1. OPENING ITEMS

A. Call to Order

Board President Hector Camacho, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. He announced the County Board was conducting the meeting as a webinar in light of the current health emergency and the Governor's March 17, 2020, Executive Order N-29-20 suspending certain provisions of the Brown Act to allow governing boards to conduct meetings through remote access. Board President Camacho also noted in the effort to increase accessibility and opportunity for community engagement, simultaneous interpretation of the meeting was being provided in Spanish using Zoom technology through the end of Public Comment and would continue further into the meeting if people were utilizing the channel.

B. Approval of Agenda

After a motion by Ms. Gerard and a second by Mr. Lempert, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross), by roll call vote, approved the May 19, 2021, agenda as presented.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no persons wishing to address the Board.

3. **EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH**

   A. **May 2021 Employee of the Month Yung-Hui Chien, Educational Data Analyst, Early Learning Support Services, Educational Services Division**

   Board President Camacho recognized the May 2021 Employee of the Month Yung-Hui Chien, Educational Data Analyst, Early Learning Support Services, Educational Services Division. Board President Camacho congratulated Ms. Chien on behalf of the Board and explained she would receive the award check and commemorative token soon.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

   A. **May 5, 2021, Regular Board Meeting**

   After a motion by Ms. Gerard and a second by Mr. Cannon, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross), by roll call vote, approved the Minutes of the May 5, 2021, Regular Board Meeting as presented.

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

   B. **Receive Staffing Reports**
   C. **Adopt Joint Resolution No. 21-28 Recognizing June 2021 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month**
   D. **Adopt Resolution No. 21-29 Regarding Expenditures of Education Protection Account Funding**
   E. **Adopt Resolution No. 21-30 Authorizing 2020-2021 Budgetary Increases, Revisions, and Transfers at Year End**
   F. **Adopt Resolution No. 21-31 Authorizing Temporary Borrowing ("Bridge Loans") in 2021-2022 for Small School Districts with Average Daily Attendance of 901 or Fewer**

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

6. **BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION**

   A. **Receive Report on the May Revision of the Governor's Budget**

   Denise Porterfield, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services Division, began by stating that Governor Newsom, in his California Comeback Plan, provides a mix of ongoing and one-time funds of $100 billion as a result of the surge in state revenues and federal stimulus funding.
BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION (continued)

The state’s General Fund has experienced an amazing recovery, shifting from a $54 billion deficit one year ago to a surplus of $75.7 billion. Deputy Superintendent Porterfield continued that the recovery is so great that the Gann Limit has been triggered. The Gann Limit restricts the allowable growth in state and local government spending, including county offices and school districts. Amounts over the limit must be split between education and tax payer refunds. The May Revise estimates a $16.2 billion excess for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 fiscal years. She explained that $8.1 billion will be refunded through Golden State Stimulus payments with the remainder allocated to K-14 education.

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield shared the 2020 Budget Act provided for a supplemental payment to restore K-14 revenue losses and mitigate anticipated COVID-19 losses and costs. It was designed to increase the Proposition 98 minimum guarantee from 38% to 40% of the state’s General Fund revenues. In January, the Governor proposed repealing the one-time supplement by providing augmentation to K-14 in Proposition 98. The May Revise continues with this proposal due to the increase in K-14 funding.

The 2020-2021 Budget Act also includes deferrals for 2021-2022, and the January and May Revisions propose to start paying some of those down, leaving a balance of $2.6 billion in the June deferral. This will benefit Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) districts that are funded through state backfill by reducing their need to borrow cash to meet operational needs. If they are not receiving their apportionments and they are postponed, they still have to meet their payroll. This does not change anything for SMCOE, which has enough cash to meet needs with no need for borrowing.

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield stated the 2021-2022 statutory cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) is 1.7% based on government spending. The Governor is adding 1% to the existing 1.7% and paying back the 2019-2020 COLA of 2.31%, resulting in a LCFF COLA of 5.07% for 2021-2022. Special Education funding will get the compounded COLA of 4.05%. SMCOE will benefit with some categorical programs receiving increased funding. Although SMCOE’s LCFF target will have the 5.07% applied, which will bring the target and hold harmless lines closer, SMCOE will not see any additional funds out of this COLA.

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield said the May Revise also includes additional funding of $1.1 billion to the concentration grant to increase the adult-to-student ratio. LCFF districts will benefit from this augmentation, but most Basic Aid districts may not as their property taxes exceed their funding target. SMCOE will also have this applied to the Court and Community LCFF, but SMCOE will not benefit because of how the hold harmless formula works. It is a revenue-driven formula and until those two lines cross, the target will go up, but will not result in funding. Deputy Superintendent Porterfield continued that as mentioned, Special Education will receive the compounded COLA of 4.05%, with the intention to bring per-pupil funding to $650 per pupil. Districts will benefit from this funding allocation increase and the distribution in property taxes.

