1. OPENING ITEMS

A. Call to Order

Board President Hector Camacho, Jr. called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. He announced in light of the current Shelter in Place order executed by San Mateo County’s Health Officer on March 16, 2020, with the purpose of slowing community spread of COVID-19, the County Board would be conducting the meeting remotely. Board President Camacho welcomed all community members joining through the online or telephone connection. He explained that members of the public could submit comments through the chat feature, and Administrator Love, the meeting facilitator, would review and present comments at the appropriate time.

Board President Camacho, on behalf of the County Board of Education, extended gratitude and appreciation to all SMCOE employees, as well as to all school staff and school leaders across the county, for diligently providing continued learning and helping students maintain their connections to school. He shared as a parent of two school-aged children, he has seen firsthand the creativity, resiliency, and dedication on display by educators, and he could not be more proud to be a resident of San Mateo County. He said he empathizes with the students and families experiencing disruption and change right now and assured them SMCOE is committed to doing everything in its power to advocate for and support students and families in this challenging time.

Board President Camacho recognized Superintendent Magee for her leadership and shared she has been an advocate and leader for students and families at a time when leaders are most needed. He stated he is incredibly proud of the work being done by Superintendent Magee and her staff on behalf of students and families in the region. Board President Camacho thanked Superintendent Magee for being a model of steadfast leadership and a tremendous resource for County Superintendents and for local Superintendents and Boards.
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OPENING ITEMS (continued)

B. Approval of Agenda

After a motion by Ms. Alvaro and a second by Ms. Gerard, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Hsiao, Lempert, and Ross) approved the March 20, 2020, agenda as presented.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no persons wishing to address the Board.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 4, 2020, Regular Board Meeting

After a motion by Ms. Gerard and a second by Mr. Hsiao, the Board approved by a roll call vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Hsiao, and Lempert), none opposed, and one abstention (Ross), the Minutes of the March 4, 2020, Regular Meeting as presented.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

B. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 20-16 Honoring Vera Jacobson, Ed.D. on Her Retirement
C. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 20-17 Honoring David Brashear on His Retirement

After a motion by Ms. Gerard and a second by Ms. Alvaro, the Board unanimously by roll call vote (Alvaro, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Hsiao, Lempert, and Ross) approved the Consent Agenda.

5. RESPONSE AND SUPPORT FOR COVID-19 IN SAN MATEO COUNTY

A. Update on COVID-19 Response in San Mateo County Schools

Board President Camacho stated the Board would review any submitted public comment on the topic of COVID-19 response for schools. Superintendent Magee confirmed no public comment had been received.

Superintendent Magee stated she would be providing an overview of the COVID-19 response after which time there would be Board discussion, organized by topic.

Superintendent Magee began by acknowledging the school staff, site leaders, principals, teachers, paraeducators, bus drivers, and all individuals working in a school community, who have operated as heros over the last several weeks, despite the ever-changing and unprecedented county, state, and national news. She shared educators have remained focused on keeping the needs of every student at the forefront, and she is proud to be an educator in the county.
RESPONSE AND SUPPORT FOR COVID-19 IN SAN MATEO COUNTY (continued)

Superintendent Magee provided an overview of SMCOE’s COVID-19 response timeline and explained that SMCOE staff is embedded in the County’s Emergency Operations Center. She described the role of SMCOE in supporting communications regarding health notifications and the health department process.

Superintendent Magee affirmed there were no confirmed COVID-19 cases in the school districts prior to the Shelter-in-Place Order. She shared on March 17, 2020, in response to the Shelter-in-Place Order, most of the SMCOE workforce shifted to remote work, with the exception of essential workers who needed to remain on site to keep operations going. Superintendent Magee clarified the purpose of transitioning students to distance learning and staff to remote work was to slow community spread of the virus.

