

**APPROVED**

MINUTES OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Date: May 3, 2017

Meeting Location: California Suite  
101 Twin Dolphin Drive  
Redwood City, California

Board Members Present: Susan Alvaro, Hector Camacho, Jr.,  
Jim Cannon, Beverly Gerard, Rod Hsiao,  
Ted Lempert

Board Member Absent: Joe Ross

Staff Officials Present: Anne E. Campbell, Secretary  
Claire Cunningham, Lead Deputy County  
Counsel  
Marcia Serpa-Garcia, Executive Assistant

Other Staff Present: Marco Chávez, Mefula Fairley,  
Franklin Felizardo, Nancy Magee,  
Denise Porterfield, Gary Waddell,  
Sue Wieser

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Board Vice President Susan Alvaro called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

After a motion by Ms. Gerard and a second by Mr. Lempert, the Board approved, by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Hsiao and Lempert), none opposed, and one absent (Ross), the May 3, 2017, agenda as presented.

3. **EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH**

- a. May 2017 Employee of the Month, Alison Irwin, Senior Naturalist, Outdoor Education, Instructional Services Division
- b. May 2017 Employee of the Month, Ben Nelson, Naturalist, Outdoor Education, Instructional Services Division

Board Vice President Alvaro recognized the May 2017 Employees of the Month, Alison Irwin, Senior Naturalist, and Ben Nelson, Naturalist, Outdoor Education, Instructional Services Division. Ms. Alvaro congratulated Ms. Irwin and Mr. Nelson on behalf of the Board and presented each of them with a clock and a check.

4. **PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD, DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS**

There were no persons wishing to address the Board.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2017, REGULAR MEETING**

After a motion by Ms. Gerard and a second by Mr. Hsiao, the Board approved, by a vote of five in favor (Alvaro, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard and Hsiao), none opposed, one abstention (Lempert), and one absent (Ross), the Minutes of the April 19, 2017, Regular Meeting as presented.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 17-17 Endorsing May as Mental Health Awareness Month
- b. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 17-18 Honoring Deborah Fernandez on Her Retirement
- c. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 17-19 Honoring Mason Harris on His Retirement
- d. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 17-20 Honoring Mona Rodrigues on Her Retirement
- e. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 17-21 Honoring Lawrence Teshara on His Retirement

After a motion by Mr. Camacho and a second by Mr. Lempert, the Board approved, by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Hsiao and Lempert), none opposed, and one absent (Ross), the Consent Agenda.

7. **BUSINESS SERVICES**

- a. Receive Report on the Status of School Districts' 2016-2017 Second Interim Financial Reports

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield said she would report on the Certification Status of San Mateo County Districts for the Second Interim Reporting period.

**BUSINESS SERVICES** (continued)

Ms. Porterfield said, of the 23 districts, 22 districts have a positive certification and one, San Bruno Park, has a negative certification. She explained a negative certification means a district may not be able to meet its fiscal obligations in the current or the subsequent year. Based on projections, it is the subsequent year when San Bruno Park will have a negative fund balance as well as some cash issues.

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield said, per Education Code 42127.6, the Superintendent of Schools shall do at least one of seven provisions, and the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) is doing six of the seven. Those provisions include:

1. Provide fiscal expert
2. Conduct study – Special Education is the major issue
3. Direct district to submit financial projections
4. Encumber all contracts and other obligations and prepare a cash flow analysis
5. Direct district to submit a plan for recovery
6. Withhold compensation to the governing board and district superintendent
7. Review teacher hiring practices

Ms. Porterfield explained that, under negative certification, the County Superintendent of Schools has stay and rescind authority to stop financial transactions and action up to and including negotiated contracts.

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield said San Bruno Park is having a difficult time hiring a Chief Business Official, so SMCOE will contract with them to provide a business division manager from SMCOE to serve in that capacity for up to two years. Ms. Porterfield commented that SMCOE's Human Resources staff is also working with San Bruno Park.

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield reported that

- 12 districts are currently funded through the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)
- 10 are funded through the Basic Aid process
- One is flipping between Basic Aid and LCFF

Ms. Porterfield said San Mateo-Foster City was considered Basic Aid at the First Interim and is LCFF at the Second Interim. She said the annual/final property taxes will determine its final status. Ms. Porterfield said moving back and forth from Basic Aid to LCFF makes it extremely difficult on cash flow for districts.