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield described how Governor Newsom continues to make commitments to the educator workforce by providing $303 billion over multiple years to support the teacher pipeline, educator retention, and provide training for educators and support staff. SMCOE will receive some of these funds in support of current programs. State childcare and
preschool will receive the statutory COLA of 1.7%. Governor Newsom is also proposing 100,000 new subsidized child care slots, with an additional 6,500 slots to be funded from Proposition 64, also known as the cannabis tax. The Governor also proposes a new grade to provide universal access to transitional kindergarten (TK) for all 4 year-olds in California by 2024-2025. Because this is an increased obligation to Proposition 98, the proposal is to increase Proposition 98 by $900 million in 2022-2023 and increase to $2.7 billion by 2024-2025 at full implementation. Governor Newsom is also proposing additional funding to reduce TK classroom ratios. This may impact some Basic Aid districts as the increased ADA against property taxes may simply reduce their current per-pupil funding, but not generate additional funding from the increased enrollment.

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield outlined the following additional investments:

- $275 million for full-service community school models providing wrap-around services for children
- $150 million ongoing and $100 million in one-time funding for Child Nutrition to expand the Universal Meals program
- $7 million to expand broadband and reliable internet service, including a $35 million in one-time funding for K-12 to expand connection in isolated and underserved communities

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield described how the state is estimated to receive $15.3 billion in federal relief dollars, with 90% to be allocated to local educational agencies (LEAs) based on their Title 1 funding formula. SMCOE will receive some of these funds based on the current allocation. The proposal continues to move forward on reopening schools for in-person learning and includes an additional $2 billion for enhanced cleaning, vaccine initiatives, protective equipment, and other supports to reopen schools. There is an additional $2.6 billion to provide interventions and intensive tutoring for students to accelerate learning.

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield described the Governor’s proposal for a five-year plan to develop robust afterschool and summer programs beginning with $1 billion in 2021-2022 and growing to $5 billion in 2025-26. There is also $4 billion over 5 years for early identification and treatment of behavioral health needs for students ages 0-25.

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield explained the next steps are for the legislature to receive this proposal and to develop their own. Deputy Superintendent Porterfield cautioned that many of these investments are over multiple years and are based on assumptions of ongoing funding. She reminded the Board that budget and trailer bill language is not written at this time and will be released as it becomes available over the next few months.

Ms. Alvaro shared hearing about declining enrollment since the pandemic and asked how families are opting not to enroll their children back in the public schools. Ms. Alvaro asked if there are discussions about ways to mitigate this impact. Deputy Superintendent Porterfield said the budget report to be provided includes a graph showing that San Mateo County has been experiencing a decline in ADA since 2016. She explained the impact of this is mitigated for now since schools are currently funded based on their 2019-2020 ADA numbers. They get the prior year of the current year funding but in 2022-2023 non-basic aid districts will see a rapid decline in revenues because of
BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION (continued)

their ADA. There may also be a decline in how they are backfilled by the state or it may artificially push them into basic aid status because of increasing property taxes.

Ms. Alvaro asked for confirmation that they are discussing this at the state level and not just the ground level. Deputy Superintendent Porterfield replied she could not answer that but can confirm it is being discussed at the Business and Administration Steering Committee (BASC) meetings.

Ms. Bonini shared the California School Boards Association (CSBA) has been discussing the liability limitation issue in terms of going back to school. She asked if this issue has been addressed or if this is something for which they are still advocating. Deputy Superintendent Porterfield responded she believes they are still advocating for this. It is not discussed in the May Revise in any way, and she is not aware of any language being shared for help writing about it.

Mr. Cannon shared the idea that being in such an upturn in terms of finances is a joy, and it is exciting to look at programs such as Gateway and those related to mental health services. Deputy Superintendent Porterfield agreed that it is SMCOE’s time to shine.

7. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION

A. Receive SMCOE Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Update

Jeneé Littrell, Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services Division, introduced Karen Gnusti, Executive Director, College, Career, and Secondary Education, who addressed the following topics in detail:

- Input and Consulting Meetings and Engagement in the LCAP Process
- Goal 1: Increasing Achievement and Engagement Through Accelerated Learning
- Goal 2: Building Emotional Resilience, Self-Efficacy, and Self-Regulation Skills
- Goal 3: Engaging in College and Career Exploration and Awareness
- Goal 4: Coordinating Services for Expelled and Foster Youth

Mr. Ross expressed appreciation the team is combining required metrics with local metrics that make sense. He said the California County Boards of Education (CCBE) has a significant project this year in Computer Science Education, funded by Eric Yuan, Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Zoom. Dr. Emily Thomforde is working part time on a number of projects to equip county offices to increase capacity in computer science. One consideration is building a computer science curriculum specifically for use by court and community schools, so in talking about Career and Technical Education (CTE) and other opportunities, he asked Dr. Thomforde what it would look like to make the course specific to court and community schools. Executive Director Gnusti responded the Gateway staff is considering how to integrate Computer Science, Science, Maker, and Art into the model.

