

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 3, 2011

Agenda

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
 - II. Pledge of Allegiance
 - III. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 5, 2011
 - IV. Adoption of Agenda
 - V. Official Correspondence
 - VI. Visitor Presentations
 - A. General Public
 - B. Employee Organizations
 - VII. Superintendent's Report
 - A. Recognition of the June 2011 Employees of the Month
 - VIII. New Business
 - A. Adoption of Consent Agenda
 1. Report on Personnel Transactions
 2. Award Diplomas to Special Education Students
 - B. Approval of Contracts
 - 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. \$77,114 Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) grant from the California Department of Education for the period July 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011
 - D. Adopt Resolution No. 11-11 – Declaring May 11, 2011 as California Day of the Teacher
 - E. Adopt Resolution No. 11-12 – Declaring May 15-21, 2011 as Classified School Employees' Week
 - F. First Reading of Revisions to Board Bylaw 8000 (Renumbered 9300) – Parliamentary Procedures
 - G. First Reading of Revisions to Board Bylaw 8340 (Renumbered 9340) – Adjourned And/Or Continued Meetings
 - H. Board Report – After School Programs
 - IX. Board Reports, Comments, and Ideas
 - A. Board Members
 - B. Board President
 - C. Committees
 - X. Items for Distribution
 - A. May/June Events
 - B. May/June Visits
 - XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings:
 - A. May 10, 2011 – Special Board Meeting – Fortune Charter School MOU
 - B. May 17, 2011 – Operation Recognition
 - XII. Adjournment
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I. President Fong called the meeting to order at 6:30 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 Sue Stickel, Interim Superintendent and Acting Secretary to the Board; Teresa Stinson, General Counsel; Robin Pierson, Joyce Wright, Tammy Sanchez, Tim Taylor, and John Fleischman, Assistant Superintendents; Judy Holsinger, SELPA Executive Director; Effie Crush, Chief Administrator-Human Resources; Tim Herrera, Director of Communications; Gary Barker, SCOETA; Bill Mullen, CSEA; other staff and visitors; and Carla Miller, Recording Secretary. Trustees Cooley and Scribner were not present at the time of the roll call.

II. President Fong led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

IV. Mr. Geeting moved to adopt the agenda. Mr. Rivas 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.

Trustee Scribner arrived at 6:34 p.m. and Trustee Cooley arrived at 6:35 p.m.

VII.A. Linda Swanson, Technology Support/Trainer, Outreach and Technical Assistance Network (OTAN) Department, was recognized and honored as the classified employee of the month for June.

Terri Edinburgh, SH Teacher, Special Education Department, was recognized and honored as the certificated employee of the month for June.

Interim Superintendent Stickel reported on the following:

- Thanked the Sacramento River Cats for hosting their annual Sacramento County Teachers of the Year appreciation night at Raley Field last evening. Teachers were introduced on the field along with Communications Director Tim Herrera in a pre-game ceremony and enjoyed the game from the party suite, all thanks to the River Cats. We also want to thank Schools Financial Credit Union for providing our teachers with gift bags. She thanked Trustees Levy and Geeting for attending the event.

- Invited everyone to join us for a special Cinco de Mayo Salad Lunch this Thursday in the Meaney Center lunchroom. For just \$5, you can enjoy some delicious salads and south-of-the-border offerings. Proceeds from the lunch will benefit the SCOE Special Education Program, and our SH students. Our thanks to the SCOE Employee Events Team for organizing the event.
- 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. Eleven high schools and over 90 business partners participated this year in a yearlong activity focused on modernizing and expanding the Effie Yeaw Center, which is now run by the nonprofit organization American River Parkway, and not the County of Sacramento. The program provides scholarships for local students pursuing higher education in architecture, construction and engineering. We wanted to thank Trustee Geeting for participating as a judge in the competition this past weekend. The awards event is from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Friday. If you are interested in attending, please see Tim Taylor for details.
- We received notification from CSBA that they are now accepting nominations for the 2011 Outstanding Legislator of the Year. Each year, CSBA honors current members of the state Senate and Assembly who work actively to improve public schools and exercise leadership in the legislative arena. Copies of the notification have been placed before you.
- Reminded everyone that we have a special Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 10, 2011 regarding the Fortune Charter School MOU. A special Board meeting is also scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. on the 2011-2012 Community School budgets. The Redistricting Committee will meet on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's Conference Room.
- Wednesday, May 11, 2011 is California Day of the Teacher. This day of the Teacher is a special recognition of the important role that teachers play in the lives of students across the state. We wanted to take this opportunity to say how deeply we appreciate the extraordinary service our SCOE teachers provide to our students, their families, and to the Sacramento County community.
- The week of May 15, 2011 is Classified School Employees' Week. You are invited to join us in the lunchroom here in the Meaney Center on Thursday, May 19, 2011 as members of the Cabinet dish out ice cream, and other treats, at our annual Ice Cream social in honor of our classified employees. We greatly appreciate the exceptional service our classified employees provide to our students, their families, and to our community, especially during these challenging economic times.

