

Contra Costa County Board of Education
MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
September 13, 2023

MEMBERS

Consuelo Lara, Area 1 Trustee
Sarah Butler, Area 2 Trustee
Anamarie Avila Farias, Area 3 Trustee
Mike Maxwell, Area 4 Trustee
Annette Lewis, Area 5 Trustee

Daphne Milich, Student Trustee
Sophia Nguyen, Student Trustee

STAFF PRESENT

Lynn Mackey, County Superintendent of Schools
Daniella Parasidis, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services
Norma Gonzales, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Nick Berger, Senior Director, Student Programs
Marcus Walton, Director, Communications and Special Events
Natalia Ciccone, Exec. Asst. to the Superintendent and Board
Michelle Kiernan, Exec. Asst. to the Superintendent and Board
Cynthia Schwerin, Assistant County Counsel
Neil McChesney, Coordinator, Charter School Oversight
Nikki Pitcher, Director, Student Programs, Court & Community Schools
Brian Murtagh, Principal, Mt. McKinley School

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 The President will call the meeting to order

Board President Consuelo Lara called the Board meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION

2.1 General Information

3. OPENING PROCEDURES

3.1 Introduction of Student Board Members (WALTON) – INFORMATION

Marcus Walton, Director, Communications and Special Projects, introduced two new Contra Costa County Board of Education Student Board Members Daphne Milich and Sophia Nguyen.

3.2 Roll Call

All Board Members were present.

3.3 Land Acknowledgement

Trustee Lara read the Land Acknowledgement.

3.4 Agenda Review and Adoption

Action: Approve agenda as presented.

Motion by Mike Maxwell, second by Annette Lewis

Yes: Sarah Butler, Anamarie Avila Farias, Consuelo Lara, Annette Lewis, Mike Maxwell, Daphne Milich – Preferential Vote, Sophia Nguyen – Preferential Vote

No: None

Absent: None

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

3.5 Board Meeting Minutes – June 14, 2023 – ACTION

Action: Adopt minutes as amended.

Motion by Mike Maxwell, second by Annette Lewis

Yes: Sarah Butler, Anamarie Avila Farias, Consuelo Lara, Annette Lewis, Mike Maxwell, Daphne Milich – Preferential Vote, Sophia Nguyen – Preferential Vote

No: None

Absent: None

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

4. CLOSED SESSION

4.1 None.

5. RECOGNITIONS

5.1 Resolution #04-23/24: Disability Awareness Month

Action: Approve resolution as presented.

Motion by Annette Lewis, second by Mike Maxwell

Yes: Sarah Butler, Anamarie Avila Farias, Consuelo Lara, Annette Lewis, Mike Maxwell, Daphne Milich – Preferential Vote, Sophia Nguyen – Preferential Vote

No: None

Absent: None

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

5.2 Resolution #05-23/24: Filipino American History Month

Action: Approve resolution as presented.

Motion by Mike Maxwell, second by Sarah Butler

Yes: Sarah Butler, Anamarie Avila Farias, Consuelo Lara, Annette Lewis, Mike Maxwell, Daphne Milich – Preferential Vote, Sophia Nguyen – Preferential Vote

No: None

Absent: None

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

5.3 Resolution #06-23/24: LGBTQ+ History Month

Action: Approve resolution as presented.

Motion by Annette Lewis, second by Mike Maxwell

Yes: Sarah Butler, Anamarie Avila Farias, Consuelo Lara, Annette Lewis, Mike Maxwell, Daphne Milich – Preferential Vote, Sophia Nguyen – Preferential Vote

No: None

Absent: None

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

5.4 Resolution #07-23/24: Suicide Prevention Month

Action: Approve resolution as presented.

Motion by Mike Maxwell, second by Anamarie Avila Farias

Yes: Sarah Butler, Anamarie Avila Farias, Consuelo Lara, Annette Lewis, Mike Maxwell, Daphne Milich – Preferential Vote, Sophia Nguyen – Preferential Vote

No: None

Absent: None

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

5.5 Recognition of Education Champion (WALTON)

Contra Costa County Superintendent of Schools Lynn Mackey will occasionally recognize an Education Champion to thank our valued partners for their help, collaboration and support of public education. The Rotary Club of San Ramon

Valley was selected to receive the CCCOE Education Champion award for September 2023 for sponsoring the Scripps Regional Spelling Bee for the Bay Area.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

6.1 Consent Agenda

Items listed under Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be approved by a single motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items; however, any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda upon the request of a member of the Board or Superintendent and acted upon separately.