Mr. Cannon shared he enjoyed the discussion and noted the local metrics look like an opportunity to engage students to a greater extent than in the past. Mr. Cannon referred to the idea of “missed skills” when students miss out on segments of their education and asked what processes the staff
uses to identify missed skills. Executive Director Gnusti explained there is an orientation period with students allowing them to settle in while giving the team time to complete assessments. One assessment tool used this year to provide data is the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment, which indicates where students fall in terms of reading, writing, and math. This allows the staff time to learn where a student generally falls in the range of grades and skill levels.

Deputy Superintendent Littrell added when students arrive, especially at Hillcrest, they enter a quarantine phase with Probation so the connection to the school program has been thwarted a bit. She expressed congratulations and appreciation to staff who still found a way to get students through their MAP assessments, develop educational plans, and place them into classrooms as soon as permission was granted from probation.

Mr. Cannon asked if the quarantine period was two weeks. Deputy Superintendent Littrell confirmed that was accurate. Mr. Cannon asked if staff were allowed to work with the students during that time. Deputy Superintendent Littrell indicated that staff is able to provide materials, but is not able to work directly with the students until they are cleared.

Ms. Bonini asked about the program pieces which match each of the goals, for example for Goal 2, including new aspects being implemented and what improvement is expected. Executive Director Gnusti responded that the LCAP template is slightly different than the one previously used. An example in Goal 2 will identify a metric specifically with percentages and established baselines for all subsets of goals. It will project how the team will improve in three years. She cited the example of suspensions because there were a few years with many suspensions, which are not restorative.

The baseline may be no more than 20 one-period class suspensions in a school year in all programs. The goal would be to reduce these suspensions to five. Each year will show whether or not the goal is met.

Ms. Bonini responded that Goal 2 includes components which can be measured or counted, and asked if there are subgoals which look at the building of skills, rather than being deficit-based. She asked if there were ways to measure growing strengths, building resilience, and engaging in activities with positive outcomes, rather than not providing suspensions. Executive Director Gnusti confirmed that there are two specific goals which measure student strengths. This includes assessing students early and frequently and looking for ways in which students are working towards self-regulation and emotional resilience.

Deputy Superintendent Littrell noted the team is contracting with Effective School Solutions, a proven entity currently working with a few county districts. With their support, the team will be working to address the issues discussed by Ms. Bonini. The mandated metrics speak to deficits, but the team hopes to recognize the strengths of students entering the program and find ways to hone in and boost these strengths, and hopefully fill in gaps in other areas which have led to maladaptive behaviors and educational impacts. The expectation is that students will join the program and be able to re-enter their home districts and communities.

Board President Camacho confirmed that the LCAP will be presented at the next meeting and again thanked the team for the presentation.
B. Receive Overview of Innovation Plan for Gateway Community School

Jeneé Littrell, Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services Division, introduced Karen Gnusti, Executive Director, College, Career, and Secondary Education, who explained in detail the new community school model and key characteristics of the incoming students. Lastly, she provided information on funding for the new community school model.

Ms. Alvaro thanked Executive Director Gnusti for the report. She expressed her excitement to provide these services to students in need. Ms. Alvaro referred to the budget showing that $842,000 will be provided by AB 86 and $330,000 will be provided from the Comprehensive and Support Funds. With approximately 25 students in the first year, it sounds like the program would spend roughly $47,000 per student. Executive Director Gnusti clarified the districts are charged a fee for service. She also explained that although Effective School Solutions is a costly contract for one year, they will teach the team to do the work themselves. The Comprehensive and Support Funds are meant for contracting with research organizations with data to support increases in mental health or achievement. The funds were not used due to the pandemic and using them now will allow the team to build out a robust model.

Ms. Alvaro confirmed that $47,000 would not be spent per student and revenue comes in from the districts. Executive Director Gnusti confirmed funds are being spent on infrastructure. Once the AB 86 funds are expended and the Effective School Solutions contract has expired, the team is looking at pricing out at approximately $25,000 per student. Ms. Alvaro asked if that would be back charged to the district. Executive Director Gnusti confirmed that was accurate and the model would focus on being self-sustaining.

Ms. Alvaro asked if districts would continue to contract for a specific number of spaces. Executive Director Gnusti responded that districts would commit to a certain number of slots. Ms. Alvaro asked if the team will know a year in advance in order to plan. Deputy Superintendent Littrell stated the Sequoia Union High School District and the San Mateo Union High School District have verbally confirmed that they will likely increase their current enrollment by one-third to double.

Deputy Superintendent Littrell highlighted that Effective School Solutions not only helps in the school setting, but they also work with the family unit and strengthen support systems aimed at the family. It is a whole-student approach.

Ms. Bonini discussed how there are students who districts may choose to send to Esther B. Clark or refer for Educationally Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS) services through Edgewood Children and Family Services, or both. Ms. Bonini shared her deep knowledge of the services provided by these programs, such as psychiatrists and counseling, as well as additional wrap-around supports. She discussed how these services would be provided for students who have 504s, as well as those who don’t, and asked what the scope of services might be.

