1. OPENING ITEMS

A. Call to Order

Board President Hector Camacho, Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. He announced the Board would observe all required health protocols according to the California Department of Public Health and San Mateo County Health. The Board also continues to provide remote access for members of the public, enabling individuals to attend the meeting via webinar. Board President Camacho noted in the effort to increase accessibility and opportunity for community engagement, simultaneous interpretation of the meeting would be 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. Land Acknowledgement

Board President Camacho stated the San Mateo County Board of Education, in joint partnership with the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools, is opening this meeting by acknowledging the land on which we work and serve is the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone people. The Ramaytush Ohlone lived in ten independent tribes on the San Francisco Peninsula for
OPENING ITEMS (continued)

thousands of years and to this day continue to live here as respectful stewards of the land. Due to the devastating policies and practices of a succession of explorers, missionaries, settlers, and various levels of government over the centuries since European expansion, the Ramaytush Ohlone lost the vast majority of their population, as well as their land. Contemporary members of these tribes continue to research, preserve, and share their history and culture.

Board President Camacho continued the County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools express their respect and gratitude for the work of the Ramaytush Ohlone to educate residents about their history and the continuing contributions of the Ohlone people. Last year, the County Office of Education created and promoted a variety of educational resources about the Ramaytush and other indigenous people of our state and is now looking to develop a strong partnership with the Association of Ramaytush Ohlone to expand opportunities for further learning as a shared priority of both the Ramaytush and the County Office of Education.

C. Approval of Agenda

After a motion by Trustee Gerard and a second by Trustee Lempert, the Board approved, by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, and Lempert), none opposed, and one absent (Ross), the November 3, 2021, agenda as presented.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Janice Pellizzari, SMCOE teacher and San Mateo County Educators Association (SMCEA) President shared updates on SMCOE school programs.

3. RUBY BRIDGES WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

A. Receive Update on Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day

Jeneé Littrell, Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services Division, introduced Theresa Vallez-Kelly, Coordinator, Safe Routes to School/Tobacco Use and Prevention Program, who provided an update on Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day. The poster contest winner, Saira Nanjapa, a third-grader at Arundel Elementary School, and her father, were present to speak about the inspiration behind the creation of her poster.

Trustee Gerard shared how impressed she was with Saira’s poster and thanked her for all the thought and detail she expressed.

Trustee Alvaro described how exciting it was to have the 6th grade students from Martin Elementary School attend the Board meeting the first and second years of Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day. Their enthusiasm and knowledge about the topic won over the Board, who had no doubt about passing a resolution to ensure this wonderful event continues. She explained that Saira’s poster captured that spirit. Trustee Alvaro congratulated and thanked Saira and explained how the poster...
RUBY BRIDGES WALK TO SCHOOL DAY (continued)

would be shared countywide, and everyone would have an opportunity to understand the spirit of
Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day in San Mateo County.

Board President Camacho added Martin Elementary School and Spruce Elementary School are two
of the oldest schools in South San Francisco, and enjoy amazing support from their communities.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. October 20, 2021, Regular Board Meeting

After a motion by Trustee Gerard and a second by Trustee Lempert, the Board approved, by a vote of
six in favor (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, and Lempert), none opposed, and one absent
(Ross), the Minutes of the October 6, 2021, Regular Board Meeting as presented.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

B. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 21-68 Recognizing Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day in San
Mateo County

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

6. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. Superintendent’s Comments

Superintendent Magee began by acknowledging Coordinator Vallez-Kelly, the champion of Safe
Routes to School, who is always humble in sharing the success of Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day.
Superintendent Magee noted that Coordinator Vallez-Kelly has been the engine behind this project,
constantly thinking of next steps and how to expand the work. Superintendent Magee thanked
Coordinator Vallez-Kelly for her leadership and passion in helping the Martin Elementary School
students engage with the community and make such a difference in the world.