6.2 Review of Williams Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report (BERGER)

6.3 Temporary County Certificates (TCCs) – August 2023 – (GONZALES)

6.4 Consider Granting of a Contra Costa County High School Diploma to Court School Student MM1-091323 (BERGER)

Action: Adopt consent agenda as presented.

Motion by Mike Maxwell, second by Annette Lewis

Yes: Sarah Butler, Anamarie Avila Farias, Consuelo Lara, Annette Lewis, Mike Maxwell, Daphne Milich – Preferential Vote, Sophia Nguyen – Preferential Vote

No: None

Absent: None

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

7.1 Public Comment

None.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

8.1 Public Hearing Regarding Availability of Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials Pursuant to EC Section 60119 (BERGER)

The governing boards of school district and county offices of education are required to duly notice and hold an annual public hearing to determine whether each pupil in the district/county has sufficient textbooks and/or instructional materials in specified subjects that are aligned to the academic content standards and consistent with content and cycles of the curriculum frameworks adopted by the State Board of Education.

Public hearing opened: 5:39 p.m.

Public hearing closed: 5:39 p.m.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

9.1 Presentation - Reading Intervention Supports at Mt. McKinley (BERGER) – INFORMATION

Nick Berger, Senior Director, Student Programs, introduced Brian Murtagh, Principal, Mt. McKinley School, who provided an update on Reading Intervention Supports at the School focusing on the supports needed for literacy-based instruction and implementation of those efforts.

9.2 Superintendent's Update

- The end of August/beginning of September is when staff is kicking off its core work.
- CCCOE is supporting school districts in the county that have received the community school grants through the Youth Services department. All the school districts in the county that are eligible to receive the grant have received the grant.
- The Differentiated Assistance work with five of our school districts kicked off this month and that will go on all year.
- Student Programs began their expelled student planning and our Foster Youth advisory started its work for the year.
- CCCOE is hosting a job fair in East County

10. BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

10.1 Charter Schools Update (MCCHESENEY) – INFORMATION

Neil McChesney, Charter Schools Oversight Coordinator, presented an update on the County Board authorized charter schools. Topics covered were an update on Board member charter school visits and an overview of LCAP presentations. McChesney also introduced representative from Caliber: Beta Academy and Invictus Academy of Richmond for their annual LCAP presentations. These presentations are an opportunity for the charter schools to inform the Board members of their current performance and progress with focus on their most recent LCAPS and their goals, actions and expenditures associated with it.

Principals Andrew Grossman and Aleesha Spurr presented the 2023-24 LCAP for Caliber: Beta Academy. Executive Director Shawn Benjamin, and high school Principal Lauren Rahlson presented the 2023-24 LCAP for Invictus Academy of Richmond.

10.2 Update on the County School Service Fund (CSSF) Investment Activities (PARASIDIS) - INFORMATION

Daniela Parasidis, Deputy Superintendent, presented the CSSF Investment Activities for the quarter ending June 30, 2023 and showed that the CCCOE certified the investments and are in compliance with the investment policy and has the ability to meet its budgeted expenditures and is in compliance with government code 16481.

10.3 Passive Park Update (MACKEY) – DISCUSSION/UPDATE

Superintendent Mackey updated the Board on the changes to the passive park that is being constructed on Santa Barbara Road adjacent to the CCCOE's Stewart Building. At the August 12, 2020, meeting, the Board approved quit claiming the easement next to 77 Santa Barbara Road to Contra Costa County. Board members also received an update on the status of trees that were supposed to remain but were removed due to health concerns.

10.4 Policy Standing Committee: Second Reading & Review (MACKEY) – INFORMATION

Superintendent Lynn Mackey introduced proposed changes for second reading to Board policies recommended by the Policy Committee. The following policies were presented for second reading by the full Board: SP 4030 Nondiscrimination in Employment; SP 5144 Discipline; BP 5145.2 Freedom of Speech/Expression; BP 6115 Ceremonies and Observances; BP 6153 School-Sponsored Trips; BP 6177 Summer Learning Trips; BP 6161.1 Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials; BP 7150 Site Selection and Development; and BB 9322 Agenda/Meeting Materials. Superintendent Mackey also presented policies for elimination as recommended by the Policy Committee: BP 6145.1 Interscholastic Competition; BP 6145.6 Travel and Exchange Programs; BP 6160 Curriculum and Instructional Services; BP 6161 Equipment, Books and Materials; BP 6145.3 Publications; and BP 6145.8 - Social Events/Meetings.

Action: Approve policies as presented.

