Meeting Date: April 1, 2020

Meeting Location: Held Remotely

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

Staff Officials Present: Nancy Magee, Secretary
Jennifer Perna, Executive Assistant

Other Staff Present: Claire Cunningham, Mefula Fairley, Jennifer Frentress, Jeneé Littrell, Patricia Love, Lori Musso, Denise Porterfield

Youth Commissioner Liaison Present: Sydney Mufarreh

1. OPENING ITEMS

   A. Call to Order

   Board President Hector Camacho, Jr. called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. He announced in light of the current Shelter-in-Place order executed by the San Mateo County Health Officer with the purpose of slowing the community spread of COVID-19, the County Board is conducting its meeting remotely. Board President Camacho also shared that on March 17, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-29-20 suspending certain provisions of the Brown Act in order to allow governing boards to conduct meetings through remote access. He welcomed all those joining the meeting through the webinar format. Board President Camacho explained comments from the public could be submitted through the webinar Question and Answer feature, and that Administrator Patricia Love, serving as meeting facilitator, would monitor the comments and share with the Board at the appropriate time.

   Board President Camacho, on behalf of the County Board of Education, extended gratitude and appreciation to SMCOE staff and all school employees working across San Mateo County, whether in traditional public, charter, or private schools. He said the Board honors and appreciates their work to stay connected to students and provide opportunities for continued learning. Board President Camacho also acknowledged the students and families of San Mateo County experiencing disruption due to the national health crisis and assured them SMCOE is committed to doing everything in its power to advocate for and support them in this challenging time.

   Lastly, Board President Camacho welcomed Youth Commission Liaison Mufarreh.
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
April 1, 2020

OPENING ITEMS (continued)

B. Approval of Agenda

After a motion by Ms. Gerard and a second by Mr. Lempert, the Board unanimously, by roll call vote, (Alvaro, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Hsiao, Lempert, and Ross) approved the April 1, 2020, agenda as presented.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no persons wishing to address the Board.

3. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

A. March 2020 Employee of the Month Gustavo Canales, Lead Custodial/Maintenance Worker, Business Services Division

Board President Camacho recognized the March 2020 Employee of the Month, Gustavo Canales, Lead Custodial/Maintenance Worker, Business Services Division. Board President Camacho congratulated Mr. Canales on behalf of the Board and presented him with a check and commemorative frame/clock.

4. INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

A. Sarah Kinahan, Coordinator, Child Care Partnership Council, Early Learning Support Services, Instructional Services Division

Associate Superintendent Frentress introduced Sarah Kinahan as SMCOE’s new Coordinator, Child Care Partnership Council, Early Learning Support Services, Instructional Services Division. Ms. Kinahan previously worked in SMCOE’s Early Learning Support Services as a member of The Big Lift team.

Coordinator Kinahan thanked the Board for the opportunity to work on behalf of San Mateo County children. She said her work with nonprofit and governmental organizations supporting the early learning and care system in San Mateo County for the past 16 years has prepared her for her new role at SMCOE.

Coordinator Kinahan further described her previous roles including Executive Director of the Child Care Coordinating Council, a local resource and referral agency; Strategy and Communications Consultant for organizations such as First Five and a local Head Start provider. In her consulting role, she also helped found Build Up, an initiative addressing the childcare facilities shortage, which brought 1,600 new childcare spaces into the development pipeline. She is thrilled with her new position at SMCOE because it allows her to synthesize her previous experience working on public...
INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF (continued)

policy, data, research, and advocacy to continue to improve the early learning and care systems in the county.

In closing, Coordinator Kinahan shared that as a parent of two boys in the San Carlos School District, she is even more invested in making sure local communities have what is needed to strengthen families and ensure young children have the highest quality early learning and care opportunities.

B. Edirle Menezes, Coordinator, Early Learning Quality Improvement, Early Learning Support Services, Instructional Services Division

Associate Superintendent Frentress introduced Dr. Edirle Menezes, Coordinator, Early Learning Quality Improvement, Early Learning Support Services, Instructional Services Division. Dr. Menezes joins SMCOE from First Five Contra Costa County where she spent seven years leading early childhood projects and building workforce capacity for bilingual coaches.

