

SHASTA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Shasta County Office of Education
2985 Innsbruck Drive
Redding, CA 96003

**Regular Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2023**

ADOPTED

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Barry at 1:30 p.m.

Members Present

Kathy Barry, President
Robert Brown, Vice President
Authur Gorman
Steve MacFarland
Laura Manuel
Denny Mills
Nick Webb
Ava Gebhart, Student Board Member

Members Absent

None

Administrators Present

Judy Flores, Shasta County Superintendent of Schools
Adam Hillman, Associate Superintendent, Administrative Services
Mike Freeman, Associate Superintendent, Instructional Services

Others Present

Carmen Bahr, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent (Recording Secretary)

(There may have been others in attendance. Those in attendance may have attended only a portion of the meeting.)

Nate Fairchild
Sherry Rodgers
Austin Preller
Trudy Pellizzari
Kerri Schuette
Jill North
Tom Gauthier
Renee Menefee
Kurt Swanson
Ava Swanson
Katy Martin
Carie Webb
De'An Chambless
Dan Ostrowski
Jessica Bigby

James Alspach
Clayton Seabourn
Shay Hanson
Steve Woodrum
Lauren Bishop
Elizabeth Raney
Carolyn Plhn
Stephanie Byars
Michelle Kuehl
Gina Baer
Gina Murphy
Judy Tolemire
Kate Boylon
Suzanne Cresswell
Katie Taylor
Ted James
Bobbie Simpson
Allyson Harris
Irene Salter
Caroline Shufelberger
Susan Wilson

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Member Mills led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Woodrum spoke about critical race theory.

The following members of the public read a document regarding California public school laws:

Ruthie Kuhn
Elizabeth Rainey
Nelda Johnson

Margaret Cantrell spoke about magistrates and critical race theory.

The following members of the public spoke about LGBTQ students:

Clayton Seabourn
Carolyn Plhn

Michelle Dugar spoke about Board Policy 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment.

Lori Bridgeford spoke about what is being taught in school. She read a statement from Richard Gallardo regarding independent journalists.

The following members of the public spoke about transgender issues:

Shay Hanson
Bobbie Simpson

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

4.1. Board

4.1.1. February 8, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

4.2. Administrative Services

4.2.1. Credentials and Oaths for Temporary Certificates

4.2.2. Transportation Services Plan per Ed Code 39800.1

Board Member Gorman asked to pull all items off the Consent Agenda.

4.1.1. February 8, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes - Board Member Gorman mentioned the following items from the minutes that he wanted to bring up for discussion:

- Policy 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment
- Rebecca Lewis said that she did not see Williams issues at Happy Valley.
- Renee Menefee said that there was an enrollment of 300 preschool students. The county has said that we serve less than 150 students. He wondered where the 300 students in the preschool come from when we are only servicing 150 students.
- Renee said we did 55 assessments. He wondered where the assessments have gone, what they showed, and what is the data.
- Term limits

ACTION: Board Member Webb moved to approve item 4.1.1 as submitted. Board Member Mills seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

AYES: Barry, Brown, MacFarland, Manuel, Mills, Webb

NOES: Gorman

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Gebhart

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

4.2.1. Credentials and Oaths for Temporary Certificates - Board Member Gorman wanted an explanation of what SCOE's role is in approving credentials, why the board needs to approve them, and what oath they take.

Associate Superintendent Hillman explained that we have a credentials analyst in our Human Resources office. The county office is required to act on behalf of school districts. We have some credential monitoring responsibilities. Protocols have been put in place by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing for short term, temporary certificates. We verify that the candidates meet the criteria to be given the certificates.

Board Member Mills explained that a principal/superintendent of a small school district may send a teacher to the county to get cleared to teach a specific subject. A lot of times it is the only way the administrators can fill a position.

Associate Superintendent Freeman read the Oath from the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing website.

ACTION: Board Member Manuel moved to approve item 4.2.1 as submitted. Board Member Gorman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

AYES: Barry, Brown, Gorman, MacFarland, Manuel, Mills, Webb

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Gebhart

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

4.2.2. Transportation Services Plan per Ed Code 39800.1 - Board Member Gorman wanted to pull this since it is not common knowledge for the audience or board members.

Katy Martin, Director of Transportation, explained that it is a summary of the services that SCOE provides. It is a new education code that gives transportation more funding if a plan is provided. It is an ongoing, annual plan that needs to be board approved.

ACTION: Vice President Brown moved to approve item 4.2.2. as submitted. Board Member Gorman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

AYES: Barry, Brown, Gorman, MacFarland, Manuel, Mills, Webb

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Gebhart

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

5. INFORMATION

Materials were provided in the Board agenda packet for the following Information items. No discussion took place during the Board meeting unless otherwise noted below.

5.1. Administrative Services

5.1.1. General Fund Board Report

5.1.2. New, Retired, and Exited Employee Quarterly

6. DEPARTMENT UPDATE/PRESENTATIONS

6.1. Youth Support Services - Part 1

Austin Preller, Executive Director - Youth Support Services, provided the department update. He highlighted the Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program. Cynthia Vengley and Cheryl Harlow are leading this work. The program provides support to foster youth and districts. There are 612 foster youth in Shasta County jurisdiction. Shasta County is 2-3 times higher in substantiated child abuse and neglect than the state average. We support over 400 foster youth students from Shasta County and other counties. There are three levels of support that we provide are for districts, Shasta County Children's Services, and students and families.

