

REGULAR MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, August 3, 2021

Members present

Sindy Biederman, Janna Waldinger, Gerald Parrott, Don Huffman, Jennifer Kresge
Absent: Ann Cash

1. ORGANIZATION

A. CALL TO ORDER

Board Vice President Don Huffman called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

B. FLAG SALUTE

The salute to the Flag was led by Julie McClure.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Board Vice President Huffman read the instructions for public participation via teleconference.

D. WELCOME VISITORS

Visitors were welcomed to the meeting.

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Board approved adding Item 7.G. *Resignation Board Member Jim Haslip* to the August 3 agenda. A roll call vote was taken: *Ayes* – Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes were approved on a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Biederman. A roll call vote was taken: *Ayes* – Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Waldinger, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

G. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

There were no comments by the public.

2. CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, AND REPORTS

- Mrs. Biederman provided an overview of a letter she submitted to the American Canyon City Council requesting sidewalks be installed in an area where children walk to school. Mrs. Biederman thanked Dr. Nemko for supporting the letter that Mrs. Biederman sent to the City Council.
- Mrs. Waldinger reported that she appreciated the recent tour of the new Camille Creek campus and the decision to install an extension on the current railing on the second story. In conjunction with the railing, Mrs. Waldinger suggested doing something creative and requested to see some kind of design from the architect. Mrs. Waldinger noted that the Napa Arts Council has a variety of pads to display art, and this might be helpful to view different artwork in the decision-making process.

- Mr. Huffman mentioned that Napa artist, Gordon Huether, would benefit from a tour of the Camille Creek facility and possibly provide guidance as to some sort of sculpture or artwork and where to display it.
- Dr. Nemko offered to contact Gordon Huether to arrange a tour.
- Mrs. Kresge suggested opening the artwork project up to the students to develop a design.
- Dr. Nemko reported that she submitted a request to the American Canyon City Council for a Footsteps2Brilliance display as part of the Shenandoah Park Storybook Walk. Parents will be able to scan a QR code using their cell phones to register their child for the Footsteps2Brilliance apps. We are waiting to hear if this request has been approved.
- Dr. Nemko reported her concern that many of our Camille Creek students are not vaccinated. With regard to our ESSER III funding, we can use some of those funds as an incentive for students and their families to get vaccinated. The St. Helena Hospital Foundation is holding a clinic at the Napa Valley College on August 17 and 18. We are sending flyers to all our students in the preschools and Camille Creek. We will give each student and family member who gets vaccinated a \$25 Target gift card.
- Dr. Nemko reported that State Superintendent of Schools, Tony Thurmond, wants to visit the NCOE, and we plan to show him some of the things we are doing in reopening schools. The date for the visit is tentatively scheduled for September 8 and once that is confirmed with the scheduler, we will develop an agenda to include the preschool class, the new Camille Creek building, and some CTE classes.
- Dr. Nemko reported that two years ago we got a request from the League of Innovative Schools and Digital Promise who wanted to do a study of math tutoring in various grades and we said yes. They did not get funded but they got very positive responses about their federal application, so they decided to resubmit and asked again if we would support them and update the letter. Dr. Nemko noted that she updated the letter and sent it to the districts. The tutoring would be done by professional tutors, and this will be at no cost to us or any of our districts. The goal is to see how they can improve virtual tutoring by getting students to collaborate and work in groups to see what is working.
- Dr. Nemko reported that we have been in discussion with NVUSD about expanded learning. We sent Dr. Mucetti a proposal, and we hope to hear back from NVUSD on this topic.
- Dr. Nemko reported on the recent article in the Register about River Charter School, and their proposal to NVUSD to be a new charter. The article reported that River Charter is partnering with the New Tech Network. We have a zoom call on Thursday with a representative from the charter school to discuss SELPA and other services that the NCOE offers.
- Dr. Nemko provided an overview on the PAC 6 conference she attended with Julie McClure and other staff from Cabinet. The main topic was around equity, early childhood education and the importance of translators to explain complicated topics to parents. Dr. Nemko noted that conversation took place about the ESSER III funding and how to spend it.

- Ms. McClure reported that she appreciated the equity presentation at PAC 6, and we are embarking on some training in that area for our staff so we acquired a lot of good ideas about things we may want to incorporate.
- Mrs. Kresge reported that her son, Greg Kresge, who has been in charge of sustainable energy for all of Hawaii has taken a new job as director of the Electric School Bus Initiative to get 80 percent of the school buses off fossil fuels. This topic crosses over into what the Board has discussed in the past. Mrs. Kresge noted that her son will be traveling for work, and if the Board is interested we could have him present at the October meeting what this might mean for us.
- Mrs. Kresge received an invitation to participate in a series of webinars about introducing students back into the school system and how to minimize social/emotional distress. There is no cost to join the webinar, and Mrs. Kresge will forward a link to Ellen Sitter who will forward it to the Board.

3. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

A. On a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Mr. Parrott, the Board approved Consent Agenda Item 4.A. (Temporary County Certificates). A roll call vote was taken: *Ayes* – Mr. Huffman, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

B. Consent Agenda Item 4.B. (Board Member Compensation for the August 3 meeting – Ann Cash) was approved, on a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Mr. Parrott. *Ayes* – Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Huffman, and Mr. Parrott. *Noes* – None.

Consent Agenda Item 4.B. (Board Member Compensation for the August 3 meeting – Jim Haslip) was not approved because Dr. Haslip resigned effective July 29, 2021, on a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Mr. Parrott. *Ayes* – Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Biederman, Mr. Huffman, and Mr. Parrott. *Noes* – None.