Superintendent Magee reminded the Board that SMCOE will soon be saying goodbye to Anjanette
Pelletier, Associate Superintendent, Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA). She shared that
Associate Superintendent Pelletier published an extensive article in the Association of California
School Administrators (ACSA) Leadership Magazine, focused on the historic levels of Special
Education funding coming from the federal and state government. Superintendent Magee noted she
would share the link to the article with the Board and congratulated Associate Superintendent
Pelletier on this latest accomplishment.
Superintendent Magee reported that earlier in the day, SMCOE, along with district partners, launched the new Center for Access and Engagement, with Trustee Bonini and Trustee Gerard in attendance. District practitioners came together to hear about the vision for the work and determine how new resources coming from the County Office can directly support the work of school districts. Superintendent Magee thanked the Board for their support and approval of the Center for Access and Engagement as part of SMCOE’s expenditure plan for Assembly Bill (AB) 86 funding. Although this is a pilot project, the organization is excited about the opportunity to engage where the County Office believes the most work needs to be done in closing gaps.

Lastly, Superintendent Magee wished Alyson Suzuki, Executive Director, Early Learning Support Services, a happy birthday on November 11.
and Lempert), none opposed, and one absent (Ross), by roll call vote. The appellants failed to demonstrate good cause.

Board President Camacho reported there was no action taken on item 9A.

11. BOARD MEMBERS

A. Discuss Draft Agenda for Upcoming Board/Superintendent Retreat

Superintendent Magee reminded the Board of the planned Board/Superintendent Retreat on Saturday, November 13, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, at the Half Moon Bay Library. She discussed the draft agenda and asked for feedback on the proposed topics.

Trustee Bonini asked how much of the session would be a presentation to the Board versus a conversation among them. Superintendent Magee replied that the plan is to engage the Board in conversation.

Board President Camacho asked about the timeline for the Strategic Planning process and wondered if that item could be broken into several future dates. He recalled in the last process, the Superintendent and staff met with the Board individually and as drafts came together, they reviewed during regular Board meetings. Board President Camacho expressed concerns about having enough time to address all three agenda items. He noted the “Communication” and “Superintendent Updates” items will likely be substantial, so perhaps the “Strategic Planning and Priorities” item could be moved off the agenda.

Trustee Lempert indicated his schedule had changed and he would need to leave the Retreat by 11:15 a.m. Board President Camacho noted this was another reason to rearrange the agenda.

Trustee Lempert asked if there would be any discussion regarding the proper role of the Board. He discussed the role of the Superintendent and stated he was surprised by the language in the agenda. Board President Camacho said he and Trustee Gerard were working on a set of “homework” questions to be sent ahead of the retreat that cover this issue. Trustee Lempert stated the language implies equality but there is not equality because Superintendent Magee is the elected Superintendent. He reflected on being on the Board of Supervisors and not being able to tell the District Attorney what to do. The Board of Supervisors did the overall budget, but the District Attorney was elected to run the District Attorney’s office. Trustee Lempert clarified that Superintendent Magee was elected to run the County Office of Education and the Board has a limited role. Trustee Alvaro pointed out the key word is “team.” Trustee Lempert countered that they are not a “team” because the Board has a role and areas they oversee, but Superintendent Magee is elected to run the office. Board President Camacho assured the conversations will include these topics.

Trustee Bonini spoke of discussion at the California County Boards of Education (CCBE) around shared governance and how it is a difficult conversation. Trustee Lempert indicated this is
dangerous, as witnessed in Orange County and San Francisco, and suggested that school boards should know their roles.

Trustee Gerard commented she is currently working on this issue for CCBE in their new governance handbook. There is information to be added, which had not been added before. Board President Camacho stated that he, Trustee Gerard, and Superintendent Magee had composed the agenda together so these issues could be discussed and clarified. Trustee Lempert reiterated he is very concerned about the roles of school board members, especially in a county with an elected Superintendent. Board President Camacho again assured this would surface in their conversations and is one of the reasons for the agenda item.