She also asked when going forward without Effective School Solutions, how services would continue to be sustained. Executive Director Gnusti replied that the long-term plan depends on what happens this year. The point of having Effective School Solutions is for the team to learn more
strategies to create classroom environments that are positive, enriching, and supportive of the needs of all students.

Effective School Solutions will have two clinicians on site. Students will have sessions during the day if needed. Executive Director Gnusti explained the contract provides a substantial amount of professional development hours with teachers. In the same way the team looks at academic interventions, they are also looking at the social-emotional well-being of students. The contract includes family support in the afternoons and evenings.

Ms. Bonini referred to the building of infrastructure through professional development and asked if there was any thought as to applying this work to the Hillcrest environment and/or to districts and other programs in SMCOE’s purview. Executive Director Gnusti explained the contract allows the team to train all students in the Court and Community programs, so all school sites in the program will receive training.

Ms. Bonini discussed sustainability and ongoing funding, the limited nature of the AB 86 funds, the movement to generally support mental health in the county, and the goals of the Board of Supervisors around supporting students more in their home environments and having an inclusive community. She asked if there was anything the Board of Education could do in terms of advocacy. Deputy Superintendent Littrell replied that Mary McGrath, Executive Director, Safe and Supportive Schools, is part of the team leading work the Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) grant, and is working with partners through the Coalition for Safe Schools and Communities to develop a San Mateo County plan for how to address mental health services across the entire county. They are looking at these issues through a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) model and the need to provide universal supports to students in all settings.

Ms. Gerard referred to encouraging students to stay for one year, which is a new concept from the way the program operated in the past, and she asked if there is something in place now or if this will be part of the trainings provided by Effective School Solutions. Executive Director Gnusti clarified that the conversations around the one year have to do with smooth transitions, timing in the school year, and time for the team to work with the student. In reality, it may not work in every case. The program is more about flexibility, but if a student enters in October in seventh grade, they would like the student to stay through the end of the year and not try to transition back sooner. These decisions will be collaborative ones with the families.

Ms. Gerard asked if students who want to stay longer will be given that option. Executive Director Gnusti confirmed they absolutely would be given that option and the intention is to keep cohorts of students who want to stay. The one year is about minimum and students may stay longer or may stay less depending on the time of year. If a student is ready to go back at the start of the school year, has been through enough of the program, and everyone feels it is the right time to move the student back to their home district of residence, the team will allow that as long as families are supportive.

Ms. Gerard indicated that at the most recent San Mateo County School Boards Association (SMCSBA) meeting, they broke into groups. She was in the high school group where the conversation was focused on mental health and the needs that schools are anticipating. They
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION (continued)

discussed how there are not enough opportunities to get help for students in the county, including at
the community schools. Deputy Superintendent Littrell agreed it is a real problem. Executive
Director Gnusti shared the team is hearing the same and anticipates additional referrals from
districts in the fall. Ms. Gerard agreed.

Mr. Cannon shared his hopes in listening to the Governor about support for mental health services
and the financial investments coming in this area. He asked if Ms. Gerard got the same feeling at
her Monday SMCSBA meeting. She said the concerns were more about a lack of personnel and
less about funding. There are community agencies, but they don’t have enough staff to provide the
services required when students get back to school.

Board President Camacho asked about the team involved in the conception and planning process.
Executive Director Gnusti indicated planning started prior to the pandemic. When the community
schools Request for Application (RFA) came out, it allowed the team to imagine the school through
an evidence-based model and what research suggests for the embedded practices and services
necessary for a robust community school, which was used as the foundation. She said the internal
team included site administrators Sibane Parcels, Principal, Court and Community Schools, and
Shelly Johnson, Assistant Principal, Court and Community Schools, along with Erica Ng,
Coordinator, English Language Support Services, and Sandra Velásquez, Coordinator, Innovative
Learning and Technology Integration, Mary Browning, Principal, Special Assignment/Coordinator,
Inclusive Services, Executive Director Gnusti, and Executive Director McGrath who leads the
school-based mental health work across the county.

Executive Director Gnusti also noted that the data used for the Community Schools Grant came
from the MHSSA grant, which was a cross-agency collaboration. The team also worked closely
with the San Mateo Union High School District who had begun doing surveys with students early
on in the pandemic as well as the student services administrators across the districts. Board
President Camacho stated he was glad student services was mentioned because he was curious how
current students and families using SMCOE programs were engaged.

Board President Camacho asked how Effective School Solutions was identified and chosen as a
partner. Executive Director Gnusti explained that they came highly recommended from some
partner school districts. When the team first started looking at a new model for the community
school, they found that part of the model is to provide a variety of services. The team explored
support for mental health services, after-school activities, and school nutrition partners. At that
time, they began conversations with Effective School Solutions. The team found their data
impressive, and with further conversations, they were written into the initial Community School
Grant.