Superintendent Magee identified the stakeholder groups with whom she has been in close communication regarding the emergency response:

- California Governor and State Superintendent
- California County Superintendents
- Bay Area Shelter-in-Place County Superintendents
- Dr. Morrow and the San Mateo County Health Department
- San Mateo County District Superintendents
- San Mateo County Private and Charter School Leaders
- San Mateo County Emergency Operations Center
- San Mateo County Board of Education and the San Mateo County School Board Association
- SMCOE Staff Members
- San Mateo County Residents

Superintendent Magee described the communication routines the Cabinet team established within SMCOE to keep staff updated and supported. She particularly recognized Administrator Love and her team for their amazing efforts to keep everyone informed and connected.

Superintendent Magee noted that as Student Programs are a top priority for the Board and SMCOE staff, she wanted to share the following steps taken to transition SMCOE students to distance learning:

- In the P-22 Program, program specialists partnered with teachers to develop and mail to families personalized remote learning lesson plans for each student, including all materials and supplies
- In the Early Start Program, for children aged 0-3 years, staff are in communication with all families and are awaiting guidance from legal counsel and the California Department of Education (CDE) on the best practices and methods to serve families remotely
- At Canyon Oaks, teachers developed paper-based personalized lessons for each student and delivered instructional materials to clinical staff
- At Gateway, teachers developed paper-based personalized lessons for each student and mailed all instructional materials to families, and every family was contacted by their student’s teachers (with translation support when needed)
RESPONSE AND SUPPORT FOR COVID-19 IN SAN MATEO COUNTY (continued)

- At Hillcrest and Camp Kemp, teachers developed paper-based personalized lessons for each student and delivered instructional materials to Probation staff.

Superintendent Magee noted staff in student programs are participating in IEP meetings for some students via Zoom.

Superintendent Magee discussed actions and priorities for the following teams: Safe and Supportive Schools, Curriculum and Instruction, Systems for District Improvement, Early Learning and Support Services, Human Resources and Teacher/Administrator Development, Internal Business, External Business, Informational Technology, Maintenance and Operations, and SELPA.

Superintendent Magee then addressed next steps, including supporting SMCOE staff in delivering at-home/distance learning and remote work, working together with state and county leaders, continuing to provide ongoing resources, and most importantly, practicing our core values of cultural humility, trauma-informed approaches, growth mindset, sustainability, and accountability.

B. Board Discussion

Board President Camacho thanked Superintendent Magee for the comprehensive overview and presentation. Because there is so much to discuss on this topic, Mr. Camacho asked the Board members to break the discussion down by topic area.

- Topic: SMCOE Student Programs

Mr. Hsiao thanked Superintendent Magee for her work managing various discussion groups and serving as the bridge between the health experts and the broader community. He asked if the students in residence at Hillcrest and Camp Kemp are attending class or just sitting in their rooms doing paper assignments. Deputy Superintendent Littrell responded Principal Parcels has been communicating with the Probation Director overseeing Hillcrest and Camp Kemp on a daily basis to address ongoing technology and security challenges for students in Hillcrest and Camp Kemp. She added that the computer, science and math coordinators from the STEAM team are working with the IT team to further advance students’ access to technology. Ms. Littrell stated the infrastructure is in place, but there needs to be more collaboration with Probation staff to figure out the appropriate next steps.

Deputy Superintendent Littrell shared that Probation staff discontinued family visits to students at Hillcrest and Camp Kemp, causing additional concerns for the mental health of the students. She explained discussions are ongoing about how to deliver social-emotional learning as well as provide other resources and activities to students, using non-credentialed individuals such as Probation staff.

Mr. Hsiao said he envisioned a worst-case scenario where students are in solitary confinement with zero interactions with other human beings. Deputy Superintendent Littrell stated that is not the case and explained students are obligated to have activity. She explained Probation staff are providing students with activity time while also employing social distancing. She added students have been
able to keep the routines of physical activity and movement, as if it were a non-school day, so they are not sitting in their rooms. Mr. Hsiao stated this is good to hear.

