

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, September 7, 2021

Members present

Ann Cash, Janna Waldinger, Gerald Parrott, Don Huffman
Virtual attendance: Cindy Biederman, Jennifer Kresge

1. ORGANIZATION

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. FLAG SALUTE

The salute to the Flag was led by Gerry Parrott.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

D. WELCOME VISITORS

President Cash introduced Jean Donaldson, candidate for the Board Trustee Vacancy Area 6.

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

G. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

Public Comment was given.

2. PRESENTATIONS and PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. A Public Hearing opened at 3:45 p.m. and was held for the Board to review and to take public input on the draft ESSER III Expenditure Plan. Josh Schultz, Deputy Superintendent, reported that the federal Economic Recovery Plan contained quite a bit of money for schools nationally. The funding is called the ESSER III Expenditure Plan, and as part of the stimulus package there is a requirement in the federal law that we adopt an expenditure plan explaining how we will use the funds. The allocation received from this funding source for the NCOE is \$400,000, and the funds must be used by the 2023-2024 school year. The plan will be brought to the Board for adoption at the October 5 meeting. The plan must be adopted no later than October 29, 2021.

President Cash called for public comment prior to closing the Public Hearing at 3:58 p.m. There was no public comment.

- B. A Public Hearing was opened at 4:03 p.m. and was held on the matter of sufficiency and current content of textbooks and instructional materials as utilized in the 2021-2022 school year. Caroline Wilson, Director of Juvenile Court and Community Schools, reported that all instructional materials are aligned with the common core standards. The public hearing which was held in compliance with Education Code Section 60119, to encourage participation by parents, teachers, members of the community and bargaining unit leaders on the issue of sufficiency and current content of textbooks and instructional materials as utilized in the 2021-2022 school year, elicited no comments from the public. The public hearing closed at 4:12 p.m.
- C. Tammy Lee, Robotics teacher at American Canyon Middle School, presented an overview of her robotics program and introduced her students, some of whom demonstrated their robotic projects.

Dr. Nemko reported that she has been following Ms. Lee's class since it was an after school club and because of its popularity, they made it a class. Dr. Nemko noted that following the success of these students and their math scores has been astounding. Dr. Nemko thanked the parents who were at the meeting to support Ms. Lee and her program.

- D. Sara Sitch, Director, Community Programs, provided an overview of the Napa County Office of Education's role in partnering with the Napa County Bicycle Coalition and the work included in getting a better idea of the modes of transportation to and from school and work. Ms. Sitch provided context regarding the NCOE's role in running the bicycle and pedestrian safety course, Safe Routes to School. Further, the NCOE helps to host events, and we have had a lot of great success finding innovative ways to walk and ride to school in a safe and effective way.

Patrick Band, Executive Director, Napa County Bicycle Coalition, provided a slide presentation on the basics of the program and the partnership with Safe Routes to School and the Napa Valley Transportation Authority. Mr. Band noted that their role is to evaluate what parents are thinking when they're making a decision about their children bicycling to school. For example, the Coalition did a qualitative and quantitative analysis with 459 parents from K-8 from mid-March to mid-April targeting those parents who live within two miles of their children's school sites.

3. CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, AND REPORTS

- Dr. Nemko reported to the Board that State Superintendent Tony Thurmond's visit to the NCOE was cancelled. Superintendent Thurmond cancelled because he received an invitation from Governor Newsom and Vice President Harris to join them in Los Angeles. The visit to the NCOE will be rescheduled.