Board President Camacho shared he was thinking of previous students in the program and students
he has worked with in alternative education. He discussed the criteria for finding the right student
for the program, how those conversations develop, and what student that yields. Board President
shared he considers the risk of pathologizing students when they need an educational experience
that better reflects them. Board President Camacho asked about the process of developing who is
the right student for this program.
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION (continued)

Executive Director Gnusti shared that the team has learned a lot during the pandemic about how some students did quite well working online and others demonstrated different needs. With different outreach strategies including connecting with parents each day, the school achieved higher attendance rates. The team also used a new parent engagement app called Talking Points, which effectively uses home languages in the communications. She noted the results have been really positive.

Deputy Superintendent Littrell expressed appreciation for Board President Camacho’s question. She added the team spent a lot of time working with staff when considering this pivot from the current model. Deputy Superintendent Littrell explained for example, that rather than Probation staffing the school, the school will now rely on the bilingual family counselor to welcome students every morning in partnership with Effective School Solutions. They have also engaged in deep conversations about curriculum and whether it reflects students’ identities and about which partners to bring in for services. The team continues to expand partners who bring greater diversity to campus. This is a strong priority. Board President Camacho agreed it is an iterative process so it will be helpful for the Board to remain informed, since they have few areas of oversight and this is one of their core programs. He discussed how having to reimagine this program is a big ask and takes a lot of resources and energy. Board President Camacho expressed his appreciation to the team and thanked them for all the work done so far.

5. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. Public Hearing on the Initial Proposal from the California School Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter 158 to the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools for 2021-2022

Board President Camacho opened the public hearing on the initial proposal from the California School Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter 158 to the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools for 2021-2022. Receiving no public comment, Board President declared the Public Hearing closed.

B. Public Hearing on the Initial Proposal from the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools to the California School Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter 158 for the 2021-2022 Reopener Bargaining Agreement

Board President Camacho opened the public hearing on the initial proposal from the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools to the California School Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter 158 for the 2021-2022 Reopener Bargaining Agreement. Receiving no public comment, Board President declared the Public Hearing closed.

C. Superintendent’s Comments

Superintendent Magee began by acknowledging Classified School Employee Recognition Week, and wanted to recognize the value and benefit of SMCOE’s classified staff.
Superintendent Magee noted that the final OneSMCOE event for the 2020-2021 school year was held earlier in the day. These events began during the pandemic as online all-staff meetings nearly every week during the early part of 2020, and served as an outlet for staff connections. While SMCOE would prefer to celebrate retirees in person, the online event was positive and staff enjoyed recognizing their colleagues.

Superintendent Magee said she appreciated Mr. Lempert’s presentation at the Silicon Valley Children’s Advocacy Network (SVCAN) event the previous Friday. This is a revitalization of a group that existed years ago for children’s advocacy, so it was wonderful to have Mr. Lempert provide key messages. She expressed appreciation for his voice and partnership.

Superintendent Magee referred to the passing of the Consent Agenda resolution Recognizing June 2021 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month. As has been done the past several years, SMCOE will fly the pride flag throughout the month of June.

Superintendent Magee also shared how the Early Learning Support Service team (ELSS) put together 1300 literacy bags for students using carryover dollars from various buckets such as First Five, State Preschool, and the Big Lift. Each bag holds six books and was distributed to Big Lift families and families with children in Title V programs. The bags include books in Spanish and Chinese and included teacher kits.

Superintendent Magee described that she was honored to receive recognition by the 17th District Parent Teacher Association (PTA) the previous week, sharing the stage with former Board member Rod Hsiao, who was recognized for his work in the community.

Superintendent Magee explained the next Board packet would include the budget in the formal Standardized Account Code Structure (SACS) code format. She informed the Board that the budget will show a deficit but also indicated that with a collective effort across SMCOE, staff was able to accomplish a 25% reduction in expenditures and the resulting deficit amount from last year’s budget.

Superintendent Magee shared earlier in the day, she learned of a funding allocation coming to county offices through AB 86 that allocates $250,000 in funding to both SMCOE and San Mateo County Health with the goal to deepen the partnership and collaboration between public health and schools. Both agencies are working on a coordinated spending plan.

Lastly, Superintendent Magee reminded the Board that staff has been working intently on the Outdoor Education relaunch, and she is happy to report the good news that student enrollment is higher than it’s ever been.

7. BOARD MEMBERS

A. Receive Information on California County Boards of Education (CCBE) 2021 Officer Nominations
Ms. Gerard stated she would not be nominating anyone but mentioned that Mr. Ross is the incoming President for CCBE beginning in December. Board President Camacho indicated that additional information on nominations is included in the Board packet.

B. **Conduct Second of Two Public Hearings on the Proposed Trustee Voting Area Plans**

Board President Camacho opened the first of two Public Hearings to receive public testimony concerning the proposed trustee voting area plans.