Coordinator Menezes said she is thrilled to be part of the early learning team in San Mateo County. She described her background in developmental psychology, where she pursued doctorate and post-doctorate degrees and worked for 16 years in the early learning and higher education arenas, both in non-profit and government sectors in Santa Clara and Contra Costa Counties. Coordinator Menezes added that while in Santa Clara County she worked with San Jose State University and National Hispanic University and was responsible for developing the first early childhood development Bachelor’s Degree and Master’s Program, the first in the Bay Area for the Master’s Program and the first in the country for early biliteracy development.

Coordinator Menezes started in the field of early learning as a preschool teacher and director after completing her doctorate in psychology because she wanted to gain on-the-ground experience. She has special interest and expertise in strengthening subsidized care for the private sector.

Coordinator Menezes finished by saying that as an immigrant from Brazil, living in the United States for over 20 years, and raising two biliterate children, she is excited to work at SMCOE which enjoys such a great reputation.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 20, 2020, Special Board Meeting

After a motion by Ms. Alvaro and a second by Ms. Gerard, the Board unanimously, by roll call vote, (Alvaro, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Hsiao, Lempert, and Ross) approved the Minutes of the March 20, 2020, Special Board Meeting as presented.
6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

   B. Receive Staffing Reports  
   C. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 20-18 In Recognition of April 2020, as Public Schools Month  
   D. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 20-19 In Recognition of April 13-17, 2020, as the Week of the Young Child  
   E. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 20-20 In Recognition of April 2020, as Autism Awareness Month  
   F. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 20-21 In Recognition of April 22, 2020, as Administrative Professionals Day  
   G. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 20-22 In Recognition of April 22, 2020, as Earth Day

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

7. **INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES**

   A. Receive Update on Early Learning Support Services

Associate Superintendent Frentress introduced Alyson Suzuki, Administrator, Early Learning Support Services (ELSS), to provide an update on the work being done by the Early Learning Support Services team, including information on the ELSS contribution to the COVID-19 emergency.

Administrator Suzuki explained her two children, ages 7 and 10, would be participants in the Board meeting as part of their distance learning experience, as she attempts to combine her roles as a mom and educator. She then began her presentation, describing the mission of ELSS to support children from birth through third grade, and outlining her agenda including ELSS department updates, upcoming initiatives, and their COVID-19 response.

Administrator Suzuki reminded the Board of the different work streams being addressed by ELSS and the progress made in these specific areas.

- Preschool – 3rd Grade Alignment  
- Special Needs and Disability Support (Inclusion)  
- Quality Counts (Specialization Badges)  
- Infant/Toddler and Preschool Expansion  
- Family Engagement Data

Administrator Suzuki began her update by noting that all of the progress outlined in her presentation aligns with SMCOE’s strategic goals of having successful students, inspired teachers, effective schools, and forward-thinking policies.

Administrator Suzuki discussed work in the Preschool – 3rd Grade alignment and explained the stronger the connection between early learning and the K-12 system, the greater the impact on student success and outcomes. Administrator Suzuki described SMCOE’s work to infuse early
INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES (continued)

learning into the organizational priorities, including improving content on the website to focus more on the consumers – the students, families, teachers, and community.

Administrator Suzuki shared that members of the ELSS team presented on The Big Lift at the Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee (CISC) Leadership Conference. Administrator Suzuki also shared about the ongoing work to support students with special needs through the creation of an inclusion cohort and seeking funding through inclusion grants. SMCOE has been awarded one regional grant providing professional development and technical assistance, and the team is hopeful of receiving a second grant, a $4.5 million grant for the next three years.

Administrator Suzuki discussed the draft form of the Inclusion and Quality Counts Update, a specialization for supporting students with special needs that goes hand-in-hand with the QRIS matrix.

Administrator Suzuki provided an overview of how her team supported the COVID-19 response for the early learning community across the county. She reported there are more than 1,000 licensed child care programs in the county comprised of family child care homes, infant centers, preschools, after school programs, state and federally subsidized programs, private centers, and community-based programs. She summarized ways in which SMCOE and community partners have supported the early learning community in the COVID-19 emergency.