Mr. Ross asked about the possibility of providing more equitable and widespread access to technology for Court and Community Schools students now and in the future. Deputy Superintendent Littrell replied right now there are not enough devices and hotspots to allow all students in the Court and Community Schools Program to have access, specifically those at Canyon Oaks and Gateway students. She added the team is working with each students’ district of residence to procure devices and will ensure the appropriate trainings and protocols are in place for students. Deputy Superintendent Littrell said this is a top priority.

- Topic: SMCOE Role in Countywide Support

Mr. Ross posed his question about the possibility of providing more equitable and widespread access to technology but in reference to the context of county-wide support. He asked whether SMCOE is involved in providing technology support and access so county schools can continue. Superintendent Magee answered SMCOE is facilitating work with private partners who have stepped forward to help. She elaborated that SMCOE is assessing district needs and coordinating support. Superintendent Magee stated Redwood City School District, Ravenswood City School District, and Sequoia Union High School District are already receiving wi-fi support from Chan Zuckerberg Institute (CZI) in the form of hotspots. She also said additional private partners are coming forward to see how they can help.

Associate Superintendent Frentress added there have been weekly calls with Curriculum and Instruction partners at member districts to assess needs. She also said CDE has provided a number of resources related to distance learning some of which have assembled by members of our own STEAM team, specifically Director Pronovost and Coordinator Velásquez. Associate Superintendent Frentress shared her team is taking the lead from districts and is building out distance learning curriculum.

Mr. Hsiao asked whether LCAP/Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) public stakeholder group convenings for SMCOE and local districts have been completed. Associate Superintendent Frentress replied that her team participated in a three-hour webinar with CDE earlier that day, during which CDE staff and relevant County Offices of Education staff discussed ideas about how to meet LCAP needs. She added there are good indications that LCAP timelines may be pushed out and/or adjusted.

Mr. Hsiao surmised the SMCOE team is proceeding along on the original schedule, but there may be some flexibility. Associate Superintendent Frentress confirmed this was accurate and stated her team is still holding initial meetings with districts. She shared she and her team are is in close contact with the CDE, and they are taking and advocacy role, representing districts with specific concerns to the CDE.
Mr. Hsiao asked if stakeholder engagements for SMCOE student programs had been completed. Deputy Superintendent Littrell replied that some stakeholder engagements had been completed at Gateway and Camp Kemp, but there are still a few more to do, including meeting with students. She estimated half the stakeholder meetings have been completed. Mr. Hsiao thanked Deputy Superintendent Littrell for the response.

Mr. Lempert thanked Superintendent Magee for her extraordinary leadership. He asked the team to discuss the linkage between SMCOE and San Mateo County Mental Health and to share the ways in which SMCOE is supporting students who no longer have in-person mental health support at schools. Superintendent Magee said students are losing important connections to their schools and this disconnect could lead to mental health crises among students. Superintendent Magee described this as a huge focus this past week and shared that Deputy Superintendent Littrell’s team has done a great job preparing to respond with supports.

Deputy Superintendent Littrell described how she and Director McGrath had scoured the county to find out which County Mental Health and local nonprofit providers are operating during the Shelter-in-Place Order. She said the information they collected is now available to distribute to families. Deputy Superintendent Littrell said her team realizes what is available is nowhere close to what is needed and is actively trying to discover what else is available through other modalities like tele-therapy.

Deputy Superintendent Littrell shared Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) is working to build telephonic capabilities and exploring other ways to provide access to Court School families and students. Deputy Superintendent Littrell shared the disparities and inequities among districts was highlighted during a regional call of county Directors of Students Services who described working with some districts that have wellness coordinators, school counselors, and the ability to serve students online and keep therapeutic processes happening for high risk students, while other districts do not. Deputy Superintendent Littrell explained the Student Services Division is brainstorming how to expand mental health and social-emotional supports in the at-home/distance learning environment while maintaining a balance with the curriculum and instructional while not adding to stressful dynamics with which families may already coping.

Ms. Alvaro thanked Deputy Superintendent Littrell for her response. She shared she had been in touch with her local librarians and the San Mateo County Library System has materials which have been placed online, such as toddler story time and yoga classes for stress reduction. Ms. Alvaro shared it was a small suggestion, but every little bit helps. Associate Superintendent Frentress added the library offerings have been included in the distance learning resources.

