

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 19, 2011

Agenda

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
 - II. Pledge of Allegiance
 - III. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 15, 2011
Approval of the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of March 22, 2011
 - IV. Adoption of Agenda
 - V. Official Correspondence
 - VI. Visitor Presentations
 - A. General Public
 - B. Employee Organizations
 - VII. Superintendent's Report
 - VIII. New Business
 - A. Adoption of Consent Agenda
 1. Report on Personnel Transactions
 - B. Approval of Contracts
 - C. No Grant Applications/Services Contracts
 - D. Recertification of ROP Courses
 - E. Establish Meeting Dates for July and August 2011
 - F. Deadline Extension for Approval of MOU for the Fortune School of Education
Countywide Charter Petition
 - G. Board Report – Prevention and Student Services (PASS)
 - IX. Board Reports, Comments, and Ideas
 - A. Board Members
 - B. Board President
 - C. Committees
 - X. Items for Distribution
 - A. April/May Events
 - B. April/May Visits
 - XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings:
 - A. May 3, 2011 – After School Programs
 - B. May 10, 2011 – Board/Superintendent Study Session
 - C. May 17 – Operation Recognition
 - XII. Adjournment
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I. President Fong called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. in the Board Room of the David P. Meaney Education Center, Sacramento Office of Education, 10474 Mather Boulevard, Mather, California. Board members present were Greg Geeting, Brian Rivas, Brian Cooley, Harold Fong, Eleanor Brown, John Scribner, and Jackie Levy. Also present were Martin J. Cavanaugh, Deputy Superintendent and Acting Secretary to the Board; Teresa Stinson, General Counsel; Robin Pierson, Joyce Wright, Tim Taylor, and Sue Stickel, Assistant Superintendents; Judy Holsinger, SELPA Executive Director; Effie Crush, Chief Administrator-Human Resources; Tim Herrera, Director of

Communications; Dan Leonard, SCOETA; Bill Mullen, CSEA; other staff and visitors; and Carla Miller, Recording Secretary.

II. President Fong led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Fong announced the Board will now recess into Closed Session, under Government Code Section 54957(b), to discuss Public Employee Employment: Appointment of Acting Superintendent. The Sacramento County Board of Education has provided public notice that the Board will meet in Closed Session to conduct this business and take action as deemed necessary and appropriate.

Recessed Open Session at 6:06 p.m. Convened Closed Session at 6:07 p.m.

Recessed Closed Session at 6:45 p.m. Reconvened Open Session at 6:46 p.m.

President Fong announced that no action was taken in Closed Session and the Board will be going back into Closed Session immediately at the conclusion of the regular Board meeting.

III. On a motion by Mr. Scribner and seconded by Mr. Geeting, the revised minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 15, 2011 were approved. Motion carried 5 ayes, 2 abstentions (Brown and Cooley).

On a motion by Mr. Geeting and seconded by Ms. Brown, the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of March 22, 2011 were approved. Motion carried 6 ayes, 1 abstention (Levy).

Mr. Scribner wished to state, for the record, that he had requested an agenda item on the budget for discussion and possible action and it has not yet occurred.

IV. Mr. Scribner moved to adopt the revised agenda. Ms. Levy seconded the motion, which carried.

V. There was no official correspondence.

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. Deputy Superintendent Martin Cavanaugh reported on the following:

- Extended well wishes to Superintendent Gordon who is on medical leave.
- Thanked those who attended the April 6 Open House for programs serving our Leo A. Palmiter and Elinor Lincoln Hickey School campuses. The evening was a wonderful opportunity for our students and staff to highlight the great work they are doing at both campuses. Our thanks to

the staff as well as students from our Culinary Arts program for providing the meal.

