

From: misty seago <mistyseago@gmail.com>

Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 6:17 PM

To: Information SMCOE <info@smcoe.org>, Susan Alvaro <salvaro@smcoe.org>, Chelsea Bonini <cbonini@smcoe.org>, "hcamachojr@smcoe.org" <hcamachojr@smcoe.org>, "icannon@smcoe.org" <icannon@smcoe.org>, "bgerard@smcoe.org" <bgerard@smcoe.org>, "ttempert@smcoe.org" <ttempert@smcoe.org>, Joe Ross <jross@smcoe.org>

Subject: "Comment for May 18 Board Meeting."

To the SMCOE Board of Education:

The San Mateo County Board of Education’s January 19th, 2022 Community School closure vote resulted in the lay-off of teachers within Court and Community. Tonight you will be asked to vote on pushing Gateway School’s closing date to June 2023. It appears that the Therapeutic Day Classroom is being removed from consideration for the new year as it does not appear in the May 18th agenda. With fewer teachers remaining, staffing the Community School and the Therapeutic Day Class would seem infeasible. During the May 4th board meeting, Ms. Bonini’s expressed concern regarding staffing is supported by the data presented below. She inquired, “...I guess we already maybe don’t have the staff?...would additional hiring be required to have a more robust program for the next year?” Ms. Bonini further raised the concern regarding allocation and limitation of the number of seats at Gateway saying that it is likely, “we’re not going to have a place for them (students).”

Student demographics and teacher credential/certification information pulled from County Office Education sources for the 2021 - 2022 school year will help in understanding staffing and space needs and how one should vote on actionable agenda items and structure the budget to fund program needs.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Misty Seago

ENROLLMENT AT GATEWAY SCHOOL BY HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT

Home District:	Current	<u>School Year</u> (Aug. 2021- May 2022)
San Mateo Union:	Redacted per FERPA	
Cabrillo Unified		
Sequoia Union		
South San Francisco Unified		
Totals		

ENROLLMENT AT GATEWAY SCHOOL BY GRADE LEVEL

Grade	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Count	Redacted per FERPA				

ENROLLMENT AT GATEWAY SCHOOL BY AGE

Age	14	15	16	17	18
Count	Redacted per FERPA				

ENROLLMENT AT GATEWAY SCHOOL BY RACE (self-reported)

Race	Count
Pacific Islander	Redacted per FERPA
American Indian or Alaskan Native	Redacted per FERPA
Black or African American	Redacted per FERPA
White	Redacted per FERPA
Asian	Redacted per FERPA
Unreported	Redacted per FERPA

(Note **Redacted per FERPA**)

Below are teachers highly qualified in the subject area they teach, serving by school site. Those listed in **RED** were issued a lay-off notice that has not been rescinded.

TEACHERS BY SCHOOL SITE

Highly Qualified	Gateway	Hillcrest	Camp Kemp	Canyon Oaks	Therapeutic Day Class
English	MS	JN	Vacant		
Mathematics	RW				
Science			BK		
Social Studies		JB	Vacant		
Physical Education					

Credit Recovery					
Workability					
Counseling	LS	LS	LS	LS	
Special Ed.	AW /JP	AW	AW	GR	

Below are the teachers who teach out of subject area by school site. Those listed in **RED** were issued a lay-off notice that has yet to be rescinded.

TEACHERS (OUT OF SUBJECT AREA) BY SCHOOL SITE

Out of Subject Area	Gateway	Hillcrest	Camp Kemp	Canyon Oaks	Therapeutic Day Class
English			Vacant	JP	
Mathematics		JA	BK	GR	
Science	RW	JA		GR	
Social Studies	MS		Vacant	GR	
Physical Education	JN	JB	JN	NH	
Credit Recovery	JN, MS, AW , RW	JA, JB, BK	BK	BK	
Workability	JP				
Counseling					
Special Ed.					

Teachers and Staff of Court and Community Schools

Initials	Names	Credential
AW	Alexandra Wolles	Education Specialist Instruction Credential (Level II), Mild/Mod. Disabilities, Autism Spectrum
BK	Elizabeth Kassler	Single Subject Science Teaching Credential (Clear), Science (exam only), ELD/SDAIE
GR	George Rehmet II	Multiple Subject Teaching Credential (Clear), Specialist Instruction Credential in Special Education (Clear), General Subjects (Examination), Severely Handicapped, RSP
JA	Jennifer Angers	Multiple Subject Teaching Credential (Clear), General Subjects (Examination)

JB	John Bordagaray	Single Subject Social Science, ELD/SDAIE
JN	Julie Naested	Single Subject English, English (Exam only), ELD/SDAIE
JP	Janice Pellizzari	Multiple Subject Teaching Credential (Clear), Specialist Instruction Credential in Special Education (Clear), SB 1969 Certificate, General Subjects, Learning Handicapped
LS	Lauren Sneed	Pupil Personnel Services Credential (Clear), Designated Subjects Vocational Education: Full Time (Clear), Admin.Services Credential (Certificate of Eligibility), School Counseling
MS	Misty Seago	English Single Subject Clear Credential, ELL Authorization
NH	Natalia Hawthorne	Single Subject Teaching Credential (Clear), Physical Education
RW	Roger Wroblewski	Single Subject Math Teaching Credential (Clear), ELL Authorization, ELD/SDAIE

