California. Board members present were Greg Geeting, Brian Rivas, Brian Cooley, Harold Fong, John Scribner, and Jackie Levy. Also present were David Gordon, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; Martin Cavanaugh, Deputy Superintendent; Teresa Stinson, General Counsel; Robin Pierson, Joyce Wright, Tammy Sanchez, Tim Taylor, Sue Stickel, John Fleischman, Assistant Superintendents; Judy Holsinger, SELPA Executive Director; Effie Crush, Chief Administrator-Human Resources; Tim Herrera, Director of Communications; Gary Barker, SCOETA; Ivan Myrick, CSEA; other staff and visitors; and Carla Miller, Recording Secretary. Trustee Cooley arrived at 6:50 pm.

II. Trustee Rivas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. On a motion by Mr. Geeting and seconded by Ms. Levy, the revised minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of November 16, 2010 were approved. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Cooley was not present.

IV. Mr. Geeting moved to adopt the revised agenda. Mr. Rivas seconded the motion, which carried. Mr. Cooley was not present.

V. Mr. Geeting's report on the CSBA Conference was distributed to Board members and staff.

VI.A. There were no requests for visitor presentations from the general public.

VI.B. There were no requests for presentations from employee organizations.

VII.A. Betsy Bourne, Bill Mullen, Scott Pantalone, Robin Satow, and Fernando Soares, Technology Support/Trainers, CNTS Department, were recognized and honored as the classified employees of the month for January 2011.

Melanie Lee, SH Teacher, Special Education Department, was recognized and honored as the certificated employee of the month for January 2011.

Superintendent Gordon reported on the following:

- Provided the following update on the National Guard program: Mr. Rivas and Superintendent Gordon met with the new Supervisor Phil Serna. Ms. Levy and Tim Taylor met with Supervisor Susan Peters. Supervisor Serna was interested in visiting the program and Mr. Taylor will be accompanying him.
- Provided the following update on the Natomas budget: Tammy Sanchez and Superintendent Gordon will hold two informational community

meetings on Tuesday, December 14, 2010 at 3:30 pm and 6:00 pm. Both meetings will be held at Natomas High School. The purpose of the meetings will be to explain to community members what is involved if the district receives a state loan and is taken over by the state. Joel Montero, Director of FCMAT, will be joining the 6:00 pm meeting. Superintendent Plough will be there as well.

- Thanked everyone who attended the CSBA Awards Luncheon in San Francisco on Saturday in which our LINKS Academy Program received the prestigious Golden Bell Award. Special thanks to Trustees Fong, Cooley, Geeting and Rivas for attending the luncheon and for being part of the event. He also thanked Trustee Levy for attending the conference. The Golden Bell Award signifies excellence in education. Congratulations to our staff for making the LINKS program an award-winning success.
- Congratulated the LINKS program at Palmiter, Hickey and North Area, for being selected to compete in the 2011 Design/Build Competition sponsored by the Sacramento Builder's Exchange. LINKS will have one team representing SCOE. Over 25 high schools throughout the greater Sacramento region will compete in the challenge of designing and preparing construction documents for a 96-square-foot structure. The team then secures project approval from the local building department. Actual construction takes place at the competition site over a two-day period on May 4 and 5 at Cosumnes River College.
- Announced that a former SCOE student, who is away at college, is a scholarship winner. Tabatha Grayson, a former foster youth, who attended Morgan Jr/Sr High School at River Oaks, is now a student at Texas Southern University. We recently received confirmation that the Juvenile Justice Commission is awarding her a \$1,000 scholarship. Congratulations, Tabatha!
- Announced that our Dry Creek Elementary School program for students with severe disabilities hosted a winter holiday celebration on December 3. He personally thanked the administrators and staff who planned the family event. He also wanted to call special attention to some of our community school students who volunteered that day. Seven students from North Area School served snacks, assisted with art projects and offered a "kids-only" spa, complete with face painting and manicures. More than 70 SCOE Special Education students, family members and community guests enjoyed the morning event.
- Invited everyone to the Annual Winter Warm-up on Thursday, December 16, 2010 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. It is a seasonal gathering for employees here at the Mather site. Retirees are also invited. In addition, we will be collecting donations of new or gently used business attire for our LINKS Student Leadership Team of Ambassadors who are

representing our schools and programs. Our thanks to the SCOE Employee Events Team for organizing the event.