- Facilitated communication to understand the Shelter-In-Place order requiring programs to close except to serve essential workforce
- Identifying where programs might be suffering financially, especially those privately operated
- Supporting providers in adjusting to Community Care Licensing changes in health and safety standards, which require smaller group sizes, deeper cleaning, and greater distance between groups of children
- Problem solving to help providers obtain necessary supplies such as toilet paper, bleach, and baby wipes

Administrator Suzuki also outlined SMCOE’s specific COVID-19 support including:

- Providing technical support for programs
- Delivering online professional development, engaging more than 60 participants in learning about family engagement
- Developing at-home learning resources and supports for families and ensuring continued connections between preschool partners and their families
- Developing online resources
- Partnering with 4C’s of San Mateo, the county’s resource and referral program
- Supporting sites to re-open campuses for emergency child care
- Forming, with a variety of community partners, the San Mateo County Child Care COVID-19 Response Committee, which provides an opportunity to meet, respond, and gather resources
Administrator Suzuki recognized her amazing ELSS team and remarked how everyone has been able to come together in support of the early learning community in this challenging time.

Ms. Alvaro asked Administrator Suzuki about the regulation of emergency child care slots only being open for "essential" workers. Administrator Suzuki shared the ELSS team is using guidelines from the State, which lists essential workers in 16 different industry sectors. Ms. Alvaro asked who decides which child care centers remain open and how many slots they will have. Administrator Suzuki replied the ELSS team works with the resource and referral (R&R) agency which is responsible for the supply and demand of child care and serves as the hub for this resource. Ms. Alvaro asked if it is currently up to the individual child care centers to decide if they will remain open to serve the children of essential workers. Administrator Suzuki confirmed this was correct.

Mr. Hsiao thanked Administrator Suzuki for the great presentation and noted the inclusion work is exciting. He asked of the 30,000 slots in the county, what percentage are privately run? Administrator Suzuki said she did not have that breakdown but the California Child Partnership Council (CCPC) data shows there is still a need for 10,000 slots for children aged 0-5. She added Coordinator Kinahan would have this data, and she would follow up. Mr. Hsiao said he was concerned if the centers are shut down, what percent of the inventory might be lost after 2-3 months. Administrator Suzuki explained her team is trying to investigate and understand the loan program and whether the private centers or family child care homes would qualify.

Mr. Hsiao asked how can the caregivers protect themselves from potential virus contamination and carrying it back to their homes and families? Administrator Suzuki replied she shares this concern, and her team is providing training on the increased health and safety standards, supplying gear, and continuing to discuss solutions. She added her team is exploring funding for hazard pay for teachers and for the sites that remain open. He thanked Administrator Suzuki for her presentation and encouraged her team to keep up the great work.

Mr. Ross thanked Administrator Suzuki for the presentation and shared appreciation for her concern about the loan program, on which he has been deeply focused for several days. He explained the loan program provides two months of payroll and some amount of rent as a forgivable loan to small businesses, including all non-profits that otherwise meet the criteria. Mr. Ross stated providers should be encouraged to apply for the program.

Board President Camacho thanked Administrator Suzuki for her presentation and shared he was excited about the rating system, as more information and feedback is always helpful. He especially thanked her for providing updates on the team’s response to COVID-19.

8. **STUDENT SERVICES**

   A. **First Reading of Board Policy 6174 on Education for English Learners**

Board President Camacho stated the Board would be presented with a first reading of Board Policy 6174 on Education for English Learners to update the English Learner (EL) Master Plan. He stated
no action is required, and the policy will come back to the Board at its April 15, 2020, meeting for a second reading and potential action.

