MINUTES OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Date: June 16, 2021
Meeting Location: Held Remotely
Board Members Present: Susan Alvaro, Chelsea Bonini, Hector Camacho, Jr., Jim Cannon, Beverly Gerard, Ted Lempert, Joe Ross
Staff Officials Present: Nancy Magee, Secretary
Jennifer Perna, Executive Assistant
Other Staff Present: Niambi Clay, Claire Cunningham, Jeneé Littrell, Patricia Love, Denise Porterfield, Alyson Suzuki
Youth Commissioner Liaison Present: Allyson Chan

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 Mr. Cannon and a second by Mr. Lempert, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross), by roll call vote, approved the June 16, 2021, agenda as presented.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals submitted public comment by email:

- Nicole Tauscher advocated against mask mandates in schools.
- Manuela Seitz-Hipkins advocated against mask mandates in schools.
- Hannah Costa advocated against mask mandates in schools.

Board President Camacho reminded attendees the County Board does not have any authority over mask requirements for students in schools throughout the county.

3. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

A. June 2021 Employee of the Month, Terri Aiello, Administrative Assistant III, College, Career, and Secondary Education, Educational Services Division

Board President Camacho recognized the June 2021 Employee of the Month, Terri Aiello, Administrative Assistant III, College, Career, and Secondary Education, Educational Services Division. Board President Camacho congratulated Ms. Aiello on behalf of the Board and explained she would receive the award check and commemorative token soon.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. June 2, 2021, Regular Board Meeting

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 Minutes of the June 2, 2021, Regular Board Meeting as presented.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

B. Receive Staffing Reports
C. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 21-36 Honoring Ed Mortola on His Retirement
D. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 21-37 Honoring Linda Nieder on Her Retirement
E. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 21-38 Honoring Jasmin King on Her Retirement
F. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 21-39 Honoring Gay Baldwin on Her Retirement
G. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 21-40 Honoring Deborah Armando on Her Retirement
H. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 21-41 Honoring Mitzi Soo on Her Retirement

After a motion by Ms. Gerard and a second by Ms. Alvaro, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross), by roll call vote, approved the Consent Agenda.
6. **LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN (LCAP)**

   **A. Discuss/Act on San Mateo County Office of Education's 2021-2022 Proposed Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)**

Karen Gnusti, Executive Director, College, Career, and Secondary Education, referred to the discussion at the previous Board meeting about the suggestion of adding a metric reflecting student outcomes after exiting our program. She explained the school and executive cabinet teams discussed how best to gather the data and include in the 2021-22 LCAP.

Ms. Alvaro commented she realizes changing the LCAP midstream is a difficult task, but the Board has been asking how to track students as they leave these programs. She noted as the number of students gets smaller and smaller, the task should be easier. Ms. Alvaro expressed understanding not adding the metric to this LCAP but urged the team to strongly consider this for next year. Executive Director Gnusti assured the team would follow up.

Board President Camacho recommended this issue could be discussed in next year’s planning. He indicated Ms. Gerard, as the Board’s LCAP representative, could bring up this topic during next year’s stakeholder engagement.

After a motion by Ms. Gerard and a second by Ms. Alvaro, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross), by roll call vote, approved San Mateo County Office of Education's 2021-2022 Proposed Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).

7. **BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION**

   **A. Discuss/Act on San Mateo County Office of Education's 2021-2022 Proposed Budget**

Denise Porterfield, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services Division reminded the Board that at the last meeting, she shared the draft San Mateo County Office of Education Budget and a public hearing was held, as required by Education Code 42103. The Board had the opportunity to review and clarify the budget. As an outcome of discussion, the Board had asked for talking points to better explain how SMCOE is funded and how resources are spent. Staff provided the requested summary which can be updated as new questions arise.

Board President Camacho thanked Deputy Superintendent Porterfield for preparing the talking points. He has looked at other county offices and noticed their budgets are all presented in different ways. Some are interesting to consider as SMCOE works to prepare for the next budget cycle.