- Announced that there are two Budget Committee meetings scheduled in the coming weeks. The first one is Tuesday, April 26, 2011 at 1:00 p.m., in Conference Room B here at the DPM Center. The second one is scheduled for Monday, May 2, 2011 at 1:00 p.m., also here at the DPM Center.
- SCOE employees will have students eagerly watching them on Thursday, April 28, 2011 as SCOE students participate in a Job Shadow Day. Students participating in our programs will have an opportunity to observe employees on the job and learn about possible career paths. Our thanks to Debi Lauer, from our WorkAbility Program, for organizing the day.
- The Sacramento County Teachers of the Year – including 2011 SCOE Teacher of the Year Barbara Modlin – will be honored on Monday, May 2, 2011 when the River Cats host the Salt Lake City Bees at Raley Field. If you are interested in attending and being among the many fans to pay tribute to these exemplary teachers, please see Tim Herrera for ticket details.
- The ACE Mentor Program of Greater Sacramento is holding its 4th annual scholarship awards banquet on Friday, May 6 at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center in Carmichael. The program provides scholarships for local students pursuing higher education in architecture, construction and engineering. The event is from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please see Tim Taylor for details.
- California Department of Education has selected four schools in Sacramento County as 2011 California Distinguished Schools. Those schools are: Elizabeth Pinkerton Middle School in Elk Grove, McCaffrey Middle School in Galt, Natomas Pacific Pathways Prep Charter High School in Natomas, and Sutter Middle School in Sac City. A letter of congratulations is being sent to each school on behalf of the Board and SCOE.

VIII.A. Mr. Scribner moved and Mr. Rivas seconded adoption of the consent agenda and Item VIII.B. – Approval of Contracts. Motion carried unopposed. By such action, the Board also:

1. Accepted Report on Personnel Transactions

VIII.B. Approval of Contracts (see motion above)

VIII.C. No Grant Applications/Service Contracts

VIII.D. Curriculum Committee Chair Rivas moved the approval of the revised Recertification of ROP Courses. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII.E. Mr. Cooley moved and Ms. Brown seconded the motion to table Item VIII.E. - Establishing Meeting Dates for July and August 2011 to a future Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

President Fong asked members to submit their July/August vacation plans to Carla Miller prior to considering this item for Board meeting dates and a Board Retreat.

VIII.F. Mr. Cooley moved and Mr. Geeting seconded the motion to extend the deadline to finalize the MOU with the Fortune School Charter until June 8, 2011 and to consider the Fortune School MOU at a Special Meeting on May 10, 2011 which would be instead of the Board/Superintendent Study Session.

Teresa Stinson, General Counsel, stated this item is for the extension of the MOU deadline for the Fortune School of Education Countywide Charter School. It is not a discussion of any substantive aspect of the MOU. On February 1, the Board approved the Fortune School of Education Countywide Charter petition subject to certain conditions. One of those conditions was that an acceptable MOU be approved by April 30. SCOE staff is in the process of negotiating an MOU with the Fortune School representatives right now. The Fortune School has asked for an extension of the April 30 deadline so that we can continue that process. We believe a short extension is appropriate so we can finish the negotiation of the MOU and then bring it to the Board for consideration. Therefore, we recommend that the Board approve an extension of the deadline for approval of the MOU. If the deadline is extended, we recommend that the Special Meeting on May 10 be set as the date for Board consideration of the MOU.

Mr. Cooley said he would support the recommendation of setting aside the May 10 meeting for consideration and discussion of the MOU. He suggested that we set the actual date that the MOU needs to be approved as May 24, which is our second meeting date in May, in case we don't finalize it on May 10.

Ms. Stinson stated there is no May 24 meeting. The next regular meeting would be June 7.

Mr. Cooley asked whether we have only one meeting in May.

Ms. Stinson reminded him that May 17 is Operation Recognition. If we bring the MOU forward on May 10 and the Board approves it, we can move forward and finalize it. If the Board wants revisions or changes to the MOU, she would expect the Board would want us to bring it back to the next meeting, which would be June 7.

Mr. Cooley asked for some flexibility. The April 30 deadline was not a Board meeting but a deadline we established. For whatever reason if we can't get it all done and it needs to come back after May 10 he doesn't want to miss the deadline.

Mr. Scribner urged caution on this timing as we will be close to entering a new fiscal year and in the middle of budget discussions.

Mr. Cooley said he doesn't want to push it up too far because they need to get going.

Ms. Brown said the MOU is an extensive document. She asked if they will have the February 1 Board meeting minutes soon because it is hard to read the MOU and remember everything that happened in that meeting.

