

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, July 7, 2020**

Members present

Sindy Biederman, Jennifer Kresge, Ann Cash, Janna Waldinger, Jim Haslip, Don Huffman

Absent: Steve Orndorf

1. ORGANIZATION

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Cash called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

B. FLAG SALUTE

The salute to the Flag was led by Don Huffman.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Vice President Cash read the instructions for public participation via teleconference.

D. WELCOME VISITORS

Visitors were welcomed to the meeting.

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved on a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Mr. Huffman. *Ayes* – Mrs. Kresge, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the June 2, 2020 meeting were approved on a motion by Dr. Haslip and a second by Mrs. Waldinger. *Ayes* – Mrs. Kresge, Dr. Haslip, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Huffman. *Noes* – None.

G. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

2. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION 3:35 p.m.

The purpose of the Closed Session meeting was to review the matter of potential litigation.

3. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION 3:45 p.m.

The board discussed pending litigation. No action was taken.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Clarence Mamaril, NVEF Filipino Community Outreach Liaison, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the FLAGG program (Filipino Life and Generation Groups). The FLAGG program is a new program started for American Canyon High School and American Canyon Middle School Filipino students and students who identify as Filipinos in order to share their life experiences and the issues they are going through in a safe environment.

B. Ron Eick, mathematics teacher at American Canyon High School, and Chanelle Roces, student at American Canyon High School presented a video created by Chanelle for the Rube Goldberg international competition. The contest challenges students to perform a simple task in an indirect and overly complicated way. Ms. Roces presented her video demonstration showing the machine she created to drop a bar of soap into someone's hand.

Mr. Eick teaches upper level AP Calculus, and the test for his class is taken in May. With two weeks left in the school year coupled with the pandemic, Mr. Eick tried to find a way to get the students to do a project at their own house somehow incorporated with COVID-19. He thanked Dr. Nemko and Trustee Biederman who gave Ms. Roces a plaque and a cake for winning the People's Choice award in the Rube Goldberg competition.

5. CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, AND REPORTS

- Dr. Nemko thanked Julie McClure for all the hard work she did to prepare for our soft opening at the NCOE and in the Petaluma office. Ms. McClure did a magnificent job as did General Services. We have, at the end of this week, one-third of the staff in the office. Dr. Nemko reminded the Board that she sent them a link to the video that was made detailing what will be different from the way we enter the building to the way we log in with a QR code. It is working very well thus far.
- Dr. Nemko reported on the groundbreaking ceremony for the Calistoga Preschool and thanked Allen Rossi and Josh Schultz for their help in making this happen.
- Dr. Nemko reported that a friend sent her a video on bullying, teen suicide, and surviving in a world when you are different that was presented at a film festival in New York. The video is very powerful, and Dr. Nemko will send it to the Board. Dr. Nemko noted that we are trying to figure out how to get the socially relevant film in the schools.
- Dr. Nemko reported that she is part of a board for a system of care for mental health issues in Napa County. Funding is available in the county, and the board has to figure out what we are going to do to best utilize these funds. The most recent meeting discussed telemedicine and sessions that can happen online.
- Mrs. Waldinger reported that she contacted Justin Hefley, Technology Support Manager, regarding the NCOE automated voice answering system with concerns that the automated voice was robotic and not friendly. Mr. Hefley has resolved the problem.
- Mr. Huffman inquired about policies and protocols related to schools opening.
- Dr. Nemko reported that K-2 are encouraged to wear masks, but not be mandated. Grades 3-12 are mandated to wear masks. Other protocols include no lunch or recess with other students, and they will be kept together for contact tracing and a way of limiting their access to other students. Dr. Nemko noted that the cleaning protocols are enormous.

6. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

A. On a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Board approved Consent Agenda Item 4.A. (Temporary County Certificates). *Ayes* – Mrs. Kresge, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

B. On a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Board approved Consent Agenda item 4.B. (Board Compensation – Steve Orndorf). *Ayes* – Mrs. Kresge, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

C. On a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Board approved the Local Plan Section B: Governance and Administration, Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA). *Ayes* – Mrs. Kresge, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

7. SCHEDULED MATTER

Vice President Cash provided a summary on the proposed California ballot initiative under Proposition 13. A new initiative called “Schools and Communities First” would repeal a portion of Proposition 13. The proposed amendment means California commercial and industrial property in California would be taxed on current market value raising taxes on those properties by up to \$12 billion per year statewide. This would mean \$12 billion goes to public schools, community colleges and local governments.

Vice President Cash asked Dr. Nemko to report on AB-1384 Local Educational Agencies: Liability for COVID-19-related injuries.

