1. OPENING ITEMS

A. Call to Order

Board President Hector Camacho, Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 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. Board President Camacho noted in the effort to increase accessibility, 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, would open the meeting by acknowledging the land on which we work and serve is the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone people. 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.
C. Approval of Agenda

After a motion by Trustee Gerard and a second by Trustee Alvaro, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross) approved the November 17, 2021, agenda as presented.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following speaker provided live public comment via Zoom:

- Janice Pellizzari, SMCOE teacher and San Mateo County Educators Association (SMCEA) President, made comments and wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

The following speakers provided live public comment in person:

- Tina Perdices and Tracy Bonaduce, SMCOE school psychologists, made comments in honor of School Psychologist Month.

3. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

A. November 2021 Employee of the Month Sonia Sánchez Santoyo, Bilingual Family Counselor, Court and Community, Educational Services Division

Board President Camacho recognized the November 2021 Employee of the Month Sonia Sánchez Santoyo, Bilingual Family Counselor, Court and Community, Educational Services Division. Board President Camacho congratulated Ms. Sánchez Santoyo on behalf of the Board and noted she would also receive an award check and commemorative token.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. November 3, 2021, Regular Board Meeting

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

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Receive Staffing Reports

After a motion by Trustee Gerard and a second by Trustee Alvaro, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross) approved the Consent Agenda.
6. **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION**

   A. **Receive Educator Effectiveness Block Grant Expenditure Plan**

Marco Chávez, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services Division, provided information on the Educator Effectiveness Block Grant Expenditure Plan.

Trustee Alvaro asked if the funds must be expended by 2026. Associate Superintendent Chávez affirmed this and noted some of the action items may take several years to implement or provide. The funds may not last until 2026, but the team has until that time to spend the money.

Trustee Ross wondered if time limitations led the team to make decisions focused on providing skills and investing in staff with the idea that staff members would remain with the organization. Associate Superintendent Chávez agreed it was an intentional strategy to invest in helping grow staff skills, especially in positions which the team has been unable to fill.

Trustee Cannon asked about the process for developing the plan. Associate Superintendent Chávez explained the team convened several groups within the organization and used feedback provided during the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) process which engaged stakeholders, similar to the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III Plan. The team also gathered a great deal of information from school site leaders as well as from leaders at 101 Twin Dolphin Drive.

Board President Camacho said this was a healthy amount of funding for professional development, but that more is always needed. He recalled how requests for professional development opportunities were reflected on the employee surveys, and he shared his appreciation that SMCOE can meet these needs using these grant dollars. Board President Camacho added that even if employees receive professional development through the organization and then leave to work at a school site or a district, they are still providing benefit to our county’s students or to education overall.

7. **BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION**

   A. **Discuss/Act on 2021-2022 Budget Adjustment: Recognition Stipend**

Kevin Bultema, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services Division, provided information on the 2021-2022 Budget Adjustment: Recognition Stipend.

Mr. Cannon asked if Deputy Superintendent Bultema had worked with the employee groups on this stipend. Deputy Superintendent Bultema confirmed this and expressed appreciation for the collaborative process with all labor groups.

After a motion by Trustee Ross and a second by Trustee Gerard, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross) approved the 2021-2022 Budget Adjustment: Recognition Stipend.
8. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. Superintendent’s Comments

Superintendent Magee thanked Trustee Alvaro for her efforts in securing the Half Moon Bay Library for the Board/Superintendent Retreat. Everyone appreciated spending time in that beautiful space. She also thanked the Board for engaging in several hours of positive conversation and shared she is hopeful and energized about their goals moving forward.

Superintendent Magee shared that she spent the morning in South San Francisco walking with students from Martin Elementary School in honor of Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day. She was especially pleased to walk alongside Board President Camacho and Theresa Vallez-Kelly, Coordinator, Safe Routes to School. Senator Josh Becker also participated and highlighted the State Senate resolution to make Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day an event for all of California’s school children. Superintendent Magee noted the event was led by students who also addressed the crowd and were interviewed on television.

Superintendent Magee said that in collaboration with San Mateo County Health, SMCOE has been advised to expect a winter surge of COVID-19. The county is experiencing an uptick in cases reported by schools. Magee noted that one difference between this year and last year is that in 2021 many more people are fully vaccinated. If vaccinated individuals are infected with COVID-19, they can expect to experience milder symptoms with less impact on hospital and intensive care settings. Superintendent Magee reported that she, along with Patricia Love, Executive Director, Strategy and Communications; Jill Vandroff, Coordinator, Student Health and Wellness; and County Health, will provide a COVID-19 protocols refresher training the following day for school administrators and staff in both public and private schools. Entering the winter surge, SMCOE wants to ensure schools are prepared for contact tracing and increased testing for students. Many families will travel for the holidays, so it is also important to clarify the CDC travel guidance. Families should apply logic and best practices when they travel, but Superintendent Magee confirmed there are no requirements for quarantining upon return from the holidays. Most students will be able to return directly to school unless they are showing symptoms, have a positive COVID-19 test, or are considered a close contact, in which case they would follow the regular protocols.