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield said we are beginning to see issues in the third year out for LCFF districts because funding is slowing and there are increased obligations for things such as Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) and State Teacher Retirement System (STRS), that the districts don't have control over. Districts are now looking at and planning for reductions they will need to make in the future.

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield then answered questions from the Board.

## 8. STUDENT SERVICES

### a. Approval of English Language Arts (ELA) Instructional Materials for the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) Special Education K-12 Program

Associate Superintendent Nancy Magee said the Special Education K-12 Program has conducted an adoption process with their parents and community to adopt a Unique Learning System curriculum for the K-12 Program that spans from kindergarten to Transition (age 22). Ms. Magee said the Unique Learning System is an online-based system that delivers age-appropriate, Common Core-aligned student engagement materials that use multiple modes of delivery, including hearing text-to-speech, hands-on learning, online visual representations, and icons and graphics to help communicate concepts.

Ms. Magee reminded the Board that, earlier in the year, she and Superintendent Campbell visited classrooms that were using Unique curriculum so they could observe the program firsthand. Superintendent Campbell then made a presentation to the Board about her field trip. Associate Superintendent Magee said the Special Education Program's Principal and Assistant Principal have been pushing a system-wide adoption, providing support and training for the teachers, and raising the bar as far as using a consistent, cohesive curriculum across the program.

After a motion by Mr. Camacho and a second by Mr. Lempert, the Board approved, by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Hsiao and Lempert), none opposed and one absent (Ross), the English Language Arts (ELA) Instructional Materials for the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) Special Education K-12 Program.

### b. Approval of Mathematics Instructional Materials for the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) Special Education K-12 Program

Associate Superintendent Magee said that, in May of 2017, the Board approved the adoption of the K-8 Mathematics Program through McGraw-Hill, *My Math and Number Worlds*. She said the new mathematics materials for grade 9-12 (Transition – age 22) include Unique Learning System and its associated supplemental program called News-2-You. Ms. Magee said the Unique curriculum features a standards-based set of interactive tools specifically designed for students with special needs and provides access to the general curriculum.

After a motion by Ms. Gerard and a second by Mr. Hsiao, the Board approved, by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Hsiao and Lempert), none opposed, and one absent (Ross), the Mathematics Instructional Materials for the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) Special Education K-12 Program.

**STUDENT SERVICES** (continued)

a. Receive Educator Effectiveness Grant

Associate Superintendent Magee explained the Educator Effectiveness Grant went out to all school districts and Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) across the State of California. The grant provides a specified amount of funds that can be used to support the professional development of certificated teachers, administrators, and paraprofessional educators. Ms. Magee said the funds can be used for any of the following purposes:

1. Beginning teacher and administrator support and mentoring, including programs that support new teacher and administrator ability to teach and lead effectively and meet induction requirements adopted by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing
2. Professional development, coaching, and support services for teachers who have been identified as needing improvement or additional support
3. Professional development for teachers and administrators aligned to the state content standards
4. Educator quality and effectiveness, including, but not limited to, training on mentoring and coaching certificated staff and training certificated staff to support effective teaching and learning

Additional Focus Areas include:

- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)
- Personalized Learning Team: expanding the team model following the Summit Charter model
- Inclusion Services: retooling inclusion services to raise the level of awareness and implementation for inclusion in special education

Associate Superintendent Magee reported the San Mateo County Office of Education received approximately \$187,000 in Educator Effectiveness funding. She said 75% of the funds will be spent on professional development and educator effectiveness.

Ms. Magee said the Educator Effectiveness Grant would be brought back for Board consideration and approval at a subsequent meeting.

Associate Superintendent Magee then answered questions from the Board.

9. **CLOSED SESSION**

- a. The Board will move to closed session to hear an Interdistrict Attendance Appeal (ITA-17-1) filed on behalf of a student currently residing in the Redwood City School District, but requesting to attend school in the Menlo Park City School District

At 7:29 p.m., Board Vice President Alvaro announced the meeting would move into closed session to hear Interdistrict Attendance Appeal ITA-17-1, filed on behalf of a student currently residing in the Redwood City School District but requesting to attend school in the Menlo Park City School District.