- One member of the public, Drew, commented that the proposed maps are not numbered in order from north to south. He asked why this is the case and whether they could be sequenced in order from north to south.

Receiving no further public comment, Board President Camacho declared the Public Hearing closed.

C. **Discuss/Act on Third Reading of Board Resolution No. 21-33 Urging California to Set the Expectation of Fully Reopened Schools in Fall 2021**

Mr. Ross thanked Superintendent Magee and her staff for spending time to review this Board resolution. He noted that all comments made at the last meeting are reflected in the revised version, and he, Board President Camacho, and Ms. Bonini feel it reflects the consensus sentiments of the Board. He urged the Board to review and adopt the resolution and expressed his pleasure that the Board is making this statement. Mr. Ross discussed continuing improvement in the health outlook including expansion of access to vaccines to students at younger age levels. He is also pleased that with the economic and budget news, the Board is urging Sacramento to fully fund the needs arising from the pandemic as students return to school. Mr. Ross welcomed comments, corrections, and additions to his presentation from his colleagues.

After a motion by Mr. Cannon and a second by Ms. Gerard, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross), by roll call vote, approved Board Resolution No. 21-33 Urging California to Set the Expectation of Fully Reopened Schools in Fall 2021.

Board President Camacho thanked the Legislative Subcommittee including Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan and SMCOE staff led by Superintendent Magee, Executive Director Love, and Claire Cunningham, Chief Deputy County Counsel, who assisted along the way.

D. **Receive Report from Legislative Subcommittee Meeting and Discuss/Act on Board Support of Pending Legislation**

Mr. Ross indicated there are two pieces of legislation up for discussion, Assembly Bill (AB) 339, providing for remote access to certain government meetings, and AB 988, providing funding for a 9-8-8 crisis hotline, similar to the 9-1-1 hotline.
Mr. Ross started with AB 988 and the Legislative Subcommittee’s recommendation to support the bill. Mr. Ross described how the bill arises locally and local legislators are responding in part to the heartbreaking series of suicides in high school districts in a neighboring county and in part to the reality that for youth, mental health is a serious concern. While there are many hotlines and numbers available, they are not always easily recalled. The 9-8-8 number allows people to remember the number the way we know what 9-1-1 and 4-1-1 mean. Mr. Ross welcomed comments and invited Board President Camacho and Ms. Bonini to provide their feedback.

Ms. Bonini added that a federal act is being implemented here. This bill was initially referred to as the Miles Hall Lifeline Act after a mental health response which did not end well. She believes this would be funded through a tax which goes onto mobile bills, similar to the implementation of the 9-1-1 tax.

Mr. Cannon stated that if the Legislative Subcommittee recommends approval, he is ready to approve. Board President Camacho clarified that Mr. Cannon was making a motion to approve writing a letter of support. Mr. Cannon indicated that he has confidence in the Legislative Subcommittee’s recommendation, which was the reason he supports the bill and was making the motion, but he would be interested in any further discussion.

After a motion by Mr. Cannon and a second by Mr. Lempert, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross), by roll call vote, approved issuing a letter of support for AB 988.

Board President Camacho next addressed AB 339. Mr. Ross shared the Legislative Subcommittee discussed AB 339 in the context of its applicability to School Boards and what that meant for the Board. He asked Ms. Bonini to share some of the Legislative Subcommittee’s conversation.

Ms. Bonini explained as initially proposed, AB 339 included all elected bodies. There was a signing on of many organizations, including teachers and the disability community. In going through the legislative process, there were concerns about the costs, not just the cost for electronic meetings, but also for translation and other factors pertinent to accessibility, language or otherwise. Ms. Bonini said she has spoken to people advocating for this bill within the disabilities community and specifically with Ligia Andrade Zuñiga, a member of the San Mateo Union High School Board, who feels this bill is really an important conversation about accessibility. Ms. Bonini feels the bill is worth supporting, and she will continue to advocate for the bill either way. She stated she always wants to promote greater accessibility to public meetings and to consider the needs of people with disabilities or people with language barriers.

Board President Camacho asked about the anticipated timeline for the bill, including where it is in the process. Ms. Bonini indicated that both of the above bills were rereferred to the appropriations committee, so they are still stuck in committees. She was unsure if there is enough momentum for this bill to add School and County Boards back in, but this is a first step. Even if the bill makes it through, it might not be time yet to sign on to a letter of support. Mr. Lempert shared that the Board would know soon whether the bill is out of the first house, so by the Board’s next meeting, the Board will have more information.
Ms. Alvaro stated she understands Ms. Bonini’s comments, but feels discomfort because when the Board signs onto a letter of support, they should do so as the bill stands. Ms. Alvaro advised a need to be careful that letters actually support what the bill says. She shared her personal feeling that if a bill is talking about city council and the board of supervisors meetings and is not talking about county board of education meetings, the Board needs to stay out of the issue until something changes.