Deputy Superintendent Littrell introduced Karen Gnusti, Administrator, Curriculum and Instruction Services, to provide the first reading of Board Policy 6174 on Education for English Learners and to talk more in depth about the policy revisions. Coordinator Gnusti referenced the changes from the original policy:

- Replacing the California English Language Development Test (CELDT) with the English Language Proficiency Assessment for California (ELPAC)
- Referencing the new SMCOE English Learner (EL) Master Plan, brought to the Board in February, to be updated annually as needed to reflect policy changes, and recently updated to reflect changes in reclassification and other mandated protocols for English Learners
- Highlighting the need for reflection in the SMCOE Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) goals
- Adding the following language in the second paragraph “Each child is viewed as an individual of great worth who brings a uniqueness that is highly valued. We believe that celebrating and acknowledging a child’s native language nurtures feelings of acceptance and valuing of self and family.”

Board President Camacho thanked Coordinator Gnusti for the presentation. Ms. Alvaro also thanked Coordinator Gnusti for showing the changes and explaining why they were made.

Board President Camacho summarized the Board policy would come back for a second reading at the next Board meeting, and he again thanked Coordinator Gnusti for her work to prepare the updates.

9. **UPDATE ON RESPONSE AND SUPPORT FOR COVID-19 IN SAN MATEO COUNTY**

   A. Receive Update on Response and Support for COVID-19 in San Mateo County

Superintendent Magee described she is doing her best to provide current information despite how quickly things keep changing. She then outlined the key points of her presentation:

- Local and regional actions
- Response of SMCOE student programs
- SMCOE internal supports to keep informed and connected
- Communications and resources
- Partnerships, both in place and being explored

Superintendent Magee reported as of March 31, 2020, there is a more extensive Shelter-In-Place order that has been extended through May 3, 2020. This amended order requires that facilities providing essential services provide signage about the ways in which physical distancing protocols are being enforced. Superintendent Magee displayed the signage being used at all SMCOE buildings.
UPDATE ON RESPONSE AND SUPPORT FOR COVID-19 IN SAN MATEO COUNTY
(continued)

and discussed the detailed protocols for staff entering SMCOE facilities. She acknowledged Manager Maldonado and his facilities team for their comprehensive support.

Superintendent Magee discussed a letter from the California State Superintendent of Public Instruction Thurmond to County Superintendents suggesting students may not be returning to school campuses before the end of the school year and emphasized the importance of distance learning. She said the district and regional county superintendents will continue to work closely together and make decisions in collaboration with the regional health officers.

Superintendent Magee said the Governor highlighted the following information at his daily press conference earlier that day:

- Maximizing efforts for distance learning
- Noting that on-campus classes were unlikely for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year
- Signing a Labor Management Agreement to shape work conditions under COVID-19
- Working to close the digital divide and fill gaps with community partnerships
- Announcing new guidance about course grades

Superintendent Magee shared SMCOE’s efforts to connect with students and support mental health and wellness, work with school leaders and teachers to deepen at-home and distance learning instruction, and encourage all SMCOE staff to take a needed break over the spring vacation.

Deputy Superintendent Littrell shared that Court and Community and P-22 student programs are working on embracing quality distance learning. She thanked Coordinator Velásquez and Manager Roman for their hard work in this effort and thanked the teachers and paraeducators for embracing this new way of educating.

Deputy Superintendent Littrell confirmed staff remains focused on the social-emotional health of students and families, with nurses reaching out to families in the P-22 program and ensuring they have connections and resources for mental health services and access to school meals. Bettina Graf, Restorative Practices Lead, has been doing the same with Court and Community families.

Ms. Alvaro asked if any of the districts are considering a delayed graduation ceremony. Superintendent Magee confirmed this has been discussed by district superintendents. School leaders will continue to work with their local communities to determine how best to celebrate their graduates. She noted celebrations may take a variety of forms and some may not happen until June, July, or August, but she is confident all districts will find a way celebrate graduation.

Ms. Alvaro shared she has been assuring community members this topic is being discussed and that updates will be provided. Superintendent Magee agreed and said school leaders will likely be reaching out to students soon to elicit their ideas. Ms. Alvaro asked if these conversations would be happening in the high school districts and the three unified school districts. Ms. Magee confirmed yes.
UPDATE ON RESPONSE AND SUPPORT FOR COVID-19 IN SAN MATEO COUNTY
(continued)

Board President Camacho asked how students will fare during their week of spring break with limited contact with their school. Superintendent Magee replied she had not heard much about preparation for spring break other than anecdotally that families and staff members are looking forward to the chance to rest and reset themselves in this new normal. She conjectured that some teachers have set up extended learning opportunities that students can engage with over spring break. She also expressed concern about students who do not have digital access at home.