Ms. Stinson stated to keep in mind that the document trustees currently have is the initial draft of the MOU. It is being negotiated with Fortune School , and is not the final document. In putting the MOU together, there were a series of motions before the Board; the Board made a series of motions, approved them and also approved the granting of the charter with conditions. The minutes we expect will be ready by the May 10, 2011 meeting. It was an eight hour meeting so it does take a great deal of time to transcribe it properly.

Ms. Brown said it will be hard to read it and have comments to you on May 10. As she was going through she saw some things she couldn't remember had taken place. It would be good to have something before that May 10 due date so that we have something to review it against; otherwise it's a lot of wasted hours on her part to read it.

Mr. Scribner said he would be uncomfortable with having both documents arriving at the same meeting, because one is a record and an acknowledgment by this Board of that record, which is the foundation for the construct of that document. The minutes need to come first. There needs to be time. He is comparing that preliminary document against the recording of the hearing that he received and trying to follow with the preliminary MOU. It's important to have those minutes out in front of this full Board well before that MOU comes before this Board.

Ms. Brown asked Mr. Scribner if he said he had a copy of the recording.

Mr. Scribner replied yes.

Ms. Brown asked whether she could get a copy.

Ms. Stinson replied that she could.

Ms. Stinson said that normally all materials go out ten days before the meeting so the Board would get the proposed MOU and proposed minutes ten days prior to the meeting.

President Fong asked if the minutes would be available in the May 10 special meeting packet.

Carla Miller, Recording Secretary, replied that the goal is to include the minutes in the May 10 packet, to be delivered on April 29.

President Fong said he was just confirming with staff. If there is a request for the minutes of the February 1 meeting, it will be available when the Board packets go out to us.

Mr. Geeting said he wanted to second Trustee Cooley's motion but he only heard half of it. The first half was that the May 10 meeting would be devoted to going through the MOU, which he is fine with. The second part was something related to the date to which we are specifically extending the deadline.

Mr. Cooley said he is making a motion that we extend the deadline to approve the MOU to the June 7, 2011 meeting, though he would like to approve it on May 10.

Ms. Stinson said it was their goal to have it finalized on May 10.

President Fong said before we get to that motion he wants to extend caution in terms of the negotiations. He would prefer to get the MOU finalized and approved as quickly as possible. He has concerns that in order for the charter to be successful, they need to get started doing things per the approved MOU. He would rather have staff negotiate this, get it done, and complete it so we can vote on its entirety on May 10, including the indemnification clause which is one of the obstacles, so that it does not come before this Board for a re-hash and a whole new discussion and motion and get extended to June 8. June 8 would basically provide just under 60 days before the start of school. A lot of things need to get done and he would rather have this MOU negotiated and settled so the charter has roughly 90 days to get up and running. The longer we wait to approve, it may harm the chances of this charter's success. He would respectfully request Trustee Cooley withdraw that part of the motion and we vote on it on May 10. He is more than happy to extend it if we can't get it done at the May 10 meeting.

Mr. Scribner asked if the maker of the motion accepts that request.

Mr. Cooley said he does not. The motion is to give us until June 8 to have it fully approved, but his intention would be that it come to the Board in draft form at the May 10 meeting. He hopes they can consider it and approve it on May 10. In case we don't he wants to be able to extend the date. He respects all the things President Fong stated and he agrees that the sooner they have an approved MOU the sooner they can operationally get the school under way. His goal is to approve on May 10 but in the likelihood that we can't, he doesn't want to be in the position where we have to vote on May 10 to extend it again. He wants to have some wiggle room and that is his motivation behind his motion.

Mr. Rivas said this is one of the biggest decisions that we are going to make as a group and he thinks it's important to get it right and if that requires additional time he wanted to clarify with Ms. Stinson that it's true that both parties have agreed that there's a need for an extension. It's not that one party is trying to leverage the other to get more time to favor a bargaining position.

Ms. Stinson replied that both parties have agreed it's appropriate and that it would be helpful.

President Fong clarified that both parties mutually agree to this extension.

Ms. Stinson replied yes.

Mr. Rivas said for that reason he is in support of Trustee Cooley's motion.

Ms. Brown asked that they get a draft on May 10. She also asked whether the Board will get the final staff recommendation at that time.

Ms. Stinson replied yes.