10. **OPEN SESSION: REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION**

The Board reconvened in open session at 7:55 p.m. Ms. Alvaro announced the following action was taken in closed session:

- a. Report on Action Taken in Closed Session on Interdistrict Attendance Appeal (ITA-17-1)

After a motion by Mr. Camacho and a second by Mr. Cannon, Interdistrict Attendance Appeal: ITA-17-1 was denied, by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Hsiao, and Lempert), none opposed, and one absent (Ross), due to a lack of sufficiently compelling evidence of any factor listed in the Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Handbook.

11. **OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

- a. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Campbell acknowledged and thanked Associate Superintendent Nancy Magee and her staff, especially Executive Assistant Loriann Villanis, for the truly epic, cranking, radical certificated recognition event earlier in the day. She commented there were beach balls and jellyfish suspended from the ceiling, flip flop centerpieces, and party favors with sunscreen, sunglasses, and Chap Stick at each place. Ms. Campbell said she was pleased to honor the recipients receiving awards for their various years of service. Superintendent Campbell commented Board Member Gerard received a well-deserved award for serving seven terms on the San Mateo County Board of Education.

Superintendent Campbell reported several San Mateo County Superintendents have organized a professional development collaborative thanks to the leadership of Superintendent Bernie Vidales, Jefferson Elementary School District. She said Superintendent Vidales has been working with Stanford to allow superintendents to take advantage of the expertise of the professors at the Stanford School of Education, read journal articles, meet at Stanford Faculty Club, discuss in small groups, have lunch, and spend time in conversation with the professors about their research. Ms. Campbell said she had an opportunity to attend the most recent session that featured Professor Deborah Stipeck, Former Dean of Stanford Graduate School of Education, who is now doing work on PreK–third grade alignment, which is relevant to The Big Lift. She said the

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT** (continued)

conversation with Professor Stipeck was thought-provoking. Superintendent Campbell said the San Mateo County Superintendents hope to have these meetings several times a year because they provide helpful professional development opportunities.

Superintendent Campbell said Congresswoman Jackie Speier wanted to visit a Big Lift classroom so, along with San Mateo County Supervisor Carole Groom and Silicon Valley Community Foundation Chief Community Impact Officer Erica Wood, she had the opportunity to visit a Team-Based Learning (TBL) classroom at Martin Elementary School in the South San Francisco Unified School District. Ms. Campbell said this was a wonderful opportunity to share a high-quality preschool classroom in action. She said teacher Lisa Ferrari, assisted by a paraeducator and two parents, had the students engaged in activities such as fine motor math work with letters, art, and building with blocks, Legos, and cars. Ms. Campbell said, the students are making excellent progress with social-emotional skills as well as academics and acknowledged Ms. Ferrari for her patience and teaching skills.

Superintendent Campbell reported that, after the visit, a small group had a conversation with Congresswoman Speier about the Social Innovation Fund Grant. Congresswoman Speier was quite sober, discussing the makeup of Washington, D.C., right now and sharing her worries that many social scaffolding and support programs might be cut. Ms. Campbell said, later that same week that Congress and the President reached an agreement on a budget bill for the short term, but unfortunately it included the elimination of the Social Innovation Fund, which has been an important funding stream for TBL. She said The Big Lift was expecting an additional \$9 million in the upcoming budget years from the Social Innovation Fund Grant, but at the end of this fiscal year those funds will stop. Superintendent Campbell said The Big Lift will be able to honor its contracts through August 2017, but will then need to come up with a plan to preserve as much of The Big Lift's momentum as it can without those resources.

Superintendent Campbell reported she attended the 2017 Redwood City Chamber of Commerce Progress Seminar together with Board President Ross, Board Member Hsiao, Deputy Superintendent Waddell, and Associate Superintendent Magee. She said this year's focus was on housing, transportation, and data and said all of the topics were very interesting. Ms. Campbell said she was especially interested in housing and attended a session where Isabella Chu, Manager, Data Core, Population Health Sciences, Stanford Medicine, spoke about trying to get land and facilities that are needed at Stanford now for work facilities and housing. She said Ms. Chu presented the hypothesis that building is now based upon cars, rather than people, and many municipal ordinances state you must have a two-car garage and two parking places in front of your house, which is standing in the way of other options for housing.

Superintendent Campbell commented that the City of Brisbane has an area where the railroad yards used to be west of 101. She said the Universal Paragon Corporation would like to develop this area. The proposed development lies within the Bayshore School District. Ms. Campbell said the Brisbane City Council would like to see that area transferred to the Brisbane School District and possibly to include building a high school. The Bayshore Elementary School Board as well as Dr. Audra Pittman, Superintendent, Bayshore School District, are adamant this property

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT** (continued)

is in the Bayshore School District and would be opposed to such a transfer. Ms. Campbell suggested this topic will most likely come up in the near future and wanted the Board to be aware.