He shared that Assembly Bill 740 created a drastic change in the department and districts. On January 1, it updated the education code by requiring a foster child's educational rights holder, attorney, and social worker have the same rights as a parent or guardian in terms of receiving notices from school.

A few celebrations that Mr. Preller highlighted, included the Foster Youth Education Summit that includes the largest team from Shasta County attending the conference. The Foster Youth graduation rates are steadily increasing. There is a private event for Foster Youth and their resource families at the Planetarium Event.

Challenges included the stability rate where only 53.9% of Foster Youth started and ended the school in the same school. They are moving around a lot. Assembly Bill 740 is another challenge in the tracking of social worker changes, working with other counties in processing Foster Youth, and the training of school districts.

Education of Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) is another program within Youth Support Services. Maggie Joyce, Coordinator of Youth Support Services, is leading this work. This is similar to the Foster Youth services that we provide but for Homeless students. It is challenging to identify these students since a majority of the students qualify under shared housing. We provide support for districts and the students and families.

Mr. Preller shared some celebrations and challenges for this program. Celebrations include three families served in the Motel 6 program, seventy food boxes distributed, a homeless management information system license, and a new coordinator. Challenges are transportation and the one percent vacancy rate in Shasta County.

The Legend Charter School item was moved since it was 3:08 pm when the department update was finished.

7. LEGEND CHARTER SCHOOL

7.1. Presentation

Nate Fairchild, Director of Science and Charter School Authorization, introduced the Legend Charter School and explained that this was the first hearing. There will be a training on April 19 to fully inform the board on what they need to consider in authorizing a countywide benefit charter school. The executive summary will be posted on April 25 for review and a decision will be made by the board on May 10.

Gina Murphy and Michelle Kuehl shared a presentation on Legend Charter School. Gina explained that this concept is based on her student teaching experience when she attended Delta College. Her professor ran a school for the homeless where the teaching and resources were brought to them. She learned that all needed resources can be accessed in one place.

Legend Charter School will have a large support staff. They will provide services that the districts cannot provide. Classrooms will include a general education teacher, special education teacher, and two classified paraprofessionals. Class size will not be larger than 20 students. Social Emotional Learning, Science of Hope, Restorative Practices, and Integrated Learning Strategies will be utilized. They will also incorporate alternative approaches which will include animal care, Biofeedback, Social Skills Education, and health and nutrition.

Their plan is for the school to open first to Transitional Kindergarten through third grade and continue to roll up. They are currently looking for a facility. There is a non-profit funder who would be willing to help once they have an authorizer.

President Barry called for a break, 3:44-3:57 pm.

7.2. Public Hearing

The following members of the public spoke in support of the Legend Charter School:

Caroline Shefelbeger

Gina Baer

Ted James

Kate Boilon

Judy Tofflemire

Allyson Harris

Irene Salter

Bobbie Simpson

7.3. Board Priorities

7.3.1. Literacy: Scarborough's Reading Rope & Getting Reading Right

Stephanie Byars, Literacy Coordinator, and Trudy Pellizzari, Director of District and School Support, presented the literacy update. They provided a review on the Science of Reading and Scarborough's Reading Rope. The rope is the basis of all of the literacy training that they are providing.

The Getting Reading Right Consortia includes goals to improve the reading achievement for all students. These goals include building teacher knowledge of Science of Reading, changing teacher practices, and sharing vetted resources. SCOE supports and provides the information for Transitional Kindergarten through fifth grade. The Los Angeles County Office of Education provides the training for sixth through twelfth grade.

Tanya Randolph and Kelly Smith, instructional coaches from the Shasta Union High School District, shared how they are supporting the Professional Learning Community (PLC) process. They support the reading teachers in any way they can. During the first semester, they saw student growth between 1-4 grade levels. In May they are evaluating and planning for next year.

7.3.2. Mental Health: Funding for Mental Health including Medi-Cal

Joy Garcia, Senior Director Special Projects, explained the funding from the state that is being provided around a whole child approach. The whole child approach includes expanded and early learning, connection to social services, connection to health and mental, and broadband and technology. The factors with the strongest predictors of academic success are mental health, early learning, socio-economic factors, and physical well-being. There are several integrated student supports funding being provided by the state. These investments have specific roles for the county office of education.

8. PROCLAMATION

8.1. Strengthening Families Collaborative

Associate Superintendent Freeman shared that the Board of Supervisors approved a proclamation announcing March the Aces, Resilience and Hope Awareness Month. This work is coming out of the Strengthening Families Collaborative. He represents the Shasta County Office of Education on the Collaborative. The recommendation is to follow the others in our community by approving it. We are partnering with a long list of community organizations.

Board Member Gorman proposed an edit. In the last line delete "Redding" since we are the County Board.

Board Member Manuel