

SHASTA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Shasta County Office of Education
1644 Magnolia Ave.
Redding, CA 96001

Meeting Location:

Sierra Pacific Industries – Conference Room
19794 Riverside Ave., Anderson, CA 96007

September 28, 2016

Planning Session Meeting Minutes

ADOPTED

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Tanner at 10:10 a.m. Superintendent Armelino presented new Board Member, Kathy Barry, with a logo portfolio and business cards as he welcomed her to the Board.

Members Present

- Kathy Barry
- Rhonda Hull, Vice-President
- Steve MacFarland
- Laura Manuel
- Denny Mills
- Elizabeth “Buffy” Tanner, President

Members Absent

- Diane Gerard

Administrators Present

- Tom Armelino, Shasta County Superintendent of Schools
- Adam Hillman, Associate Superintendent, Administrative Services
- Jennifer Baker, Senior Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction (departed at 11:55 p.m.)
- De’An Chambliss, Senior Executive Director of Business Services
- Brenda Palmer, Senior Executive Director of Human Resources

Others Present

- Robin Beeson, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent (Recording Secretary)

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: Board Member MacFarland moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Vice-President Hull seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote as follows:

- AYES: Barry, Hull, MacFarland, Manuel, Mills, Tanner
- NOES: None
- ABSTENTIONS: None
- ABSENT: Gerard

3. HEARING OF PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were none.

4. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

4.1. California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) Testing

Jennifer Baker, Senior Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction, provided an overview of the test including the history, implementation dates, grades tested, and subjects covered.

Discussion took place regarding how data can be accessed, differences from prior tests, how parents are notified of test results, and how the results are used to determine if a student is working towards being prepared for college. A PowerPoint was shared and an overview of how the scoring system works was given. The claim areas and levels covered in English language arts and math were explained with test examples provided. 2016 results for Shasta County compared to the State and then for County Office student programs and charter schools were reviewed. The results show that Shasta County has a 10+% increase.

Throughout the presentation, discussion took place regarding the correlation of teachers who have participated in professional development and their students' scores. It was noted that trauma impacts student learning and how it is important to provide teachers training on how to work with these students.

Superintendent Armelino suggested that R-STEM Charter School be asked to provide information on why they feel their test scores are what they are and what their plans are for the future when they do their annual report to the Board in October. It was noted that the Independent Study students need motivation to take the test as most are focused on obtaining their diploma not assessment scores.

4.2. Shasta County Board of Education Student Benefit Fund Administrative Regulation 3300 and Exhibit 3300-2 – Business and Noninstructional Operations – Expenditures and Purchases

President Tanner provided for the new Board Members an overview of how the Student Benefit Fund was developed. She noted it was the result of the Board making the decision to invest \$1.2 million of insurance proceeds from Camp Latieze when it was destroyed by a wild fire in an endowment maintained by the Shasta Community Regional Foundation.

It was shared that following the fire the property was sold for \$200,000 and \$100,000 of it went to the County Office for their expenses and legal fees associated with Camp Latieze. The remainder was utilized to offset costs for the Planetarium and Whiskeytown Environmental School.

De'An Chambless, Senior Executive Director of Business Services, referred to a memo in the agenda packet indicating that when the 2016/17 budget was approved by the Board in June, it identified that \$45,000 of the Student Benefit Fund that is available for spending would be used to support Whiskeytown Environmental School and the Schreder Planetarium instead of doing mini-grants as has been done the past couple of years.

Adam Hillman, Associate Superintendent of Administrative Services, provided an overview of the process followed that led to the decision to utilize the Shasta Regional Community Foundation, pros and cons of an endowment, administrative fees, and what would have been involved if it would have been handled internally. Superintendent Armelino shared the history on Camp Latieze that he learned from reading prior Board minutes and shared with new Board Members that the property was willed the Board.

Discussion took place regarding Giving Tuesday which is coordinated by the Shasta Regional Community Foundation on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. The Board expressed interest in learning more about this event to find out if the funds maintained by the Shasta Regional Community Foundation for the County Office including the Board Student Benefit Fund endowment, Whiskeytown Environmental School donations, and Planetarium donations can be recipients. Superintendent Armelino indicated that a representative from the Shasta Regional Community Foundation will be invited to a future Board meeting.

4.3. Proposed Goals for 2016/17

Superintendent Armelino shared that individual departments have continued to do their own goals and that this years proposed goals for the organization included in the agenda packet were approached differently in that they were developed around work that is already being done. He provided details on the proposed goals that include 1) continuing to serve as an active partner in the Reach Higher Shasta Initiative, 2) assisting districts in completing their LCAPs to meet state requirements prior to approval by their Board, and 3) assisting district in understanding the new accountability system and determine instructional practices to improve efforts. Discussion took place regarding the goals and it was noted they will be brought back to the next meeting for approval.