Trustee Cannon shared he had been having difficulty hearing throughout the meeting and asked that sound issues continue to be addressed. Trustee Gerard agreed. Superintendent Magee said the Information Technology (IT) team has been working hard to find the best audio solutions, where individuals can hear each other in the room and are not echoing or creating problems over Zoom. Trustee Gerard noted when speakers at the podium stand back, they cannot be heard. Trustee Cannon asked that the sound issues and other factors such as room temperature and lighting be considered and expressed appreciation for the work being done to resolve these issues. Superintendent Magee assured the team would continue working to get it right.

### B. Suggest Topics for Future Board Agendas

Superintendent Magee explained that the idea for this item came from conversations among herself, Board President Camacho, and Trustee Gerard. This will be a standing item on future agendas so the Board can better direct the business they would like to address. She emphasized it is not be a time for discussion of topics, just suggestion of topics.

Board President Camacho noted this would previously be done during Board Member Comments, but now this is separate agendized item.

Trustee Bonini asked if a suggestion that would be applicable to a subcommittee, such as the Legislative Subcommittee, should still be addressed during Board Member Comments. Superintendent Magee confirmed reports from subcommittees would already be agendized, and suggestions for subcommittees should be addressed with either the subcommittee chairs or herself, to be added to a subcommittee agenda. Board President Camacho confirmed the practice to have subcommittee reports agendized.

Trustee Alvaro asked if Public Comment had to be accepted on ideas for future meetings since this would now be an agendized item. Claire Cunningham, Chief Deputy County Counsel, informed the public could always comment on any agenda item and under Board Policy, they already have the ability to contact the Board President to request that an item be placed on the agenda. This new agenda item provides an additional avenue for the public to request placement of an idea on the agenda. Trustee Alvaro asked if it was implicit that the Board was not soliciting ideas from the public to add to meetings. Chief Deputy County Counsel Cunningham noted this item is under the Board section of the agenda, so it is really for
the Board to talk about what they want to see on the agendas. However, a member of the public could provide comment because the item is on the agenda.

There were no suggestions from the Board regarding future agenda items.

C. Receive Report on Census Data for Redistricting

Chief Deputy County Counsel Cunningham stated the purpose of the agenda item is to give the Board an opportunity to discuss whether they want to prepare a proposal or other information to submit to the County Committee on School District Organization (CCSDO) about whether trustee area lines should be redrawn and if so, where. She reported the differential between the trustee area with the smallest and greatest populations is 9.8%, and when the differential hits 10%, that is a per se violation of federal law. Chief Deputy County Counsel Cunningham suggested it might be beneficial to slightly redraw some trustee area lines for better balance. Her preference would be a differential closer to 5%, if possible. Chief Deputy County Counsel Cunningham reminded it is the CCSDO’s responsibility to make decisions, but the Board may want to state a preference, which would be given great deference.

Trustee Alvaro referred to the racial and ethnic data on Hispanic/Latino versus not Hispanic/Latino in her area. She noted it may be true that 17.7% of the entire population of all three districts is Hispanic/Latino, but if one looks at the student population, especially on the coast in the Cabrillo Unified School District (CUSD) and the La Honda-Pescadero Unified School District (LHPUSD), that is not even close to accurate. She estimated that roughly 45% of students in the CUSD are Hispanic/Latino, and the numbers are even higher for the LHPUSD. Trustee Alvaro questioned the value and accuracy of the data in terms of the student population. Chief Deputy County Counsel Cunningham clarified this data focuses on trustee areas and voters, so they do not consider the student demographics. This is about the voters and whether a racial minority would have the ability to elect someone to the County Board of Education. This is why the Census Data is about the population and not about student demographics.