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 San Mateo County Office of Education's 2021-2022 Proposed Budget.
BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION (continued)

B. Receive Update on Governor's Final State Budget for 2021-2022

Deputy Superintendent Porterfield confirmed a final state budget had not yet been reached. The Legislature has a constitutional deadline to send a balanced state budget to the Governor for action no later than June 15, which was completed the previous day. While Assembly/Senate Bill 128 meets that budget obligation, it does not mean a deal has been struck with the Governor. The key difference is the Legislative revenue estimates are higher than the Governor’s with the significant difference of $2.8 billion to reduce the pension rate obligations to the Public Employees’ Retirement System (PERS) and the State Teachers’ Retirement System (STRS), buy down all the remaining deferrals, and provide a 4.05% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to the categorical funds that were previously going to receive 1.7%. Deputy Superintendent Porterfield said a deal is expected to be reached by July 1.

8. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION

A. Discuss/Act on 2021 Triennial Countywide Plan for the Provision of Educational Services to Expelled Students

Jeneé Littrell, Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services Division, stated Education Code 48926 requires each county superintendent to work with district superintendents to ensure comprehensive educational services are provided for students who are expelled. She indicated the plans for SMCOE, as well as the districts, outline supports for students who have been expelled. She also noted there has been a significant decrease in the number of students put up for expulsion.

Deputy Superintendent Littrell described how the county continues to move to a more restorative approach. She shared feeling proud of the efforts to integrate a restorative, trauma-informed plan that continues to evolve. Deputy Superintendent Littrell recognized Mary McGrath, Executive Director, Safe and Supportive Schools, who led the coordination of the work with districts to get their plans completed on time.

Ms. Alvaro thanked Deputy Superintendent Littrell and Executive Director McGrath for the report and for their hard work. She confirmed that SMCOE has no jurisdiction over the district plans but wonders if there are standards or templates which districts could be encouraged to use. She noted one district had a detailed seven-page report while another district had two short paragraphs. Ms. Alvaro recognized they may all be doing equally wonderful work and asked if there were any efforts to increase standardization in conveying how the work is being done.

Deputy Superintendent Littrell responded the work with districts has focused on identifying their best practices. There are also many districts who do not expel students and therefore have less information to include. Ms. Alvaro commented on the importance of sharing best practices and knowing what districts are doing well in order to inform other districts.

Executive Director McGrath described how the team is facilitating communities of practice and meeting monthly or bi-monthly with school counselors and mental health staff at the alternative
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION (continued)

schools to promote social-emotional learning. Staff is also updating school attendance review board (SARB) and school attendance review team (SART) protocols to help make attendance policies more restorative and to work more with families as partners. Executive Director McGrath also discussed how the restorative, wrap-around philosophy is being developed at Gateway.

Ms. Bonini referred to SMCOE’s plan for the coming years under Gap Number One, under the Academic portion, and the specific reference to counseling for up to 10 students with Effective School Solutions (ESS). She asked for insight into how that coincides with the overall plan or whether that is specific to a given set of students. Deputy Superintendent Littrell explained as part of the partnership with ESS, they will do holistic training with staff and provide holistic support to families. They will also provide the intensive services with a subset of the students and are anticipating that an initial caseload would be approximately 10 students for Tier 2 and Tier 3 services.

Mr. Cannon thanked Executive Director McGrath for the concrete examples. He said it’s helpful to picture the team’s work and how they are achieving goals.

Board President Camacho commented he did not remember approving this plan three years ago, and it was helpful to go through it again to review the different approaches. He agreed standardization helps, and shared it is impressive to see what local districts are doing with the SMCOE team’s support.

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 2021 Triennial Countywide Plan for the Provision of Educational Services to Expelled Students.

9. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. Superintendent’s Comments

Superintendent Magee began by noting this evening marks the last Board meeting for Deputy Superintendent Porterfield, which she would reflect on later in her comments.

Superintendent Magee thanked Executive Director Gnusti and her team for their work on the LCAP. She explained there is a mechanism to gather data on students transitioning out of the court and community at the end of every school year. However, last year, because of the pandemic, there was no data and the validity of the previous year’s data is uncertain. The team is looking to reset that process to obtain data with integrity. Superintendent Magee expressed appreciation for the team’s thoughtful approach and the Board’s intention to understand what happens to students after they exit SMCOE programs.

Superintendent Magee thanked Deputy Superintendent Porterfield and the entire Business Services Division for their work on the budget not only in their support of staff to produce SMCOE’s adopted budget but also for helping every single district in the county to bring their budgets to their Boards for adoption. This is an enormous body of work, and she didn’t want to miss this opportunity to shine a light on the incredibly talented and professional staff.
Superintendent Magee remarked on how Deputy Superintendent Porterfield has led the Business Services Division for 11 years, and how she and Ms. Porterfield began working at SMCOE one month apart in 2010. When Deputy Superintendent Porterfield joined SMCOE, Superintendent Holbrook was ending her term and Superintendent Campbell was coming in. Superintendent Magee expressed admiration for Deputy Superintendent Porterfield’s strength of character and shared stories of the challenges faced by Deputy Superintendent Porterfield through the years. Despite those challenges, Deputy Superintendent Porterfield provided tremendous leadership while raising her young daughter into an incredible young woman.