- Announced that the 3rd Annual Academic Bowl will be held on Wednesday, December 15, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to noon in the Rosemont High School theater. The Academic Bowl is a scholastic competition for court and community school students. This year's theme is Sustainable Development. There are five schools participating: the LINKS Academy at Anderson, as well as Hickey, Palmiter and Gerber and Daylor High School, an Elk Grove continuation school.
- Invited everyone to the SH Graduation on Wednesday, December 15, 2010 from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Meaney Center to celebrate the graduation of five students. As part of the SCOE Special Education Department, the program provides special education services to students with severe disabilities and students with emotional disturbances, from ages 3-22 years, throughout Sacramento County. SCOE SH programs are located on more than 25 sites/schools in eight school districts within the county.
- This is a reminder that SCOE offices will be closed for the Winter Break beginning December 24, 2010 and reopening on January 3, 2011.

VIII.A. President Fong announced that the Board would proceed with the Interview of Applicants and Selection of a Trustee to fill the vacancy in Sacramento County Board of Education Trustee Area IV. He stated that five candidates who met the residence and other requirements have applied to fill the Trustee Area IV vacancy. This is an open meeting. However, in order to maintain the fairness of this process, the candidates have been asked to not be present in the meeting room during the interviews of other candidates so as not to advantage one candidate over another. The candidates also have been asked to not be present during Board deliberations in order to facilitate the Board's discussion. He stated that there are three pre-determined questions that will be asked of each candidate. These pre-determined questions and a description of the interview format were sent to each candidate in advance. Before the candidate interviews begin, the Board will determine which member(s) will ask which question.

President Fong assigned the questions as follows: Mr. Scribner will ask the first question, Ms. Levy will ask the second question and Mr. Cooley will ask the third question.

The following three pre-determined questions were asked of each candidate:

1. What experiences and strengths would you bring as a member of the County Board of Education?
2. In representing your Trustee Area and the community at large, County Board of Education Trustees must balance their personal beliefs and

values with the interests of various constituencies. How will you balance these competing interests?

3. What do you see as your primary purpose or role as a County Board of Education Trustee?

President Fong further explained that the interview times were scheduled for each candidate using a random assignment process. Effie Crush, Chief Administrator for Human Resources, will introduce each candidate to the Board at his or her interview time. Every effort will be made to make each candidate comfortable. Board members will then introduce themselves to the candidate and begin the interview process. Each candidate will be allotted 15 minutes to present no more than a two-minute opening statement, answer the three pre-determined questions and potential follow-up questions, and make no more than a one-minute closing statement. To assist in the deliberation process, each Board member will complete the preliminary individual ranking form for each candidate by assigning a value to the candidate's response to each question based on a 1 to 10 point system (with 1 being the lowest, 10 being the highest, and the total possible points being 30). At the end of all the interviews, each Board member will submit their preliminary ranking forms to Ms. Crush in order to prepare a composite preliminary ranking. After reviewing the composite preliminary rankings, the Board will deliberate and make an appointment.

The candidates were interviewed in the following order:

Michael McKibbin
Michael Ricketts
Eleanor Brown

A short recess was called at 8:05 p.m. Reconvened meeting at 8:12 p.m.

The last two candidates were interviewed in the following order:

Randy Orzalli
David Sloan

President Fong instructed the Board to complete their preliminary ranking forms.

A short recess was called at 8:50 p.m. Reconvened meeting at 9:00 p.m.

During the recess, each Board member submitted their preliminary ranking forms to Ms. Crush in order to prepare a composite preliminary ranking. Ms. Crush submitted the preliminary ranking information to President Fong who then distributed a copy to each Board Member.

The Board began deliberations at 9:03 p.m.

Mr. Rivas moved to discuss the appointment of the candidates who scored in the first, second and third positions -- Eleanor Brown, Michael Ricketts, and David Sloan. Ms. Levy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

After deliberation by the Board, Mr. Geeting moved that Michael Ricketts be removed from consideration. Mr. Cooley seconded the motion. Mr. Geeting revised his motion to read as follows: Mr. Geeting moved to continue deliberations on the following two candidates: Eleanor Brown and David Sloan. Mr. Cooley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

After further deliberation by the Board, Mr. Rivas moved to provisionally appoint Eleanor Brown to fill the vacancy in Trustee Area IV. Mr. Geeting seconded the motion.

The motion carried 4 ayes, 1 no and 1 abstention based on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Scribner – abstain
Mr. Rivas – aye
Ms. Levy – no
Mr. Geeting – aye
Mr. Cooley – aye
President Fong – aye

Mr. Cooley moved for reconsideration; Mr. Geeting seconded the motion to provisionally appoint Eleanor Brown to fill the vacancy in Trustee Area IV with Ms. Levy changing her vote. Motion carried unanimously.

