

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 6, 2011

Agenda

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 16, 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. No 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. \$50,000 California Learning Resource Network Web site services contract from Stanislaus County Office of Education for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012
 2. \$360,254 California Student Opportunity and Access Program (Cal-SOAP) grant from the California Student Aid Commission for the period August 14, 2011 through August 13, 2012
 3. \$399,400 College Access Foundation of California Scholarship Grant from the College Access Foundation of California (CAFC) for the period December 15, 2011 through December 31, 2012
 4. \$17,140 Safe Schools Regional Training grant from the California Department of Education through Kern County Office of Education for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012
 5. \$131,066 Regional After School Technical Assistance System (RASTAS) 21st Century Community Learning Center grant from 21st Century Community Learning Centers federal funds for the period July 1, 2011 through December 31, 2012
 6. \$211,205 Regional After School Technical Assistance System (RASTAS) After School Education and Safety grant from the California Department of Education for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012
 7. \$284,400 Early Head Start Supplemental grant from the Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA) for the period September 30, 2011 through September 29, 2012 and Adoption of Resolution No. 11-17
 8. \$525,000 Countywide Foster Youth Services Program grant from the California Department of Education for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

- 9. \$150,000 Stuart Foundation – Ready to Succeed grant from the Stuart Foundation for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012
 - 10. \$69,352 Foster Youth Services/CPS Collaborative Project grant from the County Department of Health and Human Services for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012
 - D. Adoption of the English Language Arts Materials for Sacramento County Office of Education Programs
 - E. Board Report – Year In Review
 - IX. Board Reports, Comments, and Ideas
 - A. Board Members
 - B. Board President
 - C. Committees
 - X. Items for Distribution
 - A. September/October Events
 - B. September/October Visits
 - XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings
 - A. September 20, 2011 – Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)
 - XII. Adjournment
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I. President Cooley called the meeting to order at 6:33 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; Sue Stickel, Deputy Superintendent; 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. Trustee Brown was not present; Trustee Scribner arrived at 6:58 p.m.

II. Mr. Fong led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. On a motion by Mr. Fong and seconded by Ms. Levy, the revised minutes of the regular meeting of August 16, 2011 were approved. Motion carried 5 ayes, 2 absent.

IV. Mr. Geeting moved to adopt the agenda. Mr. Rivas seconded the motion, which carried.

V. There was no official correspondence.

VI.A. Mark Graham, Campaign Organizer for the 25 Teachers Salaries campaign, addressed the Board regarding funding for teachers. He asked that the Board adopt a resolution to support this campaign.

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

VII. Superintendent Gordon reported on the following:

- Met with County Executive Brad Hudson and talked about our programs and made special mention that the National Guard was still interested in inquiring the Boys Ranch site, but that the terms of the RFP that had been put out were unacceptable and unreasonable to them. Mr. Hudson promised to take another look at the issue. We have encouraged the National Guard leadership, Colonel Gabrielli, who is now General Gabrielli, to make an appointment with Mr. Hudson to try to pursue it.
- Provided introduction to the Powerhouse Science Center, which is under development in the old site of the PG&E powerhouse (the concrete building that you see between I-5 and the river and just south of Richards Boulevard) and is the focus of a community fundraiser for redevelopment as the future site of the science museum currently located on Auburn Boulevard. It's a major fund raising project into the \$40 to \$50 million range. They have approached us to partner with them to try to help them access some federal bond money, which is only available through a partnership with an LEA. We will bring an item to you at the October 4 meeting and give you the background on it and see if it's something you want to see us pursue with them. He thinks it's potentially a real community service that we can do. We are also working with them on the programmatic aspects of it, including curriculum.
- Thanked everyone who attended the reception for our 4th Annual SCOE Employee Art Show prior to this meeting. If you did not have an opportunity to view the artwork, please take a few moments to walk the corridor downstairs to view the art created by some of our talented employees. Thanked the employee events team for organizing the event.
- Congratulated French teacher Nicole Naditz, from Bella Vista High in the San Juan Unified District, and Robert Brewer, a math and physics teacher from Florin High in the Elk Grove Unified District, for being named the 2012 Sacramento County Teachers of the year. The August 31 awards event at the Radisson Hotel was a big success. Thanked President Cooley for addressing the gathering and handing out the top awards. Also thanked Trustees Levy, Geeting and Rivas for helping us honor the teachers as well. CDE will announce the California Teachers of the Year sometime in late November.
- Thanked everyone for attending our annual Employee Recognition Day on August 26, as we launched the 2011-2012 program year at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center. Special thanks to Vocational Specialist Mike Laharty for serving as our master of ceremonies, and to Steve Caruso, President and CEO of Cottage Housing, Incorporated, for serving as our keynote speaker. Also thanked Trustees Levy and Geeting, and Personnel Commissioners Christine Robinson and Helena Hurst for attending.