Superintendent Magee spoke of the respect shown towards Deputy Superintendent Porterfield in meetings with the Governor’s staff, the Department of Finance, California County Superintendents Educational Services Agency (CCSESA) staff, the Business and Administration Steering Committee (BASC) team, the County Controller, and the County Treasurer. The district superintendents and Chief Business Officers (CBOs) rely on the work of Deputy Superintendent Porterfield and her staff, and noted the respect she has earned at SMCOE from her colleagues and the Board.

Superintendent Magee shared Deputy Superintendent Porterfield will be working at the Contra Costa County Office of Education with Lynn Mackey, an amazing County Superintendent, and will continue to advocate for county offices and especially for excess property tax county offices, as she has made herself invaluable in that conversation. Superintendent Magee expressed appreciation for being a willing and eager student for 11 years under Deputy Superintendent Porterfield’s tutelage. She described Deputy Superintendent Porterfield as an incredible colleague and friend and thanked her personally for all her many contributions.

Superintendent Magee reported the Interdistrict Attendance Appeal (IAA) Subcommittee will be meeting soon to continue the work started several years ago to revise the handbook to meet the goals of the County Board.

Superintendent Magee explained this past week the Governor extended the Brown Act waiver that allows Brown Act bodies to meet through Zoom without all the required mandates. The Brown Act waivers will expire on September 30 and the Board’s timeline is to hold its first in-person meeting on September 1. The July Board meeting will include a discussion item related to holding a Board retreat and preferences for what in-person meetings will look like.

Superintendent Magee shared the following week there will be a conference discussing the challenges of supporting children who are commercially sexually exploited. Part of the work of the Coalition for Safe Schools and Communities has been creating a county-wide protocol for reporting and supporting this issue. Instances of this protocol have been implemented in San Mateo County as more young vulnerable youth are targeted in this space. There are 130 registrants for this conference which is double the original expectation. Superintendent Magee congratulated Deputy Superintendent Littrell for her national expertise in this area and noted the community wants to be in the room and learn from her.

Superintendent Magee wished post happy birthday wishes to Mr. Lempert and upcoming happy birthday wishes to Mr. Cannon, Board President Camacho, and Jennifer Frentress, Associate Superintendent,
Research and Innovation, who is taking time off prior to taking on her new position as Superintendent in the San Carlos School District.

10. **BOARD MEMBERS**

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

Mr. Ross asked his subcommittee members to share information from their meeting. Board President Camacho said the primary focus of the conversation was AB 824, brought to the Board’s attention by Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan, which focuses on the inclusion of student trustees on County Boards of Education. Youth Commissioner Chan also met with Mr. Lempert who provided legislative history and explained the sources of support and opposition. He indicated the Board packet included the Association of California School Administrator’s (ACSA’s) letter of support as well as the California Charter Schools Association’s (CCSA’s) letter of opposition. Board President Camacho described the subcommittee’s fruitful conversation which ultimately focused on how to engage youth on the SMCOE Board and on County Boards in general, and how to engage either current members or alumni of SMCOE programs. The subcommittee hopes to advocate for including students in the decision-making of Boards, particularly students who have been through SMCOE programs.

Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan reported she has been in contact with Michelle Alas, Policy Director of the California Student Board Member Association (CSBMA), who reported the bill passed in the Senate Education Committee earlier in the day. It passed with four ayes and two abstentions and will be moving to the Appropriations Committee next. The goal of the bill is to increase student representation and voice on different levels. There is already student voice on school district boards, and the bill ensures representation on county and charter boards. Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan expressed hopes the Board will continue supporting this legislation as it moves forward.