The new motion to provisionally appoint Eleanor Brown to fill the vacancy in Trustee Area IV carried 5 ayes, 1 abstention based on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Scribner – aye
Mr. Rivas – aye
Ms. Levy – abstain
Mr. Geeting – aye
Mr. Cooley – aye
President Fong – aye

A short recess was called at 9:37 p.m. Reconvened meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Mr. Cooley moved to table items VIII.H. through VIII.K. to a future Board meeting in January 2011. Mr. Rivas seconded the motion.

Mr. Geeting stated that Margaret Fortune was at our last Policy Committee meeting and presented no objection to BP 2400 – Charter School Petitions.

Motion carried 4 ayes, 2 abstentions. (Fong and Levy)

VIII.B. Mr. Cooley moved and Ms. Levy seconded adoption of the consent agenda. Motion carried unopposed. By such action, the Board:

1. Accepted the report on Personnel Transactions
2. Awarded a diploma to a Court School Student

VIII.C. On a motion by Mr. Geeting, seconded by Mr. Rivas and carried 5 ayes, 1 no (Scribner), the Board authorized staff to submit grant applications/service contracts and accept funding if awarded; and approved contracts, positions, and other expenditures associated with the grants as outlined in the proposed budgets as follows:

1. \$100,797 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance grant from the California Department of Public Health for the period January 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011
2. \$145,878 Title III Year 2 and 4 Technical Assistance grant from the NCLB, Title III for the period July 1, 2010 through December 31, 2011

VIII.D. On a motion by Budget Committee Chair Ms. Levy, the Board approved the Committee recommendation to adopt the revised 2010-2011 Budget Revision No. 1. Motion carried unopposed.

VIII.E. On a motion by Budget Committee Chair Ms. Levy, the Board approved the Committee recommendation of the revised First Interim Financial Report for the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year. Motion carried unopposed.

VIII.F. President Fong opened the Public Hearing on the revised Use of Funds Under Categorical Flexibility at 10:19 p.m.

No one came forward. President Fong closed the Public Hearing at 10:20 p.m.

Ms. Sanchez provided an update on the revised Use of Funds Under Categorical Flexibility.

Ms. Levy moved and Mr. Geeting seconded the motion to approve the revised Use of Funds under Categorical Flexibility. Motion carried unopposed.

VIII.G. Mr. Cooley moved and Mr. Geeting seconded the motion to cancel the January 4, 2011 Board meeting. Motion carried unopposed.

VIII.H. President Fong announced that the second reading and adoption of the proposed revisions to Board Policy 2400 – Charter School Petitions was tabled until the January Board meeting.

VIII.I. President Fong announced that the second reading and proposed elimination of Board Policy 2500 – Countywide Charter School Petitions was tabled until the January Board meeting.

VIII.J. An informational item on revisions to ARR 2400 – Charter School Petitions was tabled until the January Board meeting.

VIII.K. An informational item on the elimination of ARR 2500 – Countywide Charter School Petitions was tabled until the January Board meeting.

IX.A. Ms. Levy reported that she enjoyed the CSBA conference especially the session for new board members. She was told there were over five hundred new board members. At one of the receptions, there was a discussion about RAFT resources for teachers. She was informed that SCOE teachers don't use them very much. The materials are wonderful and inexpensive for hands-on learning, especially science and math, and also relate to SCOE programs. She would encourage SCOE staff to use RAFT which is located in the McClellan area. She thanked Tim Taylor for accompanying her to visit Gerber and the Boys & Girls Club. She was able to meet the staff and see the students up close and personally. The programs are very good and helpful to kids. She commented on the meeting with Supervisor Susan Peters that Superintendent Gordon mentioned earlier. She is hoping Supervisor Peters will support us on the National Guard program at the Boys Ranch. She will welcome Trustee Brown at the next meeting.

Mr. Scribner reported that he noticed in the Friday Bulletin a postcard regarding Operation Recognition and expressed that he hoped we could adjourn our meeting in memory and in appreciation of all our service men and women with a special note for the World War II Veterans since today is the anniversary of the day we were tossed into that horror of World War II. He hopes it will be considered at the end of the meeting.