Board President Camacho said it was helpful to have the timeline shared by Mr. Lempert. He spoke of venturing more into the legislative process as a Board, suggested setting norms about when to send letters, and wondered whether that should be done with unanimous consensus or would actual votes of support be noted. Board President Camacho discussed in the instance of AB 339, there is time to delay that vote and it won’t impact the outcome of the bill. He proposed agendizing this conversation as a Board and deciding how they would like to proceed, including what to do if a Board member is not comfortable supporting a bill and whether that means they move to the next item. Board President Camacho confirmed that the Board was comfortable pausing on AB 339 until the next Board meeting. He thanked the Board for the conversation and Ms. Bonini for tracking the bill because the context she provided was helpful in considering next steps.

E. Board Member Comments

Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan shared that the Youth Commission is wrapping up their year and preparing to present to the Board of Supervisors. She won’t be on the Youth Commission next year, but there will be a new group of Commissioners coming in and applications have closed.

Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan updated she has been working on AB 824, which involves getting Student Board Members on other boards in California. She had emailed Mr. Lempert because he works with the California Student Board Member Association (CSBMA), who is the sponsor. They are trying to gain full support of the bill so it can smoothly pass on the floor. Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan invited additional Board member input.

Board President Camacho indicated that the Board could not talk specifically about the topic since it’s not agendized, but suggested a discussion on AB 824 could be added to the next Legislative Subcommittee meeting and Board meeting.

Ms. Alvaro shared she attended the Big Lift Biannual Collaborative countywide meeting and it was nice to see Jean Marie Houston, a key player in establishing the group in San Mateo County, as well as former Superintendent Campbell who was also in attendance. They discussed how the Reading Corps program helps close opportunity gaps. She expressed her excitement that students with higher risk factors show stronger gains. Ms. Alvaro described that The Big Lift is recruiting interns from school communities such as high schools and community colleges who may want careers in education. Anyone interested in becoming an intern should contact Diana Harlick, Coordinator, Early Learning Quality Improvement Initiatives (The Big Lift) for additional information.
Ms. Alvaro shared that the keynote speakers for The Big Lift meeting were two women from the University of California (UC) Berkeley Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, Elena Montoya and Ashley Williams, who discussed disparities in workforce compensation. They reported the younger the child being cared for, the lower the pay for the caregiver.

Ms. Alvaro shared she also attended the OneSMCOE event earlier in the day and congratulated all the retirees. She expressed her disappointment to hear that Margie Gustafson, Executive Director, Internal Business Services, will be retiring, but is also pleased for her. Ms. Alvaro discussed how Executive Director Gustafson has been with SM COE for most of her career and when she announced her retirement, Ms. Alvaro felt the county office tilted on its axis because such a big chunk of foundation is going away. Ms. Alvaro wished Margie Gustafson and all the retirees the best and thanked the team for putting on such a wonderful event.

Ms. Bonini
Ms. Bonini agreed that the OneSMCOE retirement event was lovely. It was her first time attending a OneSMCOE meeting, and she enjoyed seeing the retirees and the hearing about the many categories, titles, and role of classified staff. She thanked and recognized all of the classified staff for their hard work and shared she hoped to see the beautiful retiree slideshow again. Ms. Bonini especially loves the tradition in which retirees share what they are going to do next.

Ms. Bonini shared she attended the last SMCSBA membership meeting on Monday. It was nice to not have an agenda, but just chat and listen to what others were thinking about school reopenings and mental health. Ms. Bonini stated she was happy to help out with the three meetings held this year, which were terrific. They also voted on the slate of new officers, and she was voted the County Board of Education representative. Ms. Bonini shared the exciting news that Board President Camacho will be the new President and congratulated him on his role.

Ms. Bonini shared she attended the Youth and Family Committee for the Commission on Disabilities and feels grateful that Sarah Notch, Executive Director, Special Education and Instruction, has been able to attend. One of her committee’s goals for the year is to build out and make the Transition to Independence Fair happen, which is spearheaded by the high school districts. There was great conversation with Sequoia Union High School District, San Mateo Union High School District, and South San Francisco Unified School District. She also talked with Kalimah Salahuddin who suggested Jefferson Union High School District should join in the conversations. Ms. Bonini expressed her excitement over the ideas shared and the connections made.

Mr. Cannon
Mr. Cannon agreed with the eloquent comments shared about Executive Director Gustafson and shared feeling that she was family, not only in the office but in the community. He spoke of her warmth and competency, how she always comported herself wonderfully, and how he will miss her at events.
Mr. Cannon complimented the SMCSBA on the Kent Awards and how they created such a warm event over Zoom, which was not an easy thing. He expressed that Greg Land and his colleagues did an excellent job.

Mr. Cannon shared that the 17th District PTA Honorary Service Awards honoring Superintendent Magee and Rod Hsiao was well done. He congratulated Superintendent Magee for a well-deserved honor and Mr. Hsiao for all of his service. Mr. Cannon described that Mr. Hsiao gave a moving and professional speech about education and his role moving forward.