Board President Camacho asked if the bill would go back to the Assembly for conference since it was edited in the Senate. Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan replied she was unsure if that was true, but reiterated that Ms. Alas indicated it is moving to the Appropriations Committee next. Mr. Lempert clarified if the bill gets through Appropriations, it will go to the Senate floor, and to the extent there are any amendments, it goes back to the Assembly. Board President Camacho asked where the Board inserts itself in this process. There is a letter of general support for students on County Boards, and he asked if it would make more sense and be more appropriate to continue with that letter or perhaps support the bill directly. Mr. Lempert stated if the Board wants to support the bill, now would be a good time, because Appropriations is where bills are killed. He also believes this bill might have some hurdles on the Senate floor that have nothing to do with student representation.

Ms. Alvaro indicated if she puts her name on a letter of support, she wants to make sure she is supporting the entire bill and there are a few areas of confusion. She referred to how AB 824 states students would petition for a seat on the various Boards with preferential voting rights and asked what that means. Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan explained petitioning means offering the option of having a Student Board Member, and every Board does not have to have one. Students who are interested in having that position can petition to get the role, and getting support, either majority or 33%, would enable that position to be created.
Preferential vote refers to when Boards vote on certain policy, the student can decide whether they would support the policy or not, even though their vote does not count in the entire total. She indicated this is a “ghost vote,” but the preferential vote can be influential in how Boards make their decisions. Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan shared Ms. Alas has a preferential vote on her Board, and one of her Board members was unsure whether to support a certain piece of legislation. Because Ms. Alas had given it a preferential vote, and seeing this is something youth would support, the Board member was encouraged to also vote in support. The preferential vote can make a significant difference although it does not directly influence the voting results. Ms. Alvaro complimented Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan on her explanation.

Ms. Alvaro referred to the language in the opposition letter indicating that each pupil member has the right to attend each and all meetings of the governing body of a charter school except executive sessions and disciplinary hearings, and how “Executive” was crossed out and “Closed” was added. She stated there may be different definitions of Executive sessions, but for the County Board this means if they are in the middle of an appeal in Closed Session, they can enter Executive Session, which legally only allows the Board and their attorney, if invited.

Ms. Alvaro discussed the wording related to this in the Education Code and shared the story of a district who conducted an appeal and because others entered Executive Session, the decision was overturned. She cautioned to be careful about this because the term “Executive Session” means something specific to the Board but may mean something different for other Boards. Ms. Alvaro was unsure if this makes any difference in writing a letter of support, but this language concerns her. Other than that, she thinks this is a brilliant idea and she thanked Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan for her help.

Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan spoke of discussions with Mr. Lempert about the definitions of Executive and Closed Sessions, which students did not understand when first writing the bill. She stated she was unsure what led to the deletion of Executive Sessions and whether those were included under Closed Sessions. Ms. Alvaro asked for her own comfort level that the language include both “Executive” and “Closed” sessions, and disciplinary hearings, to avoid violating Education Code. Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan assured she would send a message to the team in relation to this issue.

Board President Camacho summarized the Board would like to edit the letter of support for the bill with the suggested amendments. Ms. Alvaro confirmed she was not concerned about the language related to preferential voting rights after Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan’s explanation about what that means. Her only concern remains the language related to Executive Sessions. Ms. Gerard agreed with Ms. Alvaro. Board President Camacho indicated that edit could be incorporated and requested that the letter be shifted a bit more into support for the bill. They had originally backed up because it might be complicated when the bill hits the Senate floor, but it sounds like with these amendments, the Board feels more comfortable writing a letter of support.

Board President Camacho joked that there was an open Assembly seat in 2024 for Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan. Mr. Lempert shared he was incredibly impressed with all of the student leaders and especially Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan.

Board President Camacho referred to the three pieces of legislation related to teacher credentialing, which the subcommittee did not get to in their meeting. They hope to collect additional information and
letters of support before deciding which to bring forward to the Board to support. These focus on lowering barriers to entry for potential educators, particularly around standardized testing with the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) and the California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET). He explained these pieces of legislation are on the subcommittee’s radar, and they will be looking at them next.

After a motion by Ms. Gerard and a second by Ms. Alvaro, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross), by roll call vote, approved issuing a letter of support for AB 824 as amended per the suggestions made by the Board.

B. Discuss/Act on a Revision to the 2020-2021 Board Meeting Calendar

Board President Camacho noted there is currently no urgent business for the June 23, 2021, meeting. After a motion by Ms. Gerard and a second by Ms. Bonini, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross), by roll call vote, approved the revision to the 2020-2021 Board Meeting Calendar to cancel the June 23, 2021, Board meeting.