- Reminded everyone that Wednesday, September 14, 2011 is Back to School Night for Palmiter Jr/Sr High School and Elinor Hickey Jr/Sr High School campuses. The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity to meet staff, students and parents. He hopes you can join us.
- Announced that we have launched our second year of the SCOE Leadership Institute under the direction of Dr. Steve Winlock. The Institute is a ten-month program that supports the development of skills needed by administrators to provide leadership at school sites and in district administration. We have 32 participants in the SCOE cohort, and another 26 participants in the cohort we are running in the Elk Grove district.
- Reminded everyone that the Project SAVE Golf Tournament, scheduled for Monday, October 3, 2011 at the Catta Verdera Country Club in Lincoln, still has openings for golfers. This annual fundraiser is the main source of funding for this model community project that has been proven to prevent and reduce youth violence and bullying behaviors. If you are interested in participating, please contact Cheryl Raney at (916) 228-2201, or contact Board President Cooley.
- Announced that the Culinary Café at the Leo A. Palmiter campus will reopen for lunch on Tuesday, October 11, 2011 from noon to 1:00 p.m. The program is now under the direction of our new culinary instructor Jeff Zahniser. If you want to make reservations call 916-566-2039. More details regarding the menu to follow.

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

1. Accepted report on Personnel Transactions

VIII.B. No Approval of Contracts

VIII.C. On a motion by Mr. Geeting, seconded by Mr. Rivas and carried, 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. \$50,000 California Learning Resource Network Web site services contract from Stanislaus County Office of Education for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012
2. \$360,254 California Student Opportunity and Access Program (Cal-SOAP) grant from the California Student Aid Commission for the period August 14, 2011 through August 13, 2012

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VIII.D. On behalf of the Curriculum Committee, Member Levy recommended that the Board adopt the English Language Arts Materials for Sacramento County Office of Education Programs. Motion carried unopposed.

VIII.E. Superintendent Gordon provided a report on the Year in Review.

IX.A. Mr. Fong reported that this morning he went out to Rosa Parks Middle School as part of his union of being relevant to the community, we bought backpacks and school supplies for 500 kids and distributed them on the first day of school today.

Mr. Rivas – no report.

Mr. Scribner reported there were eight or ten bills placed into Senate Budget Committee this afternoon and when he left they were hearing a number of them which include realignment dollars. There is a sense of urgency as waivers may technically be eligible this week. He stated since he has received calls and emails from several folks he

confirmed that yes, his boss was in the press about the embezzlement from the campaign treasurer. He lost about \$800,000 and there are at least twenty other electeds that have also had campaign funds embezzled. When it fully comes out, it will be millions upon millions of dollars. The Orange County Democratic delegation basically got wiped out, including the party and most of the local government democrats who also had their accounts through a professional treasurer by the name of Kinde Durkee.

Ms. Levy reported that she stopped by the Fortune School last week on a random hot afternoon and she was very pleased with what she saw. The kids were all doing math. When it's 100 degrees out and it's 1:30 in the afternoon and you are still focused on math, that's pretty good. The kindergarten kids were just transitioning back but all the other grades were working on math. She understands that they are going to have an Open House and she'll definitely be there. It is a pleasure to attend all the SCOE events, which are starting up again. It's always so much fun to go to the Teacher of the Year banquet. The employee art show today was fabulous. She's looking forward to a great school year.

Mr. Geeting reported that on August 18, he attended the LINKS mentor training here at SCOE to orient new mentors. We are really looking forward to start of mentoring sessions next week. On August 24, it was a pleasure to be present for the kickoff of Sacramento READS!, a ten-year effort with the goal of increasing third-grade reading proficiency by at least five percentage points each year, so that by 2020 we have at least 80 percent of third-graders proficient in reading. Currently only about 37 percent of Sacramento's third graders are proficient in reading, and sadly third-grade reading proficiency is one of those critical benchmarks in education. A child who is not proficient in reading by the end of third grade has only about one chance in four of ever becoming proficient. SCOE, along with the school districts serving parts of the City of Sacramento, has joined in the Sacramento READS! effort along with many business partners and civic organizations. The event included an appearance by one of America's great and beloved actors from stage and screen, Ben Vereen. The highlight, however, was without doubt the performance of the students from Room 56 at Hobart Elementary School in Los Angeles. Known as the Hobart Shakespeareans, these students read passionately, far above their grade level; tackle algebra, and stage Shakespeare so cleverly and so well that they have drawn the attention of professional actors. Yet, all of the children at Hobart Elementary School live in poverty, qualifying for free breakfast and lunch, and very few speak English as a first language. So, what's the magic? It's simple: hard work! Intensive learning mixed with a lot of kindness and fun. These children come to school at 6:30 a.m. and often stay until it is dark. They come during vacation. They take field trips all over the world. They play rock and roll music. Mediocrity has no place in their classroom. And the results follow them for life, as many go on to outstanding colleges. It is not easy, but these children dare to defy society's expectations. These kids are hungry, and they want out of poverty. They work their way out. They understand that there are no shortcuts. The group's teacher-leader is Rafe Esquith, who has authored several books based on his experiences, including "There Are No Shortcuts" and "Teach Like Your Hair's on Fire: The Methods and Madness Inside Room 56." Among others, Mr. Esquith likes to quote the exceptional teacher Marva Collins, who said, "I will' is more important than IQ." He goes on to say, "It is wonderful