- Topic: Human Resources and Teacher/Admin Development

Mr. Ross stated the flipside to providing technology is helping educators teach online with the same high expectations as in-person teaching. Mr. Ross asked about providing support to SMCOE educators, and those being trained, around teaching online in moments like we are currently experiencing. Associate Superintendent Frentress replied the first goal was to assess needs and
make sure materials, especially personalized learning materials, were available, but the instructional services team is shifting focus to provide training for the tools being used by teachers. She shared her team members, including Director Pronovost, Director Prolo, and Coordinator Velásquez, have expertise in this area.

Mr. Ross suggested SMCOE could facilitate professional learning communities, specifically for educators dealing with online education. He agreed the first goal is to learn how to use the tools, which is sometimes a barrier, and is harder than people think. He said once a teacher has familiarity with the tools, they then need to master best practices.

Mr. Ross saluted Superintendent Magee and everyone at the County Office of Education for being proactive in the response to COVID-19. Mr. Ross also suggested getting ahead of a long lasting or reoccurring crisis by helping teachers access more professional learning opportunities to improve their ability to teach online.

Associate Superintendent Musso described how the Teacher and Administrator Development programs use a Learning Management System (LMS) with a blended approach to coursework. She added when the programs shifted completely online, it wasn’t easy, but there was already infrastructure to support it. She said teacher credential candidates as well as new and prospective administrators can complete assignments, receive feedback, and participate in smaller chat and support groups. Associate Superintendent Musso explained that Administrator Agrawal and her team have been intentional and proactive in modeling how to utilize new equipment for online teaching and administration.

Superintendent Magee added there are already communities of practice working out of the STEAM Center, where teachers are deeply engaged in this work. She added the SMCOE team is also working at the state level to help provide distance learning guidance and plans to develop short trainings and webinars, lasting an hour to an hour and a half, over the next several months, in various topics around delivering effective and high-quality distance learning instruction.

Mr. Ross commented this is an opportunity to expand the audience for the community of practice work being done. He reflected how the Board meeting appears to have a larger audience than regularly scheduled meetings, with roughly 60 people attending. Mr. Ross said if SMCOE can provide opportunities for people to find communities, including those for professional development, it’s a way for the crisis to have impact and expand the good work being done. Superintendent Magee stated she was in full agreement.

Mr. Hsiao added to Mr. Ross’ comments, stating there is a lot of in-house expertise on professional learning communities, but this is an unusual circumstance and maybe this is an opportunity to reach out to other lab schools, like the Khan Academy, that leverage blended learning. He suggested exploring how they do things because they have been doing it for years. He said it would be a shame not to leverage their experience.
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Mr. Ross described how some independent private schools, not part of the public system, are struggling as well. He theorized it may be that some traditional public schools are doing better, and it will be interesting to see what happens when communities come together and notice who is doing work which should be replicated. Mr. Ross suggested there may be more of an audience if we bring people together.

Ms. Alvaro asked about renegotiating contracts based on the new model of work. Associate Superintendent Musso explained when there is a change of working conditions, which is part of collective bargaining agreements, the effects are bargained. She further explained that Human Resources is actively negotiating with the four unions. Ms. Alvaro asked whether the topics of reduced hours and remote teaching are being discussed. Associate Superintendent Musso replied that methods of distance learning and what that looks like are among the topics being discussed. Ms. Alvaro thanked Associate Superintendent Musso.

- Topic: Business Services and Continuity of Operations

Mr. Ross commented on the conversations in the local community about expecting extensions on due dates for taxes, eventually reaching property taxes, which will affect state proceeds, as well. He discussed secondary effects and how taxes may not be collected on schedule. Mr. Ross asked if it’s too early to think about what it might mean for SMCOE budgeting if taxes are not collected on schedule. Deputy Superintendent Porterfield replied it is a little early to know the response but the team is starting to discuss the question. She shared she was on the Treasury website earlier in the day and saw that property tax collections are being done online. Deputy Superintendent Porterfield shared an expectation for other extensions, such as in reporting, but she said budgeting will still have to happen on time.