Ms. Brown said that is why she thinks it's so important to get the February 1 minutes and anything else used in that document early. That way if there are questions or concerns, it can all be cleared up by May 10.

Mr. Cooley said he called it a draft because until it's acted upon it's a draft. It's a final draft recommendation until we act upon it. That is why he used that language.

Mr. Scribner said he understands why you want to use the term draft, but the fact is that this Board has taken a vote with certain parameters instructing staff very specifically to construct that MOU with certain conditions. He would like to make sure that whatever document we receive for consideration in the Board packet is not then revised when we come in to the Board meeting. The document we receive for that meeting needs to be the document we are going to vote on so there are no surprises in any way with respect to any revisions in this MOU that this Board considers. If there are revisions, they can be taken up by the Board itself rather than simply being presented in the document. He wants to make sure we don't have any changes at the last minute.

Mr. Cooley said that, as the maker of the motion, he has no problem with that. He would like to say, before we vote, that the way he interprets the discussion at the end of the meeting on February 1, the MOU would come back to the Board, which it will, but there also some loose ends on the conditions.

Mr. Scribner said there were no reconsiderations requested and no reconsiderations granted at the time the vote was taken.

President Fong said there were no clarifications.

Mr. Cooley said there were. He thinks Trustee Geeting spoke about it at a previous meeting that some of the conditions were unsettled. All the conditions were not finalized. There was still some additional action to be taken on those; we can check the minutes or recording.

Ms. Brown said that's why the minutes are so important, because those elements are critical for that MOU. When you are talking about trying to ensure that we give the charter school all that we can to help them be successful, those elements become very important.

Mr. Geeting said the final bullet in motion 6 states the conditions contained in this motion may be changed or supplemented by future Board action.

Mr. Scribner said that is a separate action from saying this is what we meant to say from being interpreted differently. It requires a new vote and a subsequent redirection.

Mr. Cooley began to speak about the issue of the indemnification piece and Ms. Stinson interrupted and cautioned that she does not want the discussion to get far afield from the extension discussion. In talking about the substance of the MOU, she thinks that is a discussion that's better left for May 10. She clarified that it is just the extension issue that is before the Board. She apologized for interrupting.

Mr. Cooley said the matter we're currently discussing is granting an extension for the MOU deadline. If there's some disagreement on whether some of the other conditions can be brought up for discussion – he's not using the word reconsideration because that's not the way he is interpreting it – that would have to be agendaized separately for the May 10 meeting.

Ms. Stinson said the MOU itself will be before the Board on May 10 and it will be up to the Board to decide whether to approve the MOU. You will have an opportunity to discuss the substance of it at that time.

Mr. Cooley asked whether the issue of indemnification is addressed in the MOU.

Ms. Stinson replied that it is.

Mr. Cooley clarified that we can discuss that within the realm of the MOU.

Ms. Levy said that it sounds like everyone agrees we want to get this done as soon as possible. So her question for Trustee Cooley is why we would need another meeting other than the May 10 meeting.

Mr. Cooley said he intends on voting for an MOU that works for the charter and the Board. In the event that we can't come to a consensus on May 10, he wants to avoid us being here until 3:00 in the morning. He prefers to have it executed on May 10. Our next scheduled meeting is June 7 and that's why he said June 8. Hopefully this won't go into June or further than May 10.

President Fong said you have that choice to do it on May 10. If you need time and the extension to do it on May 10 you don't need to make it part of the motion.

Mr. Cooley said if we can't come to some conclusion on May 10, he would rather not try to fight it out on May 10 to extend it, but prefers the Board say we have already approved the charter and move the extension of the deadline to June 7. He doesn't want to have this same conversation on May 10.

President Fong asked Ms. Miller to repeat the motion.

Ms. Miller read aloud: Mr. Cooley moved and Mr. Geeting seconded the motion to extend the deadline to finalize the MOU with the Fortune School Charter until June 8, 2011 and to consider the Fortune School MOU at a Special Meeting on May 10, 2011 which would be instead of the Board/Superintendent Study Session. Motion carried 5 ayes, 2 noes (Scribner, Fong)

VIII.G. Dr. Joyce Wright, Assistant Superintendent, Director Cheryl Raney, and Pamela Robinson presented a report on Prevention and Student Services (PASS).