to have a terrific mind, but it's been my experience that having outstanding intelligence is a very small part of the total package that leads to success and happiness. Discipline, hard work, perseverance, and generosity of spirit are, in the final analysis, far more important." August 26 was, of course, a very special day, and it was his pleasure to join Trustee Levy for SCOE's 26th annual Employee Recognition Day at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center. It was quite a privilege to address our SCOE employees on the Board's behalf. What a terrific morning it was! Mike Laharty did an outstanding job (as usual) in the role of master of ceremonies. Dawn McCarron did a great job of handling the ticket drawing and prize give-away. Superintendent Gordon had very thoughtful and timely remarks, and our special guest - Steve Caruso, CEO of Cottage Housing, Incorporated - provided a terrific blend of appreciation, inspiration, and good humor. And, of course, numerous SCOE staff worked diligently and successfully to keep everything on track. Many thanks to all who contributed. On August 31, it was a pleasure to join most of you at the 2012 Teachers of the Year recognition ceremony. Tim Herrera did a fabulous job as master of ceremonies, and Superintendent Gordon and President Cooley both provided very thoughtful and inspiring remarks. Of course, the real highlight of the evening is always the introductions of the LEA teachers of the year by their students, and this event was no exception to that rule. The kids stole the show! Best wishes to our two county teachers of the year, Bob Brewer and Nicole Naditz. And, again, many thanks to all of the SCOE staff whose quiet work enabled the event to come off so smoothly. He's certainly looking forward to the annual CCBE conference later this week in Monterey, and in particular the CCBE Legislative Committee which is meeting on Thursday afternoon. Finally, as a quick follow-up to his report at our last meeting: in that report he noted the relatively successful first-year effort on STAR testing at Hardy Brown College Prep in San Bernardino, as well as the quite successful STAR effort by PS7 here in Sacramento. Last week's release of growth APIs underscored the point. Hardy Brown's debut growth API is 763, and PS7's growth API is 911, virtually identical to last year's. In the case of PS7, it is also noteworthy that - in response to demand within Oak Park - PS7 fairly significantly increased its middle grade enrollment last year - by about 30 percent - meaning that a substantial number of PS7's test takers were actually in their first year at the school. Now, being able to maintain such a high API with many first-year test takers is a real tribute to the school's faculty and staff. Also, there was a question at our last meeting about the proportion of children in poverty being served at Hardy Brown and PS7. He indicated that his recollection was that PS7 and Sacramento City Unified were approximately the same in terms of children in poverty. In fact, the STAR data actually show that PS7 had a slightly higher proportion of children in poverty than did Sacramento City Unified. 72 percent at PS7, versus 69 percent for the district as a whole in the tested grade levels. For Hardy Brown, the proportion of children in poverty is a staggering 93 percent, versus 84 percent for the San Bernardino City Schools at the tested grade levels.

IX.B. President Cooley reported that he had a chance to attend the Teacher of the Year banquet with Trustees Geeting, Levy, and Rivas. It was another great event. We had a new venue this year, the Radisson Hotel. It was terrific to see the representation of the districts there. He also had a chance to visit Fortune School in their second week of instruction. He was blown away with the amount of work they've been able to do with the school site and making it feel more normal and comfortable within two weeks. It

was a retail center before that and it has that feel on the outside, but the inside feels like classrooms. There's a lot of learning. The students don't know the difference and the teachers really got in there and did a great job. He understands that they were only allowed in the building, with their TI permit, about 24 hours before school actually started. It was a really short time-frame for teachers to decorate the classrooms. His daughter started back to school today at David Lubin Elementary. She is in a 2/3 grade combo class. She's excited about being in a class with 3rd graders. The school doesn't have a lot of parking. There's a lot of first time parents, kindergarten parents, etc. that are parking and dropping off their kids because it's the first day for their student. About 50 parents got parking tickets, not because they were blocking people's driveways or fire hydrants or crosswalks but because the city has a C pass and E pass for parking on the street. People called to complain about people parking in front of their homes even if they were not blocking the driveway or sidewalk. There were about three meter attendants from the city issuing citations. He told the parents they should get the PTG to go down to Mayor Johnson's office and ask if they want parents involved or not. They should give a waiver for the first day of school because the parents don't even know the rules.

IX.C. There were no committee reports.

X.A. There was no distribution of the September/October Events item.

X.B. There was no distribution of the September/October Site Visits item.

XI. Schedule for Future Board Meetings:

A. September 20, 2011 – Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)

XII. Ms. Levy moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Rivas seconded the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Gordon
Secretary to the Board

Date approved: September 20, 2011