In regards to county programs, Deputy Superintendent Littrell shared SMCOE is working to prepare digital devices and hotspots for students. She acknowledged these won’t be ready before spring break but the team is looking forward to when students can take advantage of distance learning and other opportunities such as virtual museum tours that digital access can provide. She also described the new normal as exhausting for families and thinks most staff and students are looking forward to the break.

Mr. Hsiao asked if there is an option to change the school calendar to afford more in-person learning if students return to physical school facilities in the fall. Superintendent Magee replied it has been discussed, but it’s an extremely complicated issue. As far as she is aware, schools are sticking with their current calendars. She added there is hope of providing extended summer learning, but that is yet to be determined.

Superintendent Magee stated SMCOE is providing consistent communications, including:

- Regular communications through a morning report and an afternoon update to all staff
- Friday Connections newsletter
- Tuesdays – OneSMCOE Webinar, the first attended by 336 staff and the second attended by 341 staff, out of approximately 400 staff members
- Thursdays – Leadership Meeting for all managers
- Informing staff of the transition to Phase Two, April 6 – May 1
- Encouraging staff to take advantage of spring break

Administrator Love addressed public communications and support being provided to districts, highlighting how Patrick Broderick and Anne Bartlett created new COVID-19 response and resources pages which are updated constantly. She provided data on website traffic, describing 42,000 users in March, a 118% increase over February, that includes 115,000 pages visited. She explained the average daily traffic was roughly 3,000 in March, compared to 1,400 in February. The Communications team is exploring a new server to handle this new level of traffic. Administrator Love shared her team continues to receive positive feedback from those using the website as a source of information.

Administrator Love described SMCOE’s involvement with the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in San Mateo, and explained how questions that are submitted to the EOC regarding schools are directed to her for response and follow-up. She added she and Superintendent Magee are also fielding calls into the county office. Administrator Love commented those who call into the county office seem happy to have a live person answer the phone and/or call them back. She is proud of the
level of services being provided to the community. Superintendent Magee added she could not be implementing the current level of support without the assistance of Administrator Love and the Communications team, who are doing phenomenal work under difficult circumstances.

Superintendent Magee reminded meeting attendees that it is Census Day 2020, and encouraged everyone to advocate for a “Complete Count” by reaching out to family and friends ensuring they have completed their Census. She discussed how important it is to get as many people counted as possible.

Board President Camacho thanked Superintendent Magee for the presentation and updates and echoed Administrator Love’s statements about Superintendent Magee being the point person in the county for education, not just for local, traditional public schools, but also to charter and private schools. He thanked Superintendent Magee for being a tremendous resource.

Mr. Ross shared he was still unclear how SMCOE is playing a role in helping K-12 schools obtain online tools and resources, especially in regards to third-party providers. He asked what more can be done and what can the Board do if companies offer solutions. Superintendent Magee confirmed offers from community partners are being fielded in the Office of the Superintendent, and she has formed a committee to coordinate the efforts. For example, she is working directly with the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative (CZI) on obtaining digital resources for students.

Mr. Ross shared how an online service providing coaching for college applications and Advanced Placement (AP) essays that was referred to him caused him to consider how students are being prepared for AP exams. Superintendent Magee replied that SMCOE staff is developing and rolling out direct training and workshops on distance learning. She said she will keep the Board updated on those offerings.

Ms. Alvaro shared receiving an email from Cabrillo Unified School District Superintendent McPhetridge with information on all the free Wi-Fi hotspots along the coast. She asked if there is similar information provided for the rest of the county for those who may have laptops but no Wi-Fi access. Superintendent Magee said she believes the county has developed Wi-Fi maps for the entire county and will make sure it is made available to schools. Ms. Alvaro suggested any resources Superintendent Magee could provide to superintendents would be helpful.