President Fong asked Joyce if this is the report that was previously scheduled for the last meeting.

Dr. Wright replied no. The last Board meeting included an item on the After School Programs and that has been rescheduled for our next Board meeting in May. This is an additional report and we do have a guest, one of our mentors, tonight to talk about part of the presentation.

President Fong asked how long it will take.

Dr. Wright replied it's not an extensive report and it would take approximately 15 minutes.

President Fong suggested that we hear the Board report, recess Open Session, Reconvene Closed Session and then return to Open Session to consider items IX., X., XI, and XII. All Board members concurred.

Captain Christian Pebbles, Sacramento Metro Fire Department, reported he is a twenty-nine year fire service veteran. He didn't prepare anything and will talk from his heart. He is a two-time attendee of a continuation school and high school, which means he was kicked out of high school twice. He relates to a lot of the kids that he sees in this program. What this program does is save lives because these kids, without some sort of guidance and connection to an adult or a mentor, are going to veer off to what they know best - their family outside of their family, which are gangs. That's the reality of it because that's where he went. When he had a man in his life show him what he was doing, it changed his life. Not only is it saving these kids' lives, it is saving the community thousands of dollars because these kids are going to end up in jails, institutions, or dead. SCOE project assistant Lindsay Cathcart Pennetta is unbelievable with kids. When he shows up for mentoring everything is laid out for him. He just shows up and participates and has been matched with a young woman who has an interest in becoming a fire fighter. She has quite an extensive history but she wants to change. There's something happening to this young person; she's not going down that road of jails, institutions, or death anymore. Wherever the funding comes from, we need to find some money to keep this going. Fortunately, he was able to mentor during his lunch time to help with the kids. He's now coming in on his days off even when he doesn't have to. The kids at the continuation schools or community schools are smart and they have drive; they just need direction and this program is giving them that direction. He knows that Trustee Levy has participated in it and that should tell you something right there. If you have never been out to these places he suggests you take

a trip out there to see what is going on. Lives are being saved and changed for these kids that don't have it as good as so many other kids do. It's a great program and the people that he has known so far are just unbelievable. They are absolute angels. You should be really proud of the people you have working for you.

Mr. Rivas thanked Captain Pebbles for what he is doing and expressed his appreciation. He asked about the time commitment for mentors.

Captain Pebbles replied he goes one hour a week on Wednesdays. Ms. Cathcart Pennetta has everything laid out. She is strict and the kids respect that. They need that direction and boundaries. You are either in or out. It's awesome. If you lose the funding, find it in your budget because you really are saving some serious lives here.

Ms. Raney thanked Trustees Levy and Geeting who recently began mentoring at Calvine.

Mr. Cooley requested from Chair Fong a reconsideration of Item VIII.F. the Fortune MOU Extension Request.

President Fong asked counsel whether he can grant that request for Board reconsideration.

Ms. Stinson responded that she believes you can.

Mr. Scribner commented to Chair Fong that since Trustee Cooley was a part of the majority vote, he would have standing in fact to request reconsideration of the item.

Mr. Cooley added that he also made the motion.

President Fong added that it requires a second of somebody on the same side.

Mr. Rivas seconded the motion.

Mr. Cooley indicated that he wants to make a minor modification and ask for a revote on the motion he made previously. Before that, he asked Ms. Miller to read the motion one more time.

Mr. Geeting asked whether we need to vote on reconsideration.

Mr. Cooley replied unless there is opposition.

President Fong added that because it's our program he wanted a unanimous vote on the first part of the motion, which was to extend it and consider it at the special meeting on May 10. The second part would be, if needed, an extension to June 8 to complete the MOU. He wants to split this question into two parts so that we don't come off as a split vote in opposition to our own charter on the particular question of a simple extension. He wants a unanimous vote for the extension and then a vote on your own conscience on the June 8 extended deadline, if needed.

Mr. Cooley asked if there were any questions before he modifies the motion.

Ms. Brown asked whether we are proposing a deadline of June 8 or June 7?

Mr. Cooley and President Fong both stated June 8.

Ms. Miller clarified that the meeting is June 7 but the deadline to finalize the MOU would be the next day.