- Our May 17, 2011 Board meeting is dedicated to our annual Operation Recognition diploma ceremony. We expect to award approximately nine diplomas that evening. Brenda Perez Rangel, a senior from Highlands High School, will serve as our student speaker this year. She is the winner of our Essay Scholarship Contest, sponsored by the SAFE Credit Union. A pre-event reception begins at 6:00 p.m. and will continue following the adjournment of the Board meeting.
- Students and staff of Leo A. Palmiter High School, Elinor L. Hickey High School and LINKS Program will be celebrating successes at the 15th Annual "School to World" Awards ceremony on May 19, 2011 beginning at 10:00 a.m. The program is a partnership between SCOE and area businesses that offers students valuable entry-level job experience, connections with local business professionals, an opportunity for immediate use of their newly acquired job skills, and an active way to learn social skills. Please contact Debi Lauer in WorkAbility.
- Please join us on Friday, May 20, 2011 in the Mather Room as we recognize the success of three SCOE students who are graduating from our program for students with severe disabilities. The ceremony begins at 10:30 a.m. Refreshments will be served immediately following the ceremony.
- Congratulations to Mira Loma High School, from the San Juan Unified School District, for winning the Department of Energy's National Science Bowl in Washington, D.C. The five students on Mira Loma's team will receive an all-expense paid trip in July to the International Science School in Australia, as well as a trophy and \$1,000 for their high school science department. More than 100 teams competed in the national Science Bowl finals. We have sent a letter of congratulations to the school on behalf of the Board and SCOE.

VIII.A. Mr. Scribner moved and Mr. Cooley seconded adoption of the revised consent agenda. Motion carried unopposed. By such action, the Board:

1. Accepted Report on Personnel Transactions
2. Awarded Diplomas to Special Education Students, as revised

President Fong congratulated the 15 Special Education students and their parents.

VIII.B. Mr. Geeting moved and Ms. Levy seconded approval of the contracts as listed. Motion to approve the contracts carried unopposed.

VIII.C. On a motion by Ms. Levy, seconded by Mr. Rivas and carried, the Board authorized staff to submit the revised grant applications/service contracts and accepted funding if awarded; and approved contracts, positions, and other expenditures associated with the grants as outlined in the proposed budgets as follows:

1. \$77,114 Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) grant from the California Department of Education for the period July 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011

VIII.D. Mr. Geeting moved and Ms. Brown seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 11-11 – Declaring May 11, 2011 as California Day of the Teacher. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII.E. Mr. Scribner moved and Mr. Rivas seconded the motion to adopt the revised Resolution No. 11-12 – Declaring May 15-21, 2011 as Classified School Employees' Week. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII.F. President Fong announced that this was the first reading and adoption of the proposed revisions to Board Bylaw 8000 (renumbered 9300) – Parliamentary Procedures.

VIII.G. President Fong announced that this was the first reading and adoption of the proposed revisions to Board Bylaw 8340 (renumbered 9340) – Adjourned And/OR Continued Meetings.

Chair Geeting of the Policy Committee recommended that we move both items VIII.F. and VIII.G forward for second reading at the next Board Meeting.

Ms. Brown had a question about the third sentence down on page VIII.G.2., where it states, "less than a quorum of the Board may adjourn such a meeting."