Motion by Mike Maxwell, second by Annette Lewis

Yes: Sarah Butler, Anamarie Avila Farias, Consuelo Lara, Annette Lewis, Mike Maxwell, Daphne Milich – Preferential Vote, Sophia Nguyen – Preferential Vote

No: None

Absent: None

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

10.5 Policy Standing Committee: First Reading & Review (MACKEY) – INFORMATION

Superintendent Lynn Mackey introduced proposed changes for first reading to Board policies recommended by the Policy Committee. The following policies were presented for first reading BP/EX 0420.41 Oversight of County Charter Schools; AR/BP 1330 Use of County Office Facilities; BP 1330.1 Joint Use Agreements; AR 5141.33 Head Lice; AR/BP 6151 Class Size; AR/BP 6145 Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities; AR 6145.6 Graduation Requirements - Adult Schools; AR/BP 6145.5 Student Organizations and Equal Access; AR/BP 6161.1 Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials; and AR/BP 6158 Independent Study. Superintendent Mackey also presented policies to be eliminated as recommended by the Policy Committee: AR/SP 4133.1 Travel Reimbursements; BP 6145.1 Interscholastic Competition; AR/BP 6145.8 Social Events/Meetings; BP 6160 Instructional Services; BP 6161 Equipment, Books and Materials; AR 6161.2 Overdue, Damaged or List Materials; AR 6161.4 Services to School Districts; and 6145.6 Travel and Exchange Programs.

10.6 Education Workforce Housing (LARA) – INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

Trustee Lara reported to the Board members about activities she was involved in regarding Workforce Housing for teachers. She had participated in a forum on the topic and is talking to other elected officials from throughout the county on the topic. Trustee Lara also asked the Board members about their thoughts on the issues of Workforce Housing.

11. BOARD UPDATES

11.1 Board Standing Committee Reports

Policy Committee (MAXWELL) – Presented policies for first and second reading and will meeting again on Oct. 2.

Charter Committee (BUTLER) – nothing to report

Budget Committee (LEWIS) – nothing to report

Legislative Committee (MAXWELL) – Working on tracking legislation that is pertinent to teachers and education. Next meeting is Oct. 2.

11.2 Comments from Board Members

Mike Maxwell –

- Visited Monte Vista High School and met with administrators and students, including new Student Board member Daphne Milich.

- Attended Institute Day on Aug. 18

Annette Lewis –

Attended Institute Day on Aug. 18

Attended Charter Committee meeting on Aug. 23

Attended CCBE Annual Conference Sept. 8-10 in Monterey, Calif., and attended workshops:

- The essential Practices for Collaborative Leadership; Great tools on how to work with others especially when you may not agree with them.
- Keynote address: “Politics, Money and Policy: Impacts to Public Education” (Capitol Advisors)
- Fostering Countywide Commitment and Collaboration for Safe Schools: Great ideas on how to work with schools and community partners in school safety preparation
- President’s welcome reception
- General membership breakfast where bylaws were amended to change the way candidates are approved and date of election for next year.
- Leading Interagency Collaboration to Help Vulnerable Students: Great information on working with community agencies on how to protect and support foster youth, trafficked students
- Lunch keynote, “Building Bridges and Collaboration”
- Charter School Reform Legislation: implementation and best practices
- Keynote breakfast presentation, “From Crisis to Collaboration: Nurturing Trust and Engagements in Public” schools.

Sarah Butler –

Attended IDT meetings and appreciates the Board member training from August 16.

Anamarie Avila Farias –

Working with Juvenile Hall and is asking anyone who has time, talent and skill, for example, math, to consider tutoring students at Juvenile Hall and to reach out to the Auxillary.

Attended local school board meetings and is concerned about the issues of learning loss from the pandemic.

Expressed concern about children being at risk of ending up in the corrections system and creating a dialogue in the community on this topic.

Consuelo Lara –

Attended CCBE Conference including seminars about expulsions and public relations

Sophia Nguyen –

President of Sexual Assault Awareness Club and will be meeting with principal to discuss school culture

Working on college applications and working a part-time job

Daphne Milich –

Involved in the Student Senate through the school district and participating in a summit

Running a non-profit for homeless and emancipated youth

11.3 Future Agenda Items

Student safety

Update on charging stations

Updated on the trees from the passive park

Future agenda items can be emailed to the Board president and superintendent.

12. EVENTS CALENDAR

12.1 Calendar of Events 2023

12.2 Board Meeting Dates 2023

Next meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2023.

13. ADJOURNMENT

13.1 The President will adjourn the Board meeting

President Lara adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.