Mr. Cooley asked Ms. Miller to read the motion one more time.

Ms. Miller read aloud: Mr. Cooley moved and Mr. Geeting seconded the motion to extend the deadline to finalize the MOU with the Fortune School Charter until June 8, 2011 and to consider the Fortune School MOU at a Special Meeting on May 10, 2011 instead of the previously scheduled Board/Superintendent Study Session.

Mr. Cooley explained that he wanted to modify the MOU approval deadline to June 8 in case the Board cannot come to consensus on May 10. He didn't want to leave it open-ended because the charter would die if we didn't get it finalized on May 10, similar to how the February 1 vote would be nullified if we didn't move it from April 30. He would love the trustees to vote unanimously to support the charter, even though the charter was a split vote. He asks the Board to vote to extend the deadline to June 8.

President Fong stated that we have a motion on the floor to reconsider Item VIII.F. and asked if there were any other questions.

Mr. Scribner stated that Trustee Cooley was doing fine right up to the end. This is not going to be a vote in support of the charter application. This is not a statement of support for the charter application. This is merely a technical extension and he wants to make sure that is in the record; he will not allow that language to slip through.

Mr. Cooley replied that is fine; it is not the language for the motion.

Mr. Scribner responded that it is in the record.

Mr. Cooley repeated that is fine.

President Fong continued that both items are on the record now, but basically we are reconsidering Item VIII.F.

Ms. Levy asked if we're going to have two votes on this.

President Fong confirmed there would be two votes. We're splitting the question so we can vote on the May 10 extension.

Ms. Levy confirmed that the first question is whether to postpone the April 30 deadline and asked for clarification of the second item.

Mr. Cooley stated that the way he interpreted it was there was a vote potentially to allow for this reconsideration. He interpreted that if there's no objection to the reconsideration, a vote doesn't need to occur.

Mr. Scribner stated that Trustee Cooley could possibly have an objection on that so he should perfect the language.

Mr. Cooley stated that there is no objection, the first vote would be on whether we want to reconsider. The second vote would be on his newly amended motion regarding adding the language "if needed," which was the inference of the motion in the first place. Adding the language "if needed" speaks to the issue of reviewing the MOU on June 7 or extending the deadline to June 8 if we can't come to consensus on May 10. He doesn't see why that cannot be done on one vote.

President Fong explained that he wanted a vote splitting the question of the June 8 and May 10 dates. That was his request to Trustee Cooley about the reconsideration so that the question can be split to vote on an extension from April 30 to May 10. Then, if needed, the second vote would be extending the deadline for this charter's MOU to June 8.

Mr. Cooley asked if that would be a second to his motion.

President Fong responded that it would be two different motions.

Mr. Cooley asked whether President Fong would vote to approve both.

President Fong responded that he would probably not, but he would vote for the first one.

Trustees Cooley and Rivas withdrew their motion for reconsideration.

President Fong recessed Open Session at 8:00 p.m. Reconvened Closed Session at 8:05 p.m. Adjourned Closed Session at 9:35 p.m. Reconvened Open Session at 10:07 p.m.

President Fong announced that the following action was taken in Closed Session: By unanimous vote, the Board acted to appoint Sue Stickel as Interim Superintendent through May 15, 2011 at which time Sue Stickel will become Deputy Superintendent as part of the previously announced plan. The Board believes that this will provide the greatest continuity for the organization.

IX.A. Mr. Geeting thanked the presenters for the evening and Captain Pebbles for making a special effort to be here this evening. It was greatly appreciated.

Mr. Rivas – no report.

Mr. Cooley echoed what Trustee Geeting said and thanked staff for the presentation on the PASS program this evening.