Board President Camacho said many local districts are linking to the SMCOE website, and he loves having a central place where people can go to obtain updated information. He made a push for Superintendent Magee or a member of her team to join the county’s long-term recovery planning committee. He cannot stress how important it is for someone in the education community to be on that committee. Superintendent Magee shared she has committed to sitting on that steering committee and that additionally there will be task forces in different topic areas that will be open to interested residents. Board President Camacho stated this is wonderful to hear, as there cannot be long-term planning without considering education, which impacts thousands of students. He thanked Superintendent Magee for pursuing that opportunity.
10. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. Superintendent’s Comments

Superintendent Magee shared that her staff has scheduled a new timeline to prepare the memorandum of understanding (MOU) for Oxford Day Academy (ODA) and will bring it to the Board by the first or second Board meeting in May. She shared being in contact with Dr. Dwinal and Dr. St. Roseman, supporting them in their COVID-19 response. Superintendent Magee will continue to provide information and updates to the Board on this topic.

Superintendent Magee wished Mr. Hsiao a happy birthday on April 4.

Lastly, Superintendent Magee shared the sad news that Mr. Lempert lost his father over the past weekend. She respectfully asked Board President Camacho to adjourn the meeting in honor of Arthur Lempert. Board President Camacho replied it would be an honor to do so.

Mr. Ross suggested it might be worth asking ODA, as a non-profit organization and small employer, if they planned to apply for stimulus funding, if there are additional costs in providing distance learning. He said they should be eligible. Superintendent Magee assured Mr. Ross she would share that information with the school’s leaders.

11. BOARD MEMBERS

A. Board Member Comments

Youth Commissioner Mufarreh
Youth Commissioner Mufarreh shared her appreciation to everyone, especially Superintendent Magee, for providing updates on graduation. She wished Mr. Hsiao a happy birthday. Youth Commissioner Mufarreh reported this would be her last Board meeting and thanked everyone, especially Board President Camacho, for the experience and opportunity to learn about the education system from the administrative point of view. Board President Camacho shared it had been an honor to have Youth Commissioner Mufarreh at the dais asking insightful questions and representing youth. He said it is a great idea to bring student voice to the Board, and Youth Commissioner Mufarreh has been an excellent example for students in the future. Board President Camacho expressed hopes to continue the relationship, wished Youth Commissioner Mufarreh the best of luck, and encouraged her to let them know if there is anything they can do to support her.

Ms. Alvaro
Ms. Alvaro asked about Oxford Day Academy and whether Mr. Ross is part of the team developing the MOU. Mr. Ross confirmed he is, and although they have not had a conversation in a while, they are starting up again, and he expects to be involved.

Ms. Alvaro wished Mr. Hsiao a happy birthday.

Ms. Alvaro also asked for clarification on the two positions on the classified staffing report, both indicating they are replacing Franklin Felizardo. Superintendent Magee clarified the original open
position included the title of Administrator, but the recruitment did not produce a candidate. She explained the Personnel Commission took action to change the Administrator title to Executive Director, and the position was reposted.

Ms. Alvaro shared it was nice to see everyone and know they are healthy. She thanked Youth Commissioner Mufarreh for all she has done and thanked all SMCOE staff for being awesome, congratulating Manager Maldonado and the Facilities team for their incredible work. She also congratulated Gustavo Canales on his Employee of the Month honors.

Lastly, Ms. Alvaro shared condolences to Mr. Lempert, wishing she could give him a hug. She expressed how sorry she was for the loss of Mr. Lempert’s wonderful father.

Mr. Hsiao
Mr. Hsiao thanked Youth Commissioner Mufarreh for participating over the past months. He wished her the best of luck and hopes she is able to reschedule and participate in her senior prom.

Mr. Hsiao expressed shock at the passing of Mr. Lempert’s father and shared he was amazed by all he had accomplished in his life. He shared he keenly feels the loss that Mr. Lempert feels and wished the Lempert family the very best.

Mr. Hsiao thanked and shared appreciation for all the happy birthday wishes.

Mr. Hsiao saluted Superintendent Magee for the communication she has provided and for leading with stability over things which can’t be easily managed. He also saluted the staff and acknowledged that although change is hard, they are doing heroic work.