Paraeducator(s) - Mary Holliday, Jose Giacomani, Sara Ortiz, Ana Espinoza

Subject: Comment for May 18 Board Meeting

Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 6:38:58 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: roger wroblewski <rtwroblewski@me.com>

To: Information SMCOE <info@smcoe.org>, Susan Alvaro <salvaro@smcoe.org>, Chelsea Bonini <cbonini@smcoe.org>, Hector Camacho Jr. <hcamachojr@smcoe.org>, Jim Cannon <jcannon@smcoe.org>, Beverly Gerard <bgerard@smcoe.org>, Ted Lempert <tlemper@smcoe.org>, Joe Ross <jross@smcoe.org>, Beebe, Kathleen <KBeebe@cta.org>, Greg Bonaccorsi <gbonaccorsi@cta.org>, Janice Pellizzari <jpellizzari@smcoe.org>

CC: Roger Wroblewski <rtwroblewski@icloud.com>

Good Evening Superintendent and Board Members,

After Mr. Lempert's allusion to governance during the May 4, 2022 board meeting, I reviewed the board policies concerning Governance Standards (Board Policy 9005).

The County Office of Education also outlines the responsibilities of the members of the Board of Education and indicates that members participate in *ad hoc* or long-standing subcommittees that address the Board's responsibilities and priorities.

When looking through the subcommittees, I noticed there were no members on the Budget Subcommittee. In fact, there was no Budget Subcommittee listed. I hope that was an oversight.

Strategic Planning/Budgeting Process (Board Policy 3120) states:

“Strategic Planning

The Superintendent and Board shall annually undertake a strategic planning and budgeting process.

The purpose of the process shall be to annually review the Office's current and future fiscal resource allocations, recognize programmatic needs and fiscal conditions, anticipate financial problems and ensure early corrective action. Such review shall include both long and short-range fiscal policies and projections.

As a result of the annual strategic planning and budgeting process, the Superintendent or designee will present a proposed budget to the Board in June of each year.”

Furthermore, Board Policy 3120 continues:

“Budget Revision

The Board must approve, prior to implementation, any budget revision which involves the

operation of a program not listed in the adopted budget, the discontinuance of a program listed in the adopted budget, or the establishment of a position or positions not included in the adopted budget.”

On January 19, 2022, the Board voted to close Gateway Community School. On March 15th, teachers received layoff notices from the County Office of Education. How can the basis of a decision to close a school in light of Board Policy 3120 be contingent on a deadline such as the March 15th layoff date? Clearly, if the Board had been involved as required by Board Policies 9005 and 3120 in providing services to school districts and the community, and budget revisions, then the action item would not have been a surprise for the Board. From what I understand of the Board Policies, this is bad governance.

On May 4th, the Board was asked to vote on Board Resolution No. 22-28 to move Gateway Community School’s closure date to June 2023 and to develop an exclusive partnership with Sequoia Union High School District for the purpose of creating a new school using the Gateway campus. The County Office of Education, however, did not ask the Board to rescind the layoffs.

On May 18th, the Board will be asked to vote on Board Resolution No. 22-34 to open Gateway Community School until June 2023.

The closing, possible reopening, and layoffs were all decided in a 3 month period without a budget subcommittee. How did the Board manage to follow Board Policy 3120’s section on Budget Revision and the Strategic Planning section? Moreover, how will the Board fulfill its role for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year’s budget which will be presented for approval in June? I do not believe “rubber stamping” the school budget is included in Board Policy. I do not believe “rubber stamping” any other items in the Board agenda is included either.

Per the Board Policy 9005’s section concerning Governance Standards you are required to:

“1. Keep focused on student learning and achievement, as well as the role of the SMCOE in providing services to school districts and the community,

....

6. Govern within the law and County Board-adopted policies and procedures.”

These Board Policies and others are based in California Education Code, as well as, Government Code. I presume you have taken an oath as elected members of the Board to faithful service.

Try as I did, I never found anything in Board Policy that suggested the following was poor governance:

- asking questions
- seeking information
- disagreeing with a direction
- reviewing the Office's current and future fiscal resource allocations
- recognizing programmatic needs and fiscal conditions
- anticipating financial problems
- ensuring early corrective action

Your Governance Standards, in fact, call for a self-evaluation of your own effectiveness. I doubt the number of passed agenda items is a valid metric for evaluation, nor is holding 52 million dollars of the public's tax money in reserves rather than spending it on ***public*** education programs for students.

In gratitude,
Roger Wroblewski