Ms. Stinson said one way to clarify it would be to say if less than a quorum is present, then less than a quorum can adjourn it and that may be something we could do to clarify that. She would like to double check it against the government code one more time.

President Fong said he ran into some trustees from other districts who shared with him that they have a policy that states no business decisions will be made after 10:00 p.m. A policy like that would help prevent a situation of making decisions at 2:00 a.m. He would encourage the policy committee to look into that for future consideration.

Mr. Geeting noted Mr. Fong's request.

Ms. Levy said she likes the suggestion about changing the sentence to include "if less than a quorum is present" otherwise you could have a situation where one person wants to adjourn and the other six don't and that one person could cite this bylaw. She thinks we need that clause in there and then she is fine with the policy.

Mr. Geeting said it sounds like the full Board would like to send this back to the Policy Committee for further review.

President Fong said it goes back for a second look by the Policy Committee.

Ms. Brown asked if the Policy Committee could also look at the last line which states that only uncompleted items of the original agenda may be acted upon at an adjourned meeting.

Mr. Geeting replied that is the existing bylaw.

Ms. Brown repeated an adjourned meeting.

Mr. Geeting clarified that the existing bylaw is about adjourned meetings.

Mr. Geeting stated they're rare situations and he doesn't think they fit well with the Brown Act because it implies we could get tired and say let's stop now and we will continue this meeting tomorrow morning. We can't do that under the Brown Act. The pieces don't fit together.

Ms. Brown said she understands that. She is quibbling with the use of the words, adjourned meeting. Is that what's it's called?

Mr. Geeting said it's a term used in Roberts Rules of Order. In classic Roberts that's exactly what Roberts was looking at, people getting tired but not having completed their business and could say we will meet tomorrow morning and continue at 8:00 a.m.

Mr. Cooley said he doesn't believe in getting tired at these meetings.

Mr. Geeting said that is fine but it doesn't work because of other constraints on us.

Mr. Scribner said the other maneuver is to recess until time certain.

Mr. Geeting said a recess becomes problematic if it crosses over into another day.

President Fong said it looks like this will go back to the Policy Committee.

The Board consensus was to move Item F on to second hearing and send Item G back to the Policy Committee for further review.

VIII.H. Sue Stickel, Interim Superintendent, introduced Frank Pisi, who presented a report on After School Programs.

IX.A. Mr. Geeting stated that on this day he reported at 7:30 a.m. to the SMUD building for a LEED tour of career academies. We visited three different high schools with a total of five career academies and then returned to SMUD for a follow up session and completed our work at 5:15 p.m. He saw some fantastic programs and some very enthusiastic students. We visited Laguna Creek High School's Green Energy Technology Academy. We also visited Grant High School and 3 of their career academies. It was uniform day at the Criminal Justice Academy and all the students looked like Sacramento police officers. We also visited the Sports Medicine and GEO (Grant Environmental Occupations) Academies. They manufacture and sell salsa for \$5 a jar at the GEO academy. We ended the day at the Arthur A. Benjamin Health

Professions High School in Sacramento. It was a pleasure to join Trustee Levy at the River Cats game and to honor teachers of the year, including Barbara Modlin and Shannan Brown. Shannan Brown and Dr. Raja threw the ceremonial first pitches. He added humorously that it turned out that Shannan Brown was a ringer who had previous training; she threw an excellent pitch. Dr. Raja was not; he threw a wild pitch. The ACE judging event was a long day on Saturday at Cosumnes River College where we listened to all 11 high schools make their presentations. The results will be announced this coming Friday at the Effie Yeaw Center. The Effie Yeaw Center was the focus of this year's proposal which was aimed at demolishing the existing building and creating a new building. He participated in the Zoo Day event on Friday, April 29 for the Special Education students. Those students did not seem bothered by the wind and everyone enjoyed themselves. It was a terrific day.

Mr. Rivas – no report.

Mr. Cooley reported that he attended two budget committee meetings with Trustees Levy and Geeting on April 26 and May 2. Both meetings were good. It's the kind of information the Board has been looking for. On May 17, 2011 the entire Board will receive a full report. He thinks that the Board will be pleased with the effort and creativity that went into the report. There will be some options to look at to move forward with the budget. He commended all staff for their work in trying to come up with some scenario that will provide an opportunity to fulfill our mission.