- Dr Nemko mentioned her letter to the editor in today’s Napa Valley Register regarding twenty-five dollar Target gift cards being offered by the NCOE for students and families who get their first, second, or both vaccines in the month of September. The funding for this is coming from the ESSER funds.
- Dr Nemko reported that we are expecting a visit tomorrow from Tony Ubalde, from CSBA, to validate our Golden Bell for PLN (Professional Learning Network). Mr. Ubalde will meet with Lucy Edwards, Director, Continuous Improvement and Academic Support.
- Dr. Nemko received an invitation to be on the St. Helena Community Health Needs Assessment Committee. They have been very helpful during COVID, so it’s a pleasure to be on the committee.
- Dr. Nemko reported that our DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) training is going to start. We have three modules that cover all of the DEI issues.
- Dr. Nemko reported that we have a food delivery problem at Camille Creek. The plan was, because they have a culinary program and commercial kitchen, we would be able to prepare our own meals. Since the school is not open yet due to facilities project delays, we are looking for innovative ways to secure 60 meals for our students. We are in the process of trying to work out a solution with NVUSD to this temporary problem.
- Mrs. Biederman offered to help with food prep if needed.
- Dr. Nemko reported that she will be giving a presentation at the CCBE Annual Conference on artificial intelligence.

4. 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). A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Biederman, Mrs. Cash. Noes – None.

B. No action was taken on Consent Agenda Item 4.B. (Board Member Compensation).

5. ACTION ITEM

A. On a motion by Mrs. Waldinger and a second by Mr. Huffman, the Board approved the adoption of Resolution 2021-19: that the Napa County office of Education has complied with the requirements of Education Code 60119 for the 2021-2022 school year. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – Mr. Parrott, Mrs. Waldinger, Mrs. Kresge, Mr. Huffman, Mrs. Biederman, Mrs. Cash. Noes – None.

6. SCHEDULED MATTER

Mrs. Cash reported that she signed up for a CSBA legislative zoom meeting, and they will go over all the legislation that has been sponsored by CSBA. Mrs. Cash will present the information at the next meeting.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

B. Ms. McClure provided an update written by Josh Schultz, Deputy Superintendent, on the Camille Creek Facilities Project noting that considerable progress has been made.

C. Ms. McClure reported that the flexibilities that were offered for the Brown Act, related to the conduct of virtual meetings, are going away at the end of September. If the Board is participating virtually, you will need to go back to submitting your address where you are conducting the meeting to Ellen Sitter, so she can indicate it in the notices and agendas. The Board will also be required to post the agenda where you are hosting your digital meeting. Ms. McClure reminded the Board that we will need to be mindful that we have enough participants within the county and to give Ellen plenty of notice if you are participating remotely.

D. Dr. Nemko reported that she met with Gordon Huether about an art piece for Camille Creek. Mr. Huether said he would be happy to help with this and asked for the elevation plans. Dr. Nemko will contact him prior to the next Board meeting regarding options for the art piece.

Dr. Nemko pointed out that we are waiting for bids for a different top railing than what we have. The project passed inspection without adding the additional railing. We will get it done, but it may not be done when we open the building.

E. Ms. McClure provided an update on the Redistricting Due to the 2020 Census so the board can have a conversation about the schedule that starts with the September 16 meeting. The meeting will be led by John Tuteur, Registrar of Voters. Dr. Nemko will be there speaking briefly about what the Napa County Office of Education does. Ms. McClure reminded the Board if they plan to participate, they will be spectators and cannot speak because it would be a violation of the Brown Act.

Mrs. Biederman noted that all of the information is not in yet with regard to the redistricting. There may be a small change in areas 3 and 6, because of the population growth in American Canyon and the shrinking population in Calistoga.

F. Ms. McClure included the latest update on COVID protocols in our summary document that we distributed throughout the county and the protocols we follow. We have also incorporated a dashboard on our NCOE webpage for Early Childhood Services and Camille Creek, and you will see the updated numbers on our webpage. It's challenging for all our programs, and we're working hard to encourage vaccinations and to continue testing for our staff.

Resident asked to provide Public Comment.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

9. NEXT MEETING OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The next regular meeting of the Napa County Board of Education will be on Tuesday, October 5, 2021.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Nemko, Secretary
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Approved _____ Date