4. ACTION ITEM

A. On a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Biederman, the Board approved nominating Senator Josh Becker for the 2021 Outstanding Legislator Award for his work on SB 767 Educational Technology: Digital Education Equity Program. A roll call vote was taken: *Ayes* – Mr. Huffman, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

B. On a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Board approved the Adoption of Resolution 2021-16: the CalSERVES 2021-22 “CalSERVES Volunteer Infrastructure Program” (VIP) AmeriCorps Program Contract. A roll call vote was taken: *Ayes* – Mr. Huffman, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

C. On a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Mrs. Kresge, the Board approved the Adoption of Resolution 2021-17: the CalSERVES 2021-22 “CalSERVES Expanded Learning” AmeriCorps Program Contract. A roll call vote was taken: *Ayes* – Mr. Huffman, Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mrs. Biederman. *Noes* – None.

5. SCHEDULED MATTER

Scheduled Matter was tabled to the September 7 meeting.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

B. Mr. Schultz reported the error for the elevation for the sewer lines has been resolved, and the money piece will be resolved at a later date.

Mr. Schultz reported that the latest issue is about the timing of getting ready for the opening. The elevator inspector will not schedule the appointment until the elevator is fully functional, because it is an accessibility matter. We are aiming for September 7, and that is the goal to at least have the project finished enough that they can move in and have a first full day of school in the facility.

Mr. Schultz noted the good news is we do have a functioning facility we can operate in should it be pushed back a week or two.

C. Ms. McClure updated the Board with the recent COVID-19 guidelines for K-12 schools and reminded the Board that these guidelines can change. The changes include masks required in school for everyone including teachers and staff. There are some exceptions and substitutions that are allowed with various details around that but, essentially, they are required. Physical distancing is not required, as research has shown that vaccines and masks help mitigate the spread of the virus. Ventilation continues to be an area of focus. There are some new guidelines around quarantine and exposure. For example, if exposure occurs between two masked students, there is a way for that student, if they are asymptomatic, to come to school and they would need to be tested twice a week.

D. Ms. McClure reviewed the revised BP 6158 and AR 6158 Independent Study policy for Board consideration at the August 10 meeting. The policy notes that Independent Study will now be open for students whose parents have medical concerns in the case of students with severe asthma and other serious health conditions. It also brings with it some updated requirements with regard to synchronous, asynchronous, and live instructional minutes which differ depending on age group.

Ms. Wilson reported that Camille Creek has a multi-tiered strategy of reengagement. Students who do not complete school work for more than three days, or 60 percent of instruction in one week, will receive parent communication within one school day. If students miss a fourth day, a team meeting will be scheduled to troubleshoot barriers with the hopes of reengaging the student. Students wishing to return to in-person instruction must be afforded classroom placement within five school days. Ms. Wilson noted there does not seem to be guidance from the state if the student still fails to engage and parent refuses in-person instruction due to COVID-19 concerns. We were required to loosen up a bit when it comes to students not engaging. It is not a big change for the program, as our policy has been to contact parents each day a student is absent, but this new

bill will require tracking those contacts and outcomes. It is a lot more paperwork, and we will continue to oblige.

Ms. McClure further reported that in AR 6158, there is a grouping under core space Independent Study that we intend to strike. It is old language that lingered in AR 6158, and there is new language that replaced it. Since we are not offering core space Independent Study, that section will be removed. We will bring it back for action at the next meeting.

E. Ms. McClure reported that BP 6157 Distance Learning is no longer distance learning as it was conceptualized last year. The light version is folded into Independent Study now, so we will be removing our Distance Learning BP 6157 that we adopted last year.

Mr. Schultz noted, with regard to BP 6157 Distance Learning, that the things that were allowed last year are not allowed this year. For example, we cannot claim credit for ADA for doing what we did previously. We need an action item in September, because we are required to have the policy in place before the first day of instruction to claim ADA for Independent Study.

F. Mr. Huffman reported that the ad hoc committee regarding Policy on Public Comment met, and the committee is in agreement to review the leading documents. The committee is going to be editing and will report back to the board at the next meeting.

G. Mr. Huffman noted that the Board amended the Agenda to initiate protocols for a replacement for Board Trustee Jim Haslip who resigned from the Board on July 31, 2021.

Mr. Schultz reported that Dr. Haslip's term goes through 2024. Further, Mr. Schultz reported that the vacancy became official on July 31, and the Board has 60 days to either call for an election or make a provisional appointment with the opportunity for the public to challenge it. Mr. Schultz noted that the next step would be to have an action item for the Board to state its intention to either call for an election or approve to make a provisional appointment. If the decision is to make a provisional appointment, then the Board must go through the steps to make this happen by either following the process used previously or amending the process. Mr. Schultz reminded the Board if an election is called, there are various steps the Superintendent has to take.

The Board approved Tuesday, August 10 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a virtual special meeting to decide the process they wish to pursue.

Mrs. Kresge shared that she was on the CCBE Committee on COVID protocol for the CCBE Conference in September. The committee decided to require in-person attendees to be masked and show a vaccination card or a COVID test result that has been done within the last three days. The committee is also looking for a fast COVID testing site in Monterey.

Mr. Parrott noted that the State of California has a website where you can input your name and Social Security number to access records showing you are vaccinated, and it shows up on a QR code and you can keep it on your phone. Mr. Parrott will send the link to Ellen Sitter to share with the Board.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: 1) Gordon Huether Art Project update; 2) Decision for Provisional Appointment or Election for Jim Haslip's position; 3) Second Readings BP 6158 & AR 6158 Independent Study; and BP 6157 Distance Learning.

8. NEXT MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The next regular meeting of the Napa County Board of Education will be on Tuesday, September 7, 2021.

A virtual special meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Nemko, Secretary
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Approved _____ Date