Ms. Brown reported that she attended two functions that she found rewarding. One was the curriculum breakfast and it was an exceptional opportunity to see a variety of successful schools. They had Mario Penman from Robla Elementary School and John Yost from Washington Academic Middle School down by Fresno in Sanger and Charlotte Phinzy from Franklin High School in Elk Grove. It was an exciting day to see successful schools who talk about what they do as a way of life. It was also interesting to see that the same elements pop up. They talk about respect, relationships and results as the framework within which they work and it's consistent. It's truly very exciting to see that there are successful schools out there that we can encourage people to visit in all districts and hopefully take note about those elements that make them successful and how all of these were from low achievement gap type situations. They also had Margaret Fortune and her people talk about PS7 as a model for closing the achievement gap. They are talking about the same things: respect, standards, results and how to use data in order to truly help students move forward. It's an exciting opportunity for a lot of schools. The place was full but she's sorry that it wasn't overfull. When we hear people say we are doing that and the students are not achieving then these models would be very helpful for them. It was very well done. Sue talked about transitioning to the common core standards. She was very impressed with the implementation plan. She will get together with Sue to find out more so she understands it better. It's very good to see that there is a plan to help teachers and districts learn how to look at what they are doing and incorporate that. She attended the STAND UP meeting with Kevin Johnson where Michelle Rhee echoed what she heard at the curriculum meeting. She thinks we are all on the same track and it's very good to see people helping each other. She is on a board with a new group called the Sheriffs Community Impact Program and Sheriff Scott Jones is chairing that. They are working in the Encina, Salk, and Greer area. Their purpose is to eliminate crime with youngsters. What we heard tonight would be a tremendous support to that group. She was excited to see they are starting with tutoring and instruction for 3rd graders. There are a lot of exciting things going on.

Mr. Scribner reported that at the end of this week he will be gone because he will be touring universities with his youngest. They will be in Southern California and will also tour Dodger Stadium.

Ms. Levy appreciated the PASS presentation and the LINKS mentoring really is everything that you heard Christian and the others talk about. She has really enjoyed it and is looking forward to doing it again next year. It's very, very well done. Sometimes one person can really make a difference in the lives of kids from difficult homes. She encourages others to do it if they can. She went on a visit, thanks to Robin and her department, to the Hillsdale Preschool. It was very fun to see how some of our SCOE kids are integrated into Head Start. She did a home visit to a family with a two year old who is hard of hearing. He has some hearing aids that are working but the speech therapist, Joyce Suggs, and translator - because the parents only speak Spanish - are teaching this kid essentially three languages: English, Spanish and how to sign. It's so impressive. It's very inspiring. She also volunteered at RAFT (Resource Area for Teachers). They call it the COSTCO for teachers. They take donated supplies and equipment from businesses and it's available for teachers to come in and get supplies at a low cost. They also put together curriculum materials, games, and packets. Our

group put packets together for kindergartens to teach them letters and numbers. It was really fun and worthwhile. She hopes our Superintendent is feeling better. She was very sorry to learn about his illness and she wished him all the best.

IX.B. President Fong reported he attended the open house at Palmiter. The part that he likes the best is talking to parents and students. The feedback from them helps validate what we do as administrators, teachers, and other support staff. He can't say enough about the good comments that parents and students have said about the program we operate. He hopes we can create that same environment at each one of our community schools. He thanked staff for the presentation on the mentoring. For the record, regarding the reconsideration on the extension of the Fortune Charter, he would have voted for the extension up to May 10. The other part he thought we gave away a bargaining position so just for the record he wants people to know that. He would have voted for it and thinks that John would have too and it would have been unanimous to support our charter school. It really saddens him that we are going to lay off employees in these very difficult times. He wants staff to know that as Board members we have done as much as we can to prevent these things from happening but the economy is driving this to make sure every school district balances their budget. He was a teacher at one point in his life and has received a pink slip several times and each time he came back but the last time he didn't come back. He knows about the uncertainty and how it can unravel your own personal self-worth. He hopes that people look at this as not a reflection of who you are as an individual, because each and every one of our employees is a great individual, and do their best for SCOE and students and the outside community. He thinks his Trustees share that opinion. He wished Superintendent Gordon a speedy recovery.

IX.C. There were no committee reports.

X.A. There was no distribution of the April/May Events item.

X.B. There was no distribution of the April/May Site Visits item.

XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings:

A. May 3, 2011 – After School Programs

B. May 10, 2011 – Board/Superintendent Study Session or Special Meeting on May 10 considering the Fortune MOU

C. May 17, 2011 – Operation Recognition

XII. Mr. Scribner moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Cooley seconded the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Stichel
Acting Secretary to the Board

Date approved: June 7, 2011