5. DISCUSSION/ACTION

5.1. Magnolia Park/Independent Study/Medical Therapy Unit Facility

Superintendent Armelino indicated that the Board has been informed over the past couple years issues that come with having a park located behind the County Office. He shared when the County Office purchased the building from Redding School District; the land came with a large playground. Part of the land was developed into parking and conversations took place with the City of Redding and it was determined to enter into an agreement to put in a park that was to be considered as a City Park and open to the public during hours required by the City, available for youth sports practices, and maintained by the County Office. Nearly ten years ago when the agreement needed to be renewed the City gave the County Office \$50,000 to purchase new equipment. When the agreement was being reviewed prior to renewal, it was determined that there was no out-clause, one was added and the payback amount for the new equipment was decreased for each year. Currently the payback amount is at \$5,000 and in June 2017 it will be at \$0.

Prior to purchasing the Professional Development Center (PDC) on Innsbruck Dr., there were discussions of utilizing the park area for a PDC building. Superintendent Armelino shared that more recently there has become a need to relocate the Medical Therapy Unit (MTU) that has been located at Buckeye School of the Arts in Gateway District for over 30 years. Originally discussions were to construct a building at a site within the Redding School district, then the plan changed to co-locate it at the new Prestige Urgent Health Care building that was purchased by the Shasta-Trinity Schools Insurance Group, however, it was determined that the facility would not

work as it does not meet earthquake standards for a school, a suggestion was then made to put a building in the park behind the Magnolia office.

Superintendent Armelino explained that the County Office is the administrative unit for the SELPA (Special Education Local Planning Area) that has its own Board which determines how funds are spent; however, it is staffed by the County Office who is the employer. Each SELPA is required to have a MTU facility and Public Health is required to operate the program. Superintendent Armelino shared the history of the MTU, its location, and the reason it is being moved.

Associate Superintendent Hillman shared that the park behind the County Office has become a burden as there are safety issues and a security company has been hired to patrol the area three times per night. He provided an overview of the amount of time staff spend each week doing ancillary duties that are not related to the routine maintenance of the park and shared an extensive list of safety issues and incidents that have occurred making it an unsafe place for children to play.

Superintendent Armelino reported that the County Office has brought in a representative from their insurance company to do trainings for staff on how to protect themselves and that in some instances staff put themselves at risk when they go out to look into a situation that has been reported during office hours. Comment was made that the keycard system to enter the building was implemented to keep staff safe as the County Office is not located in a very safe neighborhood and while this keeps them safe while they are in the building, their safety is still a concern as they walk from the building to their vehicle. It was explained that any expenses to make the County Office grounds safe would be an expense to the County Office.

If plans were to move forward, they would include closing the park and fencing the entire premises of land owned by the County Office and locking it at night to deter uninvited guests. It was noted that closing the park would pose a problem for the City as they would have to incur costs to open a new one. In an effort to work collaboratively with the City, it is being considered to keep part of the land as a field that could be open for youth sports practices. It would not be open to the general public and events would have to be scheduled by the City during hours set by the County Office.

It was noted that at a meeting with Kurt Starman, City Manager, and Kim Neimer, Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Redding, to discuss the recent Slide the City event, Superintendent Armelino shared with them the idea of closing the park. The City staff shared how complaints are being received from youth leagues as there are fewer places available for them to practice as several schools in the area are locking up their facilities and not making them available to the public due to incidents occurring. Superintendent Armelino indicated that the City representatives expressed their appreciation for the partnership over the past several years and taking the time to meet.

In addition, at the Board's request, the neighbors on Orange Street behind the County Office who face the park were invited to an evening meeting to hear plans of constructing the MTU in the park and share any concerns they may have. The meeting was attended by one neighbor, David Kehoe, and Kim Neimer from the City of Redding.

Discussions have taken place with Redding District and they are fine with the MTU not being located at one of their facilities. The SELPA Board has approved to fund the construction of the MTU and for it to be located at the park behind the County Office if it is approved by the County Board. They have also suggested the idea of possibly moving the SELPA office into a new facility at the same location as the two-story house it is currently located in is not in good shape.

Superintendent Armelino shared that normally he would give the City more time in a situation like this; however, because the plans keep changing due to changing circumstances and a timeline is nearing it is not possible. He feels that an agreement could be reached with the City to offer it as a field for youth sports practices with a new contract developed that would be reviewed annually. Superintendent Armelino indicated that there is time for the Board to make a decision on the park; however, a decision needs to be made regarding the location for the MTU.

ACTION: Board Member MacFarland moved to locate the MTU facility in the Magnolia park area, execute the termination clause of the current joint use agreement with the City of Redding, and enter discussions with the City regarding the possibility of using part of the current area as a field under a new contract to be reviewed annually. Vice-President Hull seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote as follows:

AYES:	Barry, Hull, MacFarland, Manuel, Mills, Tanner
NOES:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Gerard

6. OTHER COMMENTS

There were none.

7. REMINDERS/UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 20, 2016, 3:15-5:15 p.m. – Project SHARE Lights On! Event at West Valley and Anderson High School Quad Areas
- October 28, 2016, 12:30-2:00 p.m. – Harvest Festival at EXCEL

8. NEXT MEETING – October 12, 2016, 1:30 p.m. at Shasta County Office of Education, 1644 Magnolia Ave., Redding, CA 96001

9. ADJOURN

President Tanner adjourned the meeting 2:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Armelino, Shasta County Superintendent of Schools
Ex-Officio Secretary to the Board