Mr. Hsiao stated he did not want to be an alarmist, but this drill has been seen before, and a huge loss was taken after the Lehman Brothers collapse. He added there is a lot of turbulence in the bond market and asked if people are asking how to stabilize and minimize county investments? Deputy Superintendent Porterfield said since the Lehman Brothers issue, the Treasurer has restructured its entire investment policy. She explained there is an investment firm in place and an oversight agency monitoring compliance with the new investment policy. Mr. Hsiao asked if Deputy Superintendent Porterfield had any sense of the type of bonds being invested in, corporate, government, or treasury bills. Deputy Superintendent Porterfield said treasury bills and short term paper seem to be the bigger investments. She added the investment reports can be found online, by month.

Mr. Hsiao asked if there is a meeting with the local California Association of School Business Officials (CASBO) chapter to take a deeper look than what is online. Deputy Superintendent Porterfield stated there was not at this time, as everyone is working on the continuity of business. She elaborated that the focus of every agency over the last week has been coming up with their own plan and hours of operation. She said SMCOE is trying to stay abreast of the day-to-day work of 24 entities, the 23 school districts and the County Office of Education, to complete. Mr. Hsiao stated he is concerned about the economic implications, as the state is expecting a huge drop in state revenues. He summarized this is a public health storm, but there is an economic storm coming. Deputy Superintendent Porterfield agreed, but reiterated she was unable to answer his questions. Mr. Hsiao
asked to be kept updated as more information is obtained, and Deputy Superintendent Porterfield agreed to do so.

Board President Camacho interjected that the School Services reports are helpful right now and suggested Mr. Hsiao receive those reports. Superintendent Magee assured Mr. Hsiao he would be added to the email reports. Mr. Hsiao thanked Superintendent Magee and Deputy Superintendent Porterfield.

- Topic: Special Education

Ms. Alvaro asked how services are being delivered to students who have special needs such as audiology, speech and language, physical therapy, and other services. Associate Superintendent Pelletier replied there are 30 LEAs in San Mateo County, including the 23 districts, the County Office of Education’s K-12 programs, itinerant staff, and charter schools who are members of the SELPA. She assured Ms. Alvaro that everyone is doing the best they can, given the varying levels of resources across LEAs.

Associate Superintendent Pelletier described how Deputy Superintendent Littrell and her team have been doing a tremendous amount of work, using a virtual format to address the needs of student in SMCOE Student Programs. She shared how districts are attempting to use general education resources provided via distance learning formats, because all students with special education needs are general education students first. Associate Superintendent Pelletier explained every student with a special education individualized education program (IEP) has their unique set of services making up their offer of Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), and every LEA has to consider how much they can do and whether or not that is going to be sufficient, or considered FAPE. She stated there are a lot of unknowns in special education right now and everyone is doing the best they can.

Ms. Alvaro asked if there has been a suspension of IEPs if it is impossible to provide services to a student right now. Associate Superintendent Pelletier replied this is a complicated issue with which she, along with Chief Deputy County Counsel Cunningham, the Cabinet team, and individuals across the state and nation, are struggling. She stated the United States Department of Education’s Office for Special Education Programs and Office for Civil Rights released guidance this week which clearly stated if schools are closed with only enrichment supports being offered, there is no incurring of special education obligations; however if schools are providing distance, home, or remote learning to general education students, then all components of providing Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) services and FAPE are on the table.

Associate Superintendent Pelletier stated it is impossible to do that for all students, but some students can have their needs met with minor accommodations to distance learning. She shared some districts, teachers, parents, or special service providers will have the skills to do remote speech therapy, using PresenceLearning or another online telehealth service delivery, but for teachers and students not well practiced, this is a steep learning curve.