Mr. Cannon remarked that he has been to five events over the last ten days where people attended in person, and all events were joyous. People were pleased to see each other and there is a lot to look forward to when people are able to get together again.

Mr. Lempert thanked Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan for reaching out and shared he looks forward to meeting with her and her colleagues because he is passionate about the issue of Student Board Members.

Mr. Lempert congratulated Jennifer Frentress, Associate Superintendent, Innovation and Research, on her San Carlos School District Superintendency and shared as a constituent, he looks forward to her leadership of that great district.

Mr. Lempert thanked Superintendent Magee and her team for the outstanding work around the LCAP. He hopes to have more oversight and be tougher with districts, and shared SMCOE needs to model good practices with its LCAP. He shared being impressed with the presentation and the work which led up to the report.

Mr. Ross reported at the CCBE Board of Directors meeting, Dr. Thomforde gave an hour-long presentation on her work and everyone was struck with the degree to which California is not leading the nation in Computer Science education. He informed that in comparison, Arkansas receives a rating at a nine or ten and California is at a five or six. Arkansas has a statewide coordinator for Computer Science education while California does not, which means that California does not participate in the National Association of Computer Science Education meetings. Arkansas requires that Computer Science be taught to all teachers as part of their teacher preparation. It is not just a technology competency, but Computer Science education is provided as part of teacher preparation for elementary, Special Education, K-12, and high school teachers by law in Arkansas.

Mr. Ross noted there is a dashboard at the Kapor Center regarding access to Computer Science classes in each county, data which will be shown on the CCBE website. He said San Mateo County is far behind many counties in Computer Science in access and equity, while Santa Clara County is pretty far ahead. He indicated the data is useful and sobering and underscores the real opportunity because County Board members from many counties around the state who attended this meeting all reacted with both shock and enthusiasm that CCBE can lead the way in driving forward greater adoption of Computer Science opportunities for all students.
Ms. Gerard
Ms. Gerard commented she has had a busy couple of weeks. She reported that the Kent Awards were amazing, and it was fun to attend that event. Ms. Gerard also enjoyed the 17th District PTA Honorary Service Awards and offered congratulations to Superintendent Magee and Mr. Hsiao on their awards. She mentioned that Ms. Alvaro did a wonderful job recapping the Big Lift Biannual Collaborative countywide meeting and spoke of the tremendous amount of information shared. Ms. Gerard stated that the OneSMCOE retiree event was heartfelt and filled with emotion, love, and respect. She joked that she has been sitting at an angle ever since Executive Director Gustafson announced her retirement.

Ms. Gerard offered congratulations to Board President Camacho on being voted SMCSBA President and indicated he will be a great President.

Ms. Gerard shared that CCBE is spearheading the work on Computer Science because of Mr. Ross and everyone has a great deal of respect for the work he is doing.

Ms. Gerard reported that she attended the CSBA Delegate Assembly over the weekend, with meetings on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday morning. She then attended the CCBE Board of Directors meeting on Sunday afternoon. CSBA disseminated a tremendous amount of information and she informed Youth Commissioner Chan that AB 824 was discussed in the CSBA legislative review. Ms. Gerard related that there were discussions on budget review, legislative review, and legal alliance. She updated the Board that CSBA President Suzanne Kitchens resigned due to health problems, and the President-Elect Susan Heredia has stepped into that role. In the CSBA Sunday breakout sessions, mental health and school reopenings were huge topics of discussion. Ms. Gerard reported the CCBE Board of Directors meeting was also informative. She shared Charlyn Tuter, Program Manager, CCBE, was resigning and what a huge loss this was to CCBE as Ms. Tuter was the backbone of the organization. Ms. Gerard described Ms. Tuter as a wonderful person and a personal friend who will be dearly missed.

Board President Camacho
Board President Camacho discussed the Kent Awards and expressed gratitude to the leaders and staff at SMCOE, which was recognized for the tremendous pivot and leadership which emerged during the pandemic. He shared he was glad that SMCOE was recognized by SMCSBA. Board President Camacho remarked that when he asked Superintendent Magee for a little help with the hybrid presentation of the Kent Awards it resulted in the team of Executive Director Love, Jae Takahashi, Coordinator, Information Systems, Mr. Barrios, Ms. Williams, and Ms. Villanis all being a big part of why that event happened. He thanked the entire team at SMCOE for making the event a success. They all learned a lot about the future of hybrid events. Board President Camacho also congratulated Daina Lujan for pulling off the event and said she would be leaving her seat as President of SMCSBA. He shared he unfortunately missed his election into office of SMCSBA, but he expressed appreciation for the votes of confidence for himself and Vice-President Greg Land. Board President Camacho related that the SMCSBA team has been working well together over the past several years especially in support of equity, mental health support, and recognizing the tremendous work of educators. He shared his excitement to continue to be a part of that group.
7. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m. Board President Camacho announced the next regular meeting would take place on Wednesday, June 2, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

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Nancy Magee, Secretary

jlp