Superintendent Campbell reported on Tuesday, May 2, she co-chaired a national webinar as part of the Superintendents' Environmental Education Collaborative (SEEC) for superintendents across the country. Ms. Campbell said she had the opportunity to talk about the San Mateo Environmental Learning Collaborative (SMELC), where teachers are paired with a nonprofit environmental education agency, develop lessons, and then return to their classrooms to teach them. She said Sean McPhetridge, Ed.D., Superintendent, Alameda Unified School District (AUSD), shared AUSD's extensive Environmental Education K-12 Program that involves a garden at every elementary school and a nature center at every high school based on the environment around the school. Superintendent Campbell noted Talladega County, Alabama, has an active Environmental Education program. She said their superintendent, Suzanne Lacey, and teacher, Kim Murray, made a presentation about the ECO-Farming they are doing where the students are helping nearby farmers grow their crops, which they then are allowed to eat when the crops are harvested. She said this helps the students see what's involved in growing food. Ms. Campbell said they also partner with universities by taking bits of fur from the barbed wire and sending those sample to the universities to analyze what kinds of animals come out at night.

Superintendent Campbell reported on Affordable Housing Week in San Mateo County and said there were many events taking place. She drew the Board's attention to the Housing Endowment and Regional Trust (HEART) Fundraiser on May 11, 2017, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Devil's Canyon Brewing Company in San Carlos, which will focus on teacher housing.

Superintendent Campbell reminded the Board that on Friday, May 5, 2017, the San Mateo County School Boards Association (SMCSBA) Annual Education Conference, addressing the teacher shortage, would take place at the Sobrato Non-Profit Center.

Superintendent Campbell reminded the Board the Classified Recognition Event would take place on May 10, 2017, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Superintendent Campbell reminded the Board on Monday, May 22, 2017, the SMCSBA will host the Kent Awards, at the Crown Plaza in Foster City.

**10. BOARD MEMBERS**

a. Discuss/Act on Legislation

There was no legislation to report.

**BOARD MEMBERS** (continued)

b. Discuss/Act on 2017-2018 Board Meeting Calendar

After discussion by the Board, it was decided to change the Wednesday, September 20, 2017, Board Meeting date to Thursday, September 21, 2017, due to a religious conflict.

After a motion by Mr. Camacho and a second by Mr. Hsiao, the Board approved, by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Hsiao and Lempert), none opposed, and one absent (Ross), the 2017-2018 Board Meeting Calendar as amended.

Board Member Camacho said the Board Policy Subcommittee and SMCOE staff have completed their work on new and revised Board Policies. He said the subcommittee is bringing forward three new and revised Board Policies for a Board first reading. Mr. Camacho asked his colleagues if there would be a problem having a numbering issue with BP 9321, noting there would be two policies with the same number for a short period of time.

Hearing no objections, Board Vice President Alvaro said these three policies would be brought back for a second reading at the May 17, 2017, Board Meeting

c. Board Policy Review

1. New and Revised Board Policies – First Reading

1. Revised Board Policy: BP 9320 (County Board Meetings)
2. New Board Policy: BP 9321 (Closed Session)
3. Revised Board Policy: BP 9250 (Formerly BP 9214) (Compensation and Benefits)

d. Board Member Comments

Board Vice President Alvaro began by wishing Superintendent Campbell a happy birthday, which she would celebrate on May 6.

**Mr. Cannon**

Mr. Cannon wished Superintendent Campbell a happy birthday.

Mr. Cannon reported he attended the Certificated Service Awards and Retirement Event earlier in the day and said it was delightful. He acknowledged the excellent job Ms. Campbell did with her remarks in keeping with the theme.

Mr. Cannon said Associate Superintendent Magee did an excellent job of showing respect to the teachers and was truly moved when she talked about what they do for the students.

Mr. Cannon commented Loriann Villanis did a fantastic job with the decorations and said she gets better every year.

**BOARD MEMBERS** (continued)

Mr. Cannon reported the Ad Hoc Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)/Budget Advisory Committee met with Cabinet on April 19, 2017. He said the LCAP and Budget financing is very complicated and thanked staff for their helpful explanations.