Dr. Nemko reported that school districts are concerned about the potential for litigation when we reopen schools. It’s inevitable that someone will test positive and sue a school district. It’s difficult to prove where someone contracted the disease. Fortunately, Assemblymember Patrick O’Donnell signed AB-1384 which gives school districts limited liability protection for K-12 as they reopen for the next academic school year. We need to support this bill and send a letter to Patrick O’Donnell signed by Senator Bill Dodd which gives the school district limited liability protection.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. At the request of Ms. McClure, Item 8.A. *First Reading BP 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment and NCOE Actions Addressing Equity and Social Justice*, will precede Item 5. *Correspondence, Communications, and Reports*. The amended Agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Huffman and a second by Mrs. Kresge. *Ayes* – Mrs. Kresge, Dr. Haslip, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

Ms. McClure introduced guests for public comment in support of BP 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment and NCOE Actions Addressing Equity and Social Justice. The following guests provided public comment in support of BP 5145.3:

- Caroline Wilson, Director Juvenile Court and Community Schools.

- Anne Sutkowi-Hemstreet, Programs Manager First5 Napa and Founder of Rainbow Action Network. Ms. Sutkowi-Hemstreet also read public comment on behalf of Lilea Heine, Early Childhood Services Site Supervisor, NCOE.
- Josh Schultz, Deputy Superintendent, read public comment on behalf of Ginny Maiwald, Director SELPA (Special Education Local Plan Area).
- Barbara Thorsen, Assistant Director Community Programs.
- Ms. McClure, Associate Superintendent, read public comment on behalf of Rebecka Anderson, Director Technology Support Services.

Item 8.A. has been tabled to the August meeting as further review of BP 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment and NCOE Actions Addressing Equity and Social Justice was requested by Mr. Huffman.

Vice President Cash appointed an ad hoc committee, to review BP 5145.3, with Mr. Huffman as chair, Ms. Biederman and Dr. Haslip as committee members.

B. The Board accepted the Personnel Activity Report as presented.

C. Dr. Haslip reported his concerns with mass testing of school children. He noted that testing three percent of students is a fairly reliable measure, but testing all students is a waste of time. He invited the Board to think about the issue and to share their opinions and provide any ideas they may have on this topic.

D. Dr. Haslip reported his views on a consistent problem with criminal justice reform and its impact on schools. Dr. Haslip noted that the Board should consider passing a resolution asking the state to review the state budget and its priorities to find ways to consider directing resources to education. Dr. Haslip noted that this does not have to appear as an action item but for the Board to consider and research the subject over the next several months.

E. Ms. McClure reported that our Board Bylaw 9270 Conflict of Interest needs to be reviewed every two years on an even year. We are not recommending any changes, but it is here for the Board's review. Mr. Huffman asked Ms. McClure to review Sonoma County's policy and make sure we are still compliant with CSBA's Conflict of Interest policy. Ms. McClure noted she will bring updates with anything that is new in CSBA's policy and report back at the August meeting.

F. Mr. Schultz, on behalf of Lucy Edwards, reported no complaints under the Williams Uniform Complaints Procedures Quarterly Report.

G. Mr. Schultz reported that the state budget was passed and reversed all of the proposed cuts in the May revised budget which included a ten percent cut to LCFF funding, 50 percent cut to many categorical programs, and 15 percent cut for after school and adult education. The state has instead incorporated much larger deferrals. Schools have been told they can budget flat funding year over year. Cash-wise they're going to take 11 billion dollars of the cash that was promised to the schools and not actually pay it until the following fiscal year 2021-22. For districts with high property tax bases like Napa, this is not a great burden, because it's a cash flow issue. For the county office budget, the worst case scenario has been erased for this

coming year. The cuts to our revenue projected are no longer in the budget. The NCOE unrestricted budget will have a modest surplus. Mr. Schultz noted that it is important to understand that's this is a one-time solution.

H. Mr. Schultz reminded the Board that in their board packets is the latest example of the periodic reports we get from School Site Solutions showing what activities have taken place thus far. Mr. Schultz noted that we are on track for completion in January. We have experienced a few small delays with DSA approvals, and we may have to stop with site work for a short time. Some things we can do without approval in place, but there are several things we can't do without approval.

Mr. Schultz noted that we have our first change order signed off for \$109,000 because of conditions we found in the soil and some we requested to change such as touchless faucets and water fountains because of COVID. A few upgrades were required to reconfigure how the gas line comes in for a potential backup generator, beefing up the electrical, potential solar work, and the infrastructure needed for the shop.

Mr. Schultz was pleased to report that PG&E is looking into our site as a pilot for some new incentive programs they have around renewable energy, storage and power resiliency. Mr. Schultz noted that this was promising, and we hope to hear back later in the week.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

10. NEXT MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The next regular meeting of the Napa County Board of Education will be on Tuesday, August 4, 2020.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Nemko, Secretary
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Approved _____ Date _____