Superintendent Magee discussed the morning’s second Leadership Seminar of the year, led by Deputy Superintendent Bultema and his Business and Integrated Technology Services teams. They further educated the group on budgets, financial systems, and technology processes.

Superintendent Magee admitted that with Congresswoman Jackie Speier’s announcement that she would not run for reelection, she had never imagined a world where she would not be working directly with Congresswoman Speier. She feels a great void thinking about that. Superintendent Magee described Congresswoman Speier as a champion for children, youth, and students, who really knows SMCOE’s work well. She honors children and families as a priority and leans in with her heart. Superintendent Magee emphasized that Congresswoman Speier will be greatly missed.

Superintendent Magee indicated she was looking forward to attending the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Conference in early December and being part of the Climate Emergency panel on Thursday, December 2. She promised to share her experience with everyone after the event.
Superintendent Magee wished a belated happy birthday to Alyson Suzuki, Executive Director, Early Learning Support Services, and an upcoming happy birthday to Deputy Superintendent Bultema.

Lastly, Superintendent Magee wished everyone a wonderful and relaxing Thanksgiving season with their families and loved ones surrounded by blessings and bounty.

9. **BOARD MEMBERS**

   A. **Discuss/Act on Joint Resolution No. 21-70 Resolution of Intention to Lease Certain San Mateo County Office of Education Property and Notice Inviting Bids**

   Claire Cunningham, Deputy Chief County Counsel, provided information on Joint Resolution No. 21-70 Resolution of Intention to Lease Certain San Mateo County Office of Education Property and Notice Inviting Bids.

   After a motion by Trustee Gerard and a second by Trustee Alvaro, the Board unanimously (Alvaro, Bonini, Camacho, Cannon, Gerard, Lempert, and Ross) approved Joint Resolution No. 21-70 Resolution of Intention to Lease Certain San Mateo County Office of Education Property and Notice Inviting Bids.

   B. **Suggest Topics for Future Board Agendas**

   Board President Camacho suggested receiving reports and information from the Executive Director of Personnel Services once the new person comes on board.

   Trustee Ross described how SMCOE took part in specialized Strategic CSforALL Resource and Implementation Planning Tool (SCRIPT) training and asked a follow up report on the training.

   C. **Board Member Comments**

   **Trustee Lempert**

   Trustee Lempert shared appreciation for the presentation from the school psychologists. He said he enjoyed the Retreat and thanked Trustee Alvaro for securing the site. Trustee Lempert discussed the announcement from Jackie Speier and recalled being in high school when she first ran for Congress. He has been in awe of her for a long time, feels she is the model of a wonderful public servant, and knows more will be shared about her in the future.

   **Trustee Cannon**

   Trustee Cannon explained how the city of Burlingame has a special connection with Congresswoman Speier because she grew up in the area and was a patron of their library. She always attended library events and supported the library’s remodel.

   Trustee Cannon shared he enjoyed the Retreat and appreciated learning about his colleagues and how they approach problems.
Board of Education Meeting
November 17, 2021

Trustee Cannon stated he looks forward to attending the CSBA Conference in San Diego which has some interesting workshops on the agenda.

**Trustee Bonini**

Trustee Bonini thanked Sarah Notch, Executive Director, Special Education and Instruction, and Niambi Clay, Executive Director, Equity, Social Justice, and Inclusion, for attending the Commission on Disabilities Youth and Family Committee meeting the previous day and sharing about the work they are doing at the County Office. Their presentation was well-received and aligns with many of the goals of the Committee and Commission.

Trustee Bonini shared she enjoyed the Retreat and the great conversations between Board members, especially after having been on the Board for almost a year.

Trustee Bonini discussed Congresswoman Speier’s announcement and learning, after speaking with Delaine Eastin, Former California State Superintendent of Public Instruction and Former Assemblymember, that the two of them had been freshman legislators together in 1988. There were five women that year, the most of any prior year coming into the legislature.

**Trustee Alvaro**

Trustee Alvaro shared that the following afternoon our YMCA partners would be meeting with the YMCA Partnership Board Subcommittee to provide updates. The YMCA has completed some of the infrastructure projects while the camp was closed to students. She noted the subcommittee will report back the updates at the next Board meeting.