C. Board Member Comments

Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan
Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan expressed her excitement about AB 824 and thanked the Board for their support. She let her team know about the suggested edits related to Executive and Closed Sessions, and expressed hopes to amend the bill, move it forward, and get it passed.

Ms. Alvaro
Ms. Alvaro shared she is looking forward to the Capitol Advisors meeting on July 1.

Ms. Alvaro emphasized if ever there was ever an advocate for having student liaisons on a governing board, Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan is it because she brings excellent ideas and weighs in, which is valued. Ms. Alvaro suggested when Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan decides to run for the legislature, Mr. Lempert can provide great advice on campaigning.

Ms. Alvaro wished Deputy Superintendent Porterfield good luck and thanked her for 11 years of working together and helping SMCOE understand financial issues. She described Deputy Superintendent Porterfield as the best and most comprehensible CBO. Ms. Alvaro discussed how Deputy Superintendent Porterfield did an excellent job explaining state financing and budgeting to school districts, which was appreciated. She also knows Deputy Superintendent Porterfield works hard in Sacramento to advocate for schools in general for education, and for county offices of education in particular, and SMCOE will continue to benefit from that advocacy. Ms. Alvaro summarized that Deputy Superintendent Porterfield will be missed, and she is excited for her new adventures.

Ms. Bonini
Ms. Bonini shared she had the opportunity the previous evening to attend the Bay Area Community Health Advisory Council (BACHAC) meeting. Some of their Board members are San Mateo residents, and it was great to hear the work they are doing. Ms. Bonini presumed there is some
connection between SMCOE and their work on the tobacco-free initiative, led by Sequoia Union High School District new Board Member Shawneece Stevenson. They are engaged in excellent work and outreach, even during the pandemic. She suggested if SMCOE is not connected in that work, she hopes we can be. Ms. Bonini also shared they provide a “Wellness Where You Are” series and a few months ago several district Board members were on a panel sharing their experiences with their own children in district special education systems which was insightful and emotional. She informed there are no updates yet on the BACHAC website, but when it does come up, she will share this with Superintendent Magee to share out. They also discussed the upcoming Juneteenth celebration and remembrances this weekend and shared the memory and history of Dr. James L. Hutchinson, the first African-American doctor in San Mateo County, who recently passed away. He fought to have the first office in San Mateo County, and everyone is aware that this work is still happening.

Ms. Bonini wished everyone a happy summer and congratulations to the retirees reflected on the Consent Agenda and the administrators who are retiring, who will be missed.

Mr. Cannon
Mr. Cannon thanked Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan for the amazing job she has done, which has been a huge accomplishment, significant contribution, and substantive effort in a short amount of time. For many, it takes years to acquire such a comfort level and confidence, and she has done a remarkable job with this.

Ms. Cannon shared he will miss Deputy Superintendent Porterfield and is happy she will make significant contributions in Contra Costa County. He recalled their work together on committees and shared he always enjoyed her presentations, which have become clearer each year. Mr. Cannon thanked Deputy Superintendent Porterfield and discussed how the office will face a professional challenge finding her replacement.

Mr. Cannon thanked Superintendent Magee for her fantastic efforts getting everyone through the school year, describing her work as unique. Mr. Cannon spoke of Superintendent Magee’s great personal talents and preparation, and expressed feeling eternally grateful that she got students and staff through the year in a healthy fashion. He hopes Superintendent Magee will be able to reflect on the organization’s success and accomplishments over the summer.

Mr. Lempert
Mr. Lempert stated he would be doing some work in Contra Costa County, and he hopes to see Deputy Superintendent Porterfield there and in Sacramento. He thanked her for her leadership, for making finances understandable, and for keeping SMCOE so financially strong, and expressed that she will be missed.

Mr. Lempert commented that Superintendent Magee is not panicking with the loss of several members of senior staff members because she has been through more difficult times during her short tenure as Superintendent. He spoke of Superintendent Magee’s brilliant work, thanked her for her extraordinary leadership, and shared he looks forward to the new staff joining the team.
Mr. Ross

Mr. Ross agreed with all earlier comments about Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan and suggested she not stop at the Assembly but go all the way to Washington D.C. He expressed feeling proud that she has been with the Board, spoke of all she accomplished so quickly, and shared she is excited to see what she will do in the future.

Mr. Ross spoke of how he will be lost without Deputy Superintendent Porterfield, and he may continue to call her with questions about excess property taxes. He described her as a consummate professional operational leader and the “real deal,” and shared that San Mateo County has been fortunate to have her and Contra Costa County is lucky to have her moving forward. Mr. Ross stated he already misses her, wished her the best of luck, and assured he would be calling her.