Associate Superintendent Pelletier explained as there are students with more and more severe, intensive, or layered educational programs, it will be complicated to figure out how to adequately
and appropriately ensure they get the educational benefits of a rich, in-person environment. She said right now SMCOE is in uncharted territories, trying to do the best job possible, especially in this community with a lot of public pressure to provide a tremendous amount of resources.

Associate Superintendent Pelletier said there are equity and access issues for students who do not have devices, are not English speakers, or do not having family support. She also pointed out that students with IEPs have a broad range of capacity, skills, and resources. She shared there is concern among special educators about how to adequately meet all students’ needs. Ms. Alvaro thanked Associate Superintendent Pelletier for her explanation.

- Topic: Next Steps

Board President Camacho added he was reminded on an call earlier in the day that San Mateo County is in earthquake territory, and there needs to be overlap between COVID-19 response and emergency preparedness.

Mr. Ross brought up concerns about the Brown Act and its applicability to elected officials participating in informational sessions like the midday County call. He asked why the Brown Act applies to those informational sessions, and whether it would apply if Board members did not speak at them, but just listened in. Mr. Ross asked for clarification on which Board members would be attending which meetings. Chief Deputy County Counsel Cunningham answered as circumstances are changing rapidly, it would be great if all members of a legislative body could hear the same information at the same time, but, unfortunately, the Governor has not yet relaxed that aspect of the Brown Act. She said certain provisions of the Brown Act have been suspended in light of the public health emergency, which is why the Board meeting is being held remotely for the very first time.

Chief Deputy Cunningham continued the Brown Act prohibits a majority of the Board from participating in an informational teleconference to receive updates because of the definition of the term “meeting” in the Brown Act is defined to include when a majority of the Board is assembled to hear, discuss, or deliberate on a matter within the Board’s jurisdiction. She explained on a seven-member Board, if there were four members participating in an informational update call, that would be a violation of the Brown Act because a majority of the Board would be assembled at the same time to hear information within the scope of the legislative body’s jurisdiction, even if they didn’t discuss or deliberate among themselves.

Chief Deputy Cunningham stated there have been two executive orders from Governor Newsom which have relaxed and modified various aspects of the Brown Act because of the need for legislative bodies to be able to take swift action and react quickly to changing circumstances and public health risk. She suggested it is possible, moving forward, there may be further developments enabling the majority, or entirety, of a legislative body to participate in informational calls, but at this time that authority does not exist.

Mr. Ross asked if four members of the Board walking into the Board of Supervisors meeting to join the audience would be a violation of the Brown Act. Chief Deputy County Counsel Cunningham responded that falls under a different section, as the Board of Supervisors meeting is a public,
agendized Board meeting. She explained the majority of this Board wouldn’t be able to get together and discuss business of the County Office of Education, but they could attend any Brown Act-compliant meeting.

Ms. Alvaro shared appreciation for being able to participate in this meeting and theorized part of the reason for so many participants is the interest in the topic, and the time of day. She suggested continuing to move Board meetings to mid-afternoon might generate more interest from the public to join. Ms. Alvaro shared her schedule is flexible, as many Board members’ schedules might be.

6. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. Superintendent’s Comments

Superintendent Magee shared appreciation for the online format of the Board meeting and assured her team would get better at the process. She said she looks forward to improving the audio issues. Superintendent Magee then expressed gratitude to the entire staff and her team, explaining how one cannot do this work alone. She thanked Deputy Superintendent Porterfield, Associate Superintendent Musso, Deputy Superintendent Littrell, Associate Superintendent Frentress, Administrator Love, Senior Administrator Fairley, Associate Superintendent Pelletier, Chief Deputy County Counsel Cunningham, Administrator Gustafson, and Ms. Perna for their work and support.

Superintendent Magee shared she couldn’t be more grateful to the SMCOE team and the Board, who have been amazingly supportive. She thanked Board President Camacho for touching base with her throughout the week and the Board for their positive comments and support. Superintendent Magee said there is a lot of work ahead. She knows everyone will be okay, and SMCOE will come out of this doing things differently, possibly even better. Lastly, Superintendent Magee thanked everyone for all they are doing to support students.