Trustee Alvaro shared she is looking forward to the Big Lift countywide convening on November 29. There was a positive press release a few days back which she was excited to share with her coastside Big Lift partners. The press release was complimentary of the work and noted results coming in from all of the Big Lift sites.

Trustee Alvaro said she is having trouble imagining working in the county without Congresswoman Speier in some capacity. When they first met, Congresswoman Speier was on the Board of Supervisors before she went on to Sacramento. Congresswoman Speier has always been a champion of issues related to children, families, and women, and has always worked to make things better for the community. Trustee Alvaro has shared with Congresswoman Speier many times that she is her hero. She wishes her the best in her retirement.

Trustee Alvaro noted that County Counsel John Beiers is also retiring. When he was first appointed by Tom Casey to work with schools, he became the counsel for SMCOE, a role in which he served for a long time before moving to the county seat. She described him as an amazing human being and attorney and hopes he will have a retirement party where she can publicly share how blessed the county has been to have him at the helm.

**Trustee Ross**

Trustee Ross shared he is happy that the Leadership Team is awarding a bonus to staff after such a difficult year. He could not recall this ever happening over his past ten years on the Board.
Trustee Ross stated he is looking forward to the CSBA Conference and discussed how he is working hard to make it successful. He is grateful for the support and mentoring he is receiving from Trustee Gerard.

Trustee Ross described Congresswoman Speier as one of the most incredible members of Congress. He said he expected her to be there forever, discussed her long career in service, and publicly thanked her for her work.

Trustee Gerard
Trustee Gerard commented that the Retreat was productive and how nice it was to be with her fellow Board members. She added it has not been quite the same since having to meet over Zoom. She enjoyed being in the beautiful library and seeing the young people and families come and go.

Trustee Gerard discussed the California County Boards of Education (CCBE) leadership with Trustee Ross coming in as President-Elect and being active over the past two years bringing innovative ideas, which she appreciates. She described how Board President Camacho is running for Vice President of CCBE and noted how proud she is that both colleagues are stepping up and being recognized statewide. Trustee Gerard is looking forward to the conference and appreciates all the work being done by CCBE.

Board President Camacho
Board President Camacho shared he had a productive meeting earlier in the day where the group reflected on Congresswoman Speier and the work she has done for South San Francisco and the north county community overall. They discussed how she never lost sight of the needs of her community which she brought with her every day to Washington or to whatever office she was holding. At one point there were challenges at Parkway Middle School, and since she was an alumnus of the school, she came and spoke with the students and teachers. She has always been a treasure for South San Francisco and the community will continue to appreciate her years of service, starting back when she was a staff member for Congressman Ryan.

Board President Camacho highlighted that the previous week Superintendent Magee helped plan an education day for the Leadership Council of San Mateo County. She invited both him and Trustee Salahuddin from the Jefferson Union High School District to conduct a session on the history of public education. He extended his appreciation to Superintendent Magee for the invitation and for leading the day for the participants, who were current, emerging, and future leaders for the county. The day was structured to lend itself to deep conversations about education which many in the room had never had before. Board President Camacho came away reflecting that people are hungry for these conversations. He added that these leaders have thoughts about what education is, and as they gain more information and understanding, they often want to help. He encouraged the Board to have more conversations in their spaces with members of the public about the real situations being faced in public education. Everyone can agree that we can use all the help we can get.

Board President Camacho reported that the Board of Supervisors took preliminary action on redistricting maps, which ended up being very similar to the current maps.

Board President Camacho thanked Trustee Alvaro for her work to secure the Half Moon Bay Library for the Retreat. The large door opening to the patio area was a breath of fresh air. He thanked his
colleagues and Superintendent Magee for the great discussions and thanked Counsel Cunningham and Executive Director Love for their support.

Board President Camacho described his excitement attending Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day. He discussed how it was a student-run event and how Ms. Carlino at Martin Elementary School was instrumental in the success. He also extended a special thank you to Coordinator Vallez-Kelly for her efforts and for being an important catalyst throughout the process. These are the times he really appreciates the work of the County Office in supporting schools throughout the county.

Lastly, Board President Camacho shared he is excited to participate in the CSBA Conference with those who will be attending. He reminded his colleagues there will be a joint reception with the San Mateo County School Boards Association (SMCSBA) and the Santa Clara County School Boards Association (SCCSBA) the evening of Thursday, December 2, at 5:30 p.m., and he would love for everyone to attend.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m. Board President Camacho announced the next regular meeting would be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

Nancy Magee, Secretary

jlp