Board President Camacho asked how to provide suggestions or input to the CCSDO. Chief Deputy County Counsel Cunningham replied that was up to the Board. This was an opportunity for the Board to discuss whether they wanted someone to speak during Public Comment at a CCSDO meeting, put together a written proposal, or keep existing trustee areas even though they are close to the 10% threshold. She stated it was up to the Board to direct staff regarding their preferences and how that can be supported.

Trustee Lempert asked if staff could be directed to play around with options. Chief Deputy County Counsel Cunningham indicated that could be done. Trustee Lempert asked if a slight shift might be enough. Superintendent Magee informed that currently, all the elementary school districts are whole. To bring the numbers closer together between Area 2 with the highest population and Area 5 with the lowest population, the team may have to divide a district between trustee areas.

Board President Camacho noted the county had not removed the map drawing tool from the website. Superintendent Magee noted the County Office invested in state of the art geographic information system.
BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

(GIS) software, being used to move into this space and help districts create their trustee area maps. The team is currently learning how to use the software. They created the interactive map and can come up with some options for the Board, some of which may include splitting of districts. Superintendent Magee noted Board members could also explore options using the redistricting map tool.

Trustee Lempert commented the County Office’s process is much simpler than what others go through because trustee areas are set up by school districts. Board President Camacho noted that is what they chose. Trustee Lempert suggested it is simpler if they stick with that method, and perhaps just split one school district. Board President Camacho suggested keeping districts together but fiddling with moving one elementary district into another trustee area. Superintendent Magee assured staff could play around with the interactive map and would be happy to take ideas and suggestions from the Board. Board President Camacho noted suggestions could be emailed to Superintendent Magee.

D. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 21-69 Implementing Board Policy BP 9250 to Compensate Susan Alvaro for Her Absence from the October 20, 2021, Board Meeting Due to Illness

After a motion by Trustee Lempert and a second by Trustee Cannon, the Board approved by a vote of five in favor (Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, and Lempert), none opposed, one absent (Ross), and one recusal (Alvaro), Joint Resolution No. 21-69 Implementing Board Policy BP 9250 to Compensate Susan Alvaro for Her Absence from the October 20, 2021, Board Meeting Due to Illness.

E. Board Member Comments

Youth Commissioner Liaison Willis
Youth Commissioner Liaison Willis shared the Youth Commission was working on the Peer Court project within his subcommittee and the sexual assault resolution within the larger commission.

Trustee Cannon
Trustee Cannon commented that he enjoyed the deliberation and collegiality earlier in the evening, as well as how Board members listened to each other.

Trustee Alvaro
Trustee Alvaro had nothing to report.

Trustee Lempert
Trustee Lempert had nothing to report.

Trustee Bonini
Trustee Bonini thanked the team for inviting Board members to attend the launch for the Center for Access and Engagement. She enjoyed attending the event, and it was great to see so many districts in attendance.

Trustee Bonini shared there will be a resource panel the following day for the Transition to Independence Fair, and she was happy to forward information on the event to Superintendent Magee to pass along. She informed she had already forwarded the information to SELPA.
BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

Trustee Gerard
Trustee Gerard updated she attended the Progress Seminar the previous Friday and would attend again the coming Friday. She also attended the launch for the Center for Access and Engagement, which was informative.

Board President Camacho
Board President Camacho shared that at its meeting on Tuesday, November 9, the Board of Supervisors will start to review two proposed redistricting maps. He encouraged the Board to consider attending because they are familiar with the districts they currently represent. He added this is also helpful feedback when discussing communities of interest. Throughout the process, he has advocated for school districts as communities of interest, because students share those spaces, which is an important concept but gets lost in these conversations. The advisory commission put forth two maps which can be considered by the Board of Supervisors. Their deadline is December 15 for the new lines.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m. Board President Camacho announced the next meeting would be the Board/Superintendent Retreat on Saturday, November 13, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at the Half Moon Bay Library. The next regular meeting would be held on Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at 101 Twin Dolphin Dr. in Redwood City.

Nancy Magee, Secretary

jlp