7. BOARD MEMBERS

A. Board Member Comments

Ms. Gerard
Ms. Gerard thanked everyone for working so hard to make this process work, and said an amazing number of hours and talent are being put to use above and beyond the norm. She shared all calls from Superintendent Magee, along with this meeting, have been informative. Ms. Gerard described receiving a multitude of personal calls at home from people asking questions and she has been able to answer them because of the information received from Superintendent Magee. She again thanked Superintendent Magee and expressed a hope that this is all over soon.

Mr. Hsiao
Mr. Hsiao echoed Superintendent Magee’s gratitude towards staff and Cabinet, describing them as amazing. He shared appreciation for the responses to his inquiries and for how everyone is thinking
ahead. Mr. Hsiao recalled the past year and discussed being hit by ransomware prior to the opening of school, Chief Deputy County Cunningham’s ski accident, and now Mr. Camacho talking about earthquakes. He hopes to avoid an upcoming national disaster, and expressed gratitude that he is part of a big team that is able to stay focused. Mr. Hsiao asked everyone to take care of themselves, get exercise, eat well, and binge on Netflix, if necessary.

Mr. Cannon
Mr. Cannon discussed the leadership from Superintendent Magee and the amazing work from Cabinet and staff. He shared having confidence in Superintendent Magee prior to the health crisis and having even more confidence and respect for her now. Mr. Cannon explained because of Superintendent Magee’s work with county agencies, there is a feeling of confidence in her leadership, and he thanked her. He said with leadership such as Superintendent Magee’s, there is less need to worry because she is way ahead of the solutions he had in mind, and he again thanked everyone for their work and expressed best wishes to all.

Ms. Alvaro
Ms. Alvaro thanked staff for addressing her small issues and concerns, including Manager Ontiveros who has provided technology support. She expressed appreciation to everyone working hard and said her heart goes out to everyone working from home with small children. Ms. Alvaro said she was glad Chief Deputy Cunningham was back, and she thanked everyone for being able to do the Zoom meeting, which was helpful in touching base, hearing what is going on, and asking questions.

Mr. Ross
Mr. Ross echoed the thanks and appreciation for the leadership from Superintendent Magee, Cabinet, and the professional educators and office staff remotely attending the meeting. He acknowledged how many are spending hours doing extra work to address this crisis, along with regular work, under more difficult circumstances. He again thanked everyone.

Mr. Lempert
Mr. Lempert also echoed comments about the extraordinary work being done by Superintendent Magee and the great SMCOE team, and suggested everyone take care of themselves and their loved ones. He shared appreciation for the work being done on behalf of the students in the county and for providing a model. Mr. Lempert shared there is a great deal of hurt and fear among people in tough circumstances right now. He said when times are good, students who most need help, including students of color, students in poverty, and student experiencing trauma, are already in crisis. He added that when another crisis hits, these vulnerable students are in the most danger. Mr. Lempert discussed what is happening economically for the families in poverty with young children, and thanked the team for their critical support. He suggested keeping an eye on the ball to ensure all partners recognize it is kids who suffer the most, both in the short term and long term. Mr. Lempert reiterated how the work of SMCOE is so critical, and he cannot thank the team enough.

Board President Camacho
Board President Camacho said he mentioned many of his comments at the beginning of the meeting, including being able to witness Superintendent Magee’s leadership over the last several weeks. He again thanked her and her team for coordinating efforts and keeping the work moving forward. He
BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

thanked the technical staff for their help in putting the Board meeting together as a big, last-minute request. Board President Camacho shared feeling it was important and helpful to connect as a Board and a leadership governance team. He thanked those who called in, both SMCOE staff and members of the public, sharing appreciation for their presence at the meeting and encouraging their attendance at future meetings, both remote and when meetings return to normal. Board President Camacho thanked all participants for being concerned employees and citizens. He shared the Board hopes to represent them well in all things they do and encouraged all to reach out as necessary for support.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Camacho reported the next meeting will occur on April 1, 2020, and will be held remotely. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Nancy Magee, Secretary

jlp