Mr. Cannon thanked Associate Superintendent Magee for her explanations of the complexities of the schedule and funds for the Court and Community Schools.

**Mr. Camacho**

Mr. Camacho wished Superintendent Campbell a happy birthday.

Mr. Camacho acknowledged and thanked the staff for the wonderful celebration of teachers earlier in the day. He said Ms. Magee's comments captured the emotion he felt after he left the El Portal and Palos Verdes sites the day he toured with Deputy Superintendent Porterfield. Mr. Camacho commented our educators do incredible work, and he was glad representatives from local Legislators were there to hear what Ms. Magee had to say.

Mr. Camacho reported he attended the funeral services for Theresa (Terri) Mullin, wife of former Assemblymember Gene Mullin, along with Board Vice President Alvaro. He said this sad event called to mind a great deal of gratitude for the role spouses play in a person's career and life. Mr. Camacho extended appreciation to his wife and all of his colleagues' spouses and said it would be hard to do anything without their support.

Mr. Camacho thanked all of the members of the Ad Hoc Board Policy Subcommittee and said the committee made it through the Board Policy 9000 series and requested staff add to the next agenda BP 9321, which will be renumbered BP 9322. He said there would be another batch of policies added for a first reading at the following meeting.

Mr. Camacho thanked Ms. Alvaro, Mr. Ross, Superintendent Campbell, Lead Deputy Counsel Cunningham, Dr. Waddell, Ms. Porterfield, and Mr. Chávez, for their collaboration and work on the policies. He also thanked Ms. Serpa-Garcia for getting everything set up for the meetings.

**Mr. Hsiao**

Mr. Hsiao wished Superintendent Campbell a happy birthday.

Mr. Hsiao reported he attended the 2017 Progress Seminar and thought it was very fascinating. He attended the presentation given by Isabella Chu from Stanford and said her point about building for cars and not people made him think.

**BOARD MEMBERS** (continued)

Mr. Hsiao said he was chagrined to hear the Social Innovation Funding was cut, given the great accomplishments that were announced at The Big Lift, such as doubling the number of children being served for the summer programs and the Big Lift's impact on reading outcomes, which keeps students from backsliding during the summer. Mr. Hsiao said he hopes other funding sources can be found to keep these programs going.

**Mr. Lempert**

Mr. Lempert wished Superintendent Campbell a happy birthday.

Mr. Lempert congratulated Board Member Gerard on receiving an award for serving seven terms on the County Board of Education and said 28 years of service is very impressive.

**Ms. Gerard**

Ms. Gerard wished Superintendent Campbell a happy birthday.

Ms. Gerard said she was thankful for being recognized and said it has been a pleasure to serve on the Board for 28 years. She said people asked why she would want to serve for 28 years, and she said because of the students served by the San Mateo County Office of Education. Ms. Gerard said there have been peaks and valleys throughout the years, but the students are near and dear to her heart and, whenever she did think about not running again, she decided she would be happier continuing to serve these special students. Ms. Gerard said it has been her great pleasure to serve with all of the wonderful members of the Board and all of the staff at the County Office of Education.

Ms. Gerard reported she participated in the California County Boards of Education (CCBE) Conference Committee along with Mr. Camacho.

Ms. Gerard reported she is also on the CCBE Nominating Committee, which will be sending a request out to its members soon for nominations for 2018 CCBE Officers.

**Ms. Alvaro**

Ms. Alvaro congratulated Ms. Gerard for serving on the County Board of Education for 28 years. She said that is an impressive record and knows sometimes it can be difficult. Ms. Alvaro noted Ms. Gerard not only serves the San Mateo County Board of Education, but also serves the California School Boards Association and the California County Board of Education.

Ms. Alvaro wished Superintendent Campbell a happy birthday.

**BOARD MEMBERS** (continued)

Ms. Alvaro reported she attended the Certificated Service Awards event and said she had a great time. Ms. Alvaro acknowledged and thanked State Senator Jerry Hill and Assemblymember Kevin Mullin for sending staff and resolutions honoring the hard-working, amazing staff.

Ms. Alvaro announced she will attend the San Mateo County School Boards Association (SMCSBA) Annual Education Conference on Attracting and Retaining Teachers on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Alvaro commented she believes Robert Moses, a New York City Planner during the 1960s, should be credited for making cars a bigger focus than people when planning and building in cities.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

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Anne E. Campbell, Secretary  
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