Mr. Ross suggested all Board members register for the California County Boards of Education (CCBE) Conference and attend either in-person or virtually. He thanked Superintendent Magee for being a part of one of the major panel presentations and bringing Dr. Adelsheim and Dr. Joshi, experts in child psychology and psychiatry from Stanford, to participate in an outdoor lunchtime panel. He informed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Kapor Center, Dr. Allison Scott, would speak on Sunday about Computer Science equity in the state.

Mr. Ross wished happy birthday to those celebrating birthdays and happy summer to everyone.

Ms. Gerard

Ms. Gerard wished happy birthdays to Mr. Lempert, Mr. Cannon, and Board President Camacho.

Ms. Gerard thanked Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan for her contributions to the Board and shared she has gone above and beyond and has truly been what a student board member should be, which is wonderful because she has opened the Board’s eyes to the importance of that role. She expressed it has been a pleasure knowing Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan, even if it has been from afar, and she hopes they can meet in person soon. Ms. Gerard asked Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan to continue her advocacy for Student Board Members because it is incredibly important work.

Ms. Gerard thanked and expressed appreciation to Deputy Superintendent Porterfield for the talking points which are helpful when explaining finances. She described how Deputy Superintendent Porterfield has helped the Board understand finances and both understands and anticipates their needs, which takes a special person. Ms. Gerard spoke of Deputy Superintendent Porterfield’s patience in many areas of involvement and suggested she give classes explaining the budget, and thanked her for her advocacy with county office of education funding. She expressed how she will miss Deputy Superintendent Porterfield professionally and personally.

Ms. Gerard thanked everyone who went above and beyond the call of duty during a difficult year to make the year the best possible.

Board President Camacho

Board President Camacho shared he felt honored to attend the first Oxford Day Academy (ODA) graduation ceremony along with Mr. Ross and a lovely video by Superintendent Magee. He
described how ODA got the event right with a family celebration because graduates do not do it all on their own. The ceremony was beautiful, and he felt fortunate to be able to attend. He concluded by noting the students are in good hands at ODA.

Board President Camacho shared he had the opportunity to meet with San Francisco School Board President Gabriela López, and he has learned that there is a lot more commonalities than differences among school districts, particularly around advocacy. He spoke of looking to explore how to approach funding and resource needs as a region, and plans to work with Ms. López over the coming year to reincorporate into the Region 5 conversation about the needs of schools, and tag on with Santa Clara County as well, because counties are much stronger together in these conversations.

Board President Camacho commented that Youth Commissioner Liaison Chan has set the bar incredibly high, and he knows her peers will learn from her service on the Board. He described how her voice has been critical in the Board’s understanding of the most important issues facing students and families. He thanked her for representing her peers, students, and the Board so well, and emphasized that regardless of her title, she has been a member of the Board and her service, professionalism, and advocacy is appreciated.

Board President Camacho described how the Board has moved away from talking about schools as teachers, staff, and administration, and started to use the term “educator” to refer to everyone. He stated that “educator” is the least we can call Deputy Superintendent Porterfield. Through her service as a business professional, she has educated the Board, local school districts, and the community in a way that is just not accessible to so many people. He expressed that he could not thank her enough for that because the finance system is muddled, and she helps the Board get closer to understanding what they are doing.

Board President Camacho explained the term “educator” has special significance because he likes to surround himself with people from whom he can learn, and he has learned so much from Deputy Superintendent Porterfield. It might seem an exaggeration but he couldn’t imagine his ability to do any of this work without the lessons learned from Deputy Superintendent Porterfield and the time she has taken to help educate others. He explained that educators show up for others and it means a lot to so many that Deputy Superintendent Porterfield showed up in really tough times and was always there for the Board.

Board President Camacho described Deputy Superintendent Porterfield as a member of the SMCOE family who will always be a member of the family and an educator through and through. He thanked her for her service and emphasized that he could not be the Board member he is without having known her, he looks forward to continued conversations, and it has been an incredible honor to serve alongside her.

Board President Camacho acknowledged Superintendent Magee for an incredible school year, one unlike any other. He stated he is ready for the fall, and he hopes Superintendent Magee and all SMCOE staff have time to recharge and regroup in preparation for the year ahead.
11. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Nancy Magee, Secretary

jlp