Mr. Cooley reported he also attended the CSBA conference for the first time in five or six years. It was a great conference and he takes off his hat to Mr. Rivas and his colleagues. The sessions were very timely with great speakers in the general sessions. It was a good time to reconnect with CSBA given some of the challenges they have experienced recently. He may not be attending the conference unless he goes on his own dime, which he may do next year. He will be going to a candidate's training and will be a presenter on behalf of EdVoice next week. He enjoyed the process this evening and thinks we added a fine member to our Board. He is looking forward to serving with Ms. Brown next year. He would like the Board President and Executive Committee to consider activating our Legislative Committee. We've had that on the books for some time and now would be a good time to engage in what goes on downtown. He suggested that Mr. Rivas, Mr. Geeting, and himself be members of the Legislative Committee.

Mr. Rivas thanked Superintendent Gordon and Ms. Sanchez for their work with Natomas Unified School District. He asked the Superintendent to inform the folks in the community meeting that Mr. Rivas was regretful that he could not attend due to a previously scheduled trip. He asked President Fong to announce any changes to Board committees in written communication or at a Board meeting.

Mr. Geeting reported that he attended a number of CSBA workshops and provided a report to the Board. He stated that he has PowerPoint presentations and handouts for several of the workshops and is willing to share. He congratulated Eleanor Brown and expressed great appreciation to the other four candidates who made themselves available. He thought it was an outstanding group. He closed with this final thought from the CSBA conference: the workshop on "Districts That Are in Financial Difficulty" impressed him the most. The main sponsor was FCMAT with Joel Montero the major presenter of "Teetering on the Edge". Another impressive presenter was Hazel Wilson

a Trustee in the Vallejo Unified School District and an agent for the IRS (Internal Revenue Service). She is a dedicated and tough school board member. He reported that she said that not all of Vallejo's problems, but a significant share of them, were because the relationship between the district and the county office had become too cozy. She called upon school board members in the audience to be sure their county offices held their feet to the fire and did not let things slide by because that's what will save your districts. He was very impressed with that aspect of that workshop.

Mr. Cooley added that he wanted to personally thank staff, Marty Cavanaugh, Tim Taylor, principals, and teachers involved in receiving the Golden Bell Award. Given these economic times, it's a program that needs to be replicated and one that our districts want to use.

IX.B. President Fong thanked Superintendent Gordon for giving up his slot so that Mr. Cavanaugh could go up with him to receive the Golden Bell Award. They were very strict about having only two people from each district. He also thanked the teachers, staff, and executive staff for putting such a great program together. He did attend some workshops, one of which was on charters. A law firm talked about how you could have independent charters that are independent of the district but the district works in cooperation with the charter to do the things that can create the things you want to see. He went to a presentation where Long Beach Unified School District talked about their male academy as a district-wide attempt to close the achievement gap. He also attended a workshop on Board and Superintendent Relationships presented by Davis Campbell and Barb Cavanaugh. Another workshop was an alternative education program by a school district in the bay area that talked about mental health funds. There is money there that we can tap into for mental health needs for our juvenile hall and LINKS program. It's not the therapeutic model that we think of; it's actually more for resiliency and empowerment of young kids. It was a student-directed type of alternative education program in which the teacher was more of a resource person and guided the students in their endeavors.

Superintendent Gordon stated that Dr. Joyce Wright has been working on obtaining some of those funds. Dr. Wright stated she is hoping to receive a \$1 million contract in January from the County Department of Mental Health for SCOE to work with all of our thirteen districts.

Mr. Scribner asked if that's the money that goes to the mental health services oversight advisory committee. Dr. Wright replied yes, the steering committee is really the advisory. The programs come to the steering committee for approval. Student Mental Health is one of the components. We are very optimistic that it is coming to fruition.

Superintendent Gordon stated that what Dr. Wright was able to accomplish is to finally help our district people become more involved with the county, state and mental health people. He thinks we are making some progress.

IX.C. President Fong stated we had our Budget Committee report earlier. He acknowledged the request from Mr. Cooley to reactivate the Legislative Committee. He stated that Victoria Deane was Chair of the Curriculum Committee and the Chair

position is now vacant and there is a need to fill that position. The current members are Mr. Rivas and Ms. Levy. The Executive Committee met today and finalized the dates and topics for the Board Study Sessions. The dates are January 11, March 22, and May 10, 2011. The topics are Charter Schools, Goal Setting, and Program Funding respectively.

X.A. There was no distribution of the December/January Events item.

X.B. There was no distribution of the December/January Site Visits item.

XI. Mr. Scribner moved to adjourn the meeting in recognition of World War II Veterans and our entry into World War II today by our greatest generation. Mr. Cooley seconded the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Gordon
Secretary to the Board

Date approved: January 18, 2011