Mr. Ross
Mr. Ross echoed compliments to Superintendent Magee and the professional staff at SMCOE, and acknowledged how much workloads have increased. He shared he is sorry to see Youth Commissioner Mufarreh go, but it has been delightful to have a student representative for the first time, and he hopes she will be the first of many.

Mr. Ross expressed his condolences at the passing of Mr. Lempert’s father and stated although he did not know Arthur Lempert, he was able to read about him and get a better understanding of Mr. Lempert, which he appreciated. He described how this is happening at a time when it is impossible to hug and comfort others.

Ms. Gerard
Ms. Gerard echoed comments about how SMCOE has stepped up to the plate to provide leadership for the county. She described the SMCOE staff as amazing and shared she doesn’t know where Superintendent Magee is getting the stamina, but she knows there is an amazing support staff of whom she is very proud. Ms. Gerard shared it is wonderful to have updates and information as Board members, so when asked questions they are either able to answer the questions or direct the individual in the appropriate direction. She shared people are so distraught, emotional, and overwhelmed at this point, and they are looking for information.
Ms. Gerard thanked Manager Maldonado and his staff for keeping everyone safe and healthy. She said it was her pleasure to sit next to Youth Commissioner Mufarreh at the Board meetings, describing her as delightful and knowledgeable. Ms. Gerard shared she will truly miss Youth Commissioner Mufarreh and having a granddaughter who is a senior in high school, she sympathizes with Youth Commissioner Mufarreh’s pain in losing her senior year rituals.

Ms. Gerard wished Mr. Hsiao a happy birthday, however it is celebrated.

Ms. Gerard shared her heart goes out to Mr. Lempert and his family. She knows personally how hard this experience is, and her thoughts, prayers, and love are with his family.

She thanked everyone for all they do and advised everyone to stay safe.

Mr. Cannon

Mr. Cannon expressed his condolences to Mr. Lempert, sharing he read the beautiful obituary in the paper which demonstrated both the substance and warmth projected by Albert Lempert. He shared he was unsure if his family ever recovered from the sadness after his father passed away, and he wished Mr. Lempert well in that battle.

Mr. Cannon shared appreciation for the work done by Superintendent Magee and her staff. Mr. Cannon described how educators are encountering new challenges, and he respects how suddenly people had to change and how terrific the responses have been. He explained in the reports to the San Mateo County School Boards Association (SMCSBA), Deputy Superintendent Porterfield’s explanations of financial challenges have been especially helpful, and Associate Superintendent Pelletier is a down-to-earth and reassuring voice on special education. Mr. Cannon also complimented Administrator Love’s hand in all of the hard work. He complimented Administrator Suzuki on her report and thanked Youth Commissioner Mufarreh for representing students and Mills High School so nicely.

Lastly, Mr. Cannon wished a happy birthday to Mr. Hsiao.

Mr. Lempert

Mr. Lempert expressed having a special place in his heart for Youth Commissioner Mufarreh on behalf of the County Youth Commission and wished her the best of luck. He wished Mr. Hsiao a happy birthday. Mr. Lempert echoed comments to Superintendent Magee and her team on extraordinary work helping students in the county, along with keeping themselves and loved ones safe. He shared he could not thank Superintendent Magee enough for her support over the past few days.

Lastly, Mr. Lempert thanked everyone for their kind words. He shared his father was an amazing father. He never met a harder worker, and he knew his father would have encouraged him to attend the Board meeting with everything going on with children today. Mr. Lempert said he was there in his father’s honor, and he appreciated everyone’s support.
BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

Board President Camacho
Board President Camacho thanked Mr. Lempert for being with them at the Board meeting. He sent condolences on behalf of his family and stated it was an honor to adjourn on behalf of Albert Lempert.

Board President Camacho wished a happy birthday to Mr. Hsiao. He thanked everyone who has been a part of the messaging and shared he appreciates the coordinated efforts and responsiveness of Superintendent Magee and her team to ever changing news. Board President Camacho thanked Superintendent Magee for always responding with grace and class and for her leadership, which he appreciates.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m., in honor of Arthur Lempert.

Nancy Magee
Nancy Magee, Secretary

jlp