Ms. Brown reported that Dr. Pierson and she visited some classrooms this past week. She used to tell parents that came to see her wanting to know about a school, that they should go to the school, talk to the kids, walk the halls and then you will know. She stated that those special education programs are addressing academic growth, personal growth, vocational growth, motor development, and social skills. They are real people treated as real people and celebrating some real successes in the quality of their life. She cannot comment enough about the people there. The knowledge is happening, but the development of the people there makes her thankful that there are programs like that. She also visited Palmiter's culinary arts and landscaping programs and went home with plants. The fine arts program really provides an opportunity for struggling young people to find a good adult model and people who believe in them. She appreciated the tour and commended everyone involved. The Mira Loma group is truly outstanding and, again, regardless of what the program is, if it is successful then students are learning, they're comfortable, they have dignity, and they are respected. You see it in all different programs and the IB program is one of them.

Mr. Scribner – no report.

Ms. Levy congratulated Mira Loma High School on their National Science Bowl win. She has attended a lot of the science competitions locally and any time a team is up against Mira Loma it's like "Oh no"! They are helping to put Sacramento on the map. She is very proud of all of them. She will report on the Budget Committee meetings on May 17, 2011. She thanked Tammy and her staff for their wonderful preparation. They took a lot of difficult concepts and helped us understand how the budget works and what's been done and what needs to be done and what some of the options are. She

had a great time at the River Cats game last night. Since this is her first year on the Board it's also her first year doing a lot of the fun SCOE events and that is an event she will back for next year. She always tells teachers that she wished we could pay them more but at least we can honor them in some way. She thinks that the teachers and their families were having a great time. It was absolutely wonderful. She appreciates Tim, Beth and everyone on his staff for displaying the photos on the website the next day. She thanked Marty Cavanaugh for writing a great letter to the editor of the Bee where he countered a nasty editorial they had written about our court schools and she thinks Marty did a great job of letting people know the other side of the story. Congratulations to Marty on his upcoming retirement.

IX.B. President Fong reported that as we honor the day of the teacher and the week of our classified staff this year it is difficult because we can say all the things we want but the budget has had a big impact on what we are doing. We are going to follow through with the May 15, 2011 layoffs. We will do our best to save as many jobs as possible. He wished he could be more upbeat about it, but he does want to express to our teachers and classified staff, our appreciation for all of the work they've done. He knows Mr. Hill, the teacher from Mira Loma High School who teaches the science class and does the science bowl as his son went to school there. Mr. Hill is a great teacher. Mira Loma is one of the best high schools in the nation according to the rankings that come out in the Washington Post and Newsweek. It's nice to know we have one of the best high schools in the nation right here in Sacramento. The majority of our teachers are good teachers. They will be able to get the training to become great teachers but the expectation of a great teacher in every classroom is like wishing for the ultimate of everything else. Not every parent is a great parent; not every teacher is a great teacher; and not every board member is a great board member. He stated that someone asked him why are we taking a grant from the Broad foundation. He didn't know enough about it to respond. He would like staff to give him some information on it so he could respond to a constituent that inquired.

Interim Superintendent Stickel clarified that the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) is a Broad finalist and is being considered to be a recipient a year from now. SCOE is not a recipient.

President Fong would like to see a nomination for the Outstanding Legislator of the Year placed on the next agenda. He encouraged Board members to provide nominations.

IX.C. Ms. Levy, as Chair of the Budget Committee, reported that the committee has recently met twice and reviewed the Community Schools budgets, which unfortunately are not profitable operations for us. In the next week we looked at the administration budget or budgets because 200 budgets comprise the administration budget; and also reviewed the cuts made so far and finally looked at some potential options of what we could do to balance our budget. We will have more of a detailed report for the Board on May 17. She thanked staff for their work on this.

Mr. Rivas asked what is the purpose of the special meeting?

Ms. Levy replied that the May 17 agenda will have an agenda item regarding the Budget Committee and information they received and possible options for the Board to consider.

Ms. Brown asked if they will be getting the backup information in our packets because it's very difficult for her to get here and try to read everything and make important decisions.

President Fong said he is assuming it will get to the Board like it normally does.

Tammy Sanchez, Assistant Superintendent, replied that she hasn't prepared the agenda item yet so she won't be able to tell you exactly what it's going to be, but it will contain numbers and options for community schools. She will probably put together a one-page summary or something with line items of the budget. We will provide something to the Board in advance and go over it during the meeting. She will try to provide as much as she can.

Ms. Brown said she needs to understand the concepts that Ms. Sanchez is dealing with and what kind of choices the Board is expected to make; what are some of the repercussions; and maybe the pros and cons of these different suggestions so she can think about it before we come for a vote.

Ms. Levy clarified that we didn't have a hundred-page handout. We had a one-paged handout at each meeting and a lot of discussion. She's sure that Ms. Sanchez can put something together.

Mr. Cooley said the options that will be brought to the Board on May 17 will be more along the lines of a conceptual approach to save the schools. The action will be authorizing staff to move forward with this approach if they feel that's prudent. Part of the discussion we had yesterday was if some of these large stars don't align, even that concept may restrict our options. He insisted that the action item be part of the next agenda since Trustee Scribner has been asking for an action item for some time.

Ms. Brown said a set of numbers is not very revealing to someone who is seeing it for the first time. A lot of discussion went on in the meetings and those concepts and discussions are what we're missing; maybe she should start attending those meetings.

Ms. Levy stated that the Board will be hearing all that information on May 17. We are looking at a possible way to save our community school programs.

Mr. Cooley said the budget will come back to the Board in its entirety in June. One of the issues that he has been struggling with this year is our Superintendent will be negotiating contracts soon. It's going to be difficult to craft a budget while that process is going on. The approach that was presented to us in the two budget meetings is good because the concept will help give us the closest amount of engagement in that process we could have, if that makes sense. It's a very 30,000 foot perspective at this time, in June we will get closer to ground level and he thinks everyone will be pleasantly

surprised. There was a whole lot of detail so hopefully the presentation can be repeated on May 17.

President Fong said he thinks Trustee Brown's request of having a better understanding of the options with the pros and cons and its budgetary ramifications is a reasonable request and could help us make better decisions. He would like to be able to have discussions on other options. We will be laying off our teachers and classified staff and maybe as a symbolic gesture, we should ask for a reduction of the Board's salary as well as staff salaries to show that their pain is also felt by us. Maybe we can ask all of our appointed staff to take a small reduction in their salary to save a job or two.

Mr. Geeting said that SCOE's executive staff had already taken voluntary furlough days this year.

President Fong stated that the Executive Committee met. We are tentatively scheduling a Board Retreat for either August 6 or August 13. The Executive Committee will look for a facilitator to facilitate that retreat. If staff has any recommendations please give them to the Interim Superintendent. If the Board members have any recommendations please give them to him. We will try to go through that and select that person early on regardless of who becomes Board President to make sure that person is available in August. He asked Board members who have not given us their vacation plans to try to work around the August 6 and August 13 dates. Another item that was discussed was the improvement of Board/Superintendent communications where the Board is given a heads up on items that we should know about or items from the press or editorial boards. Those types of items may or may not get printed but at least we are given the heads up in case they are printed so that we are not surprised.

Ms. Levy asked if there was a decision on the dates for the July and August meeting yet.

President Fong replied that the Organizational Meeting will be on July 12, 2011. We will have one meeting in August, which will be August 16, and then the Board Retreat either on August 6 or 13.

Mr. Cooley said in the past we've had the Board Retreat on a Saturday for the Board and the Superintendent. They would like to have an early session with all the Cabinet members, Superintendent, and Board in the morning and then for the afternoon the Board and Superintendent would meet.

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

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

XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings:

A. May 10, 2011 – Special Board Meeting – Fortune Charter School MOU

B. May 17, 2011 – Operation Recognition

President Fong noted that there will be a Special Board Meeting on May 17, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss community school budgets.

XII. Mr. Rivas moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Geeting seconded the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Stickel
Acting Secretary to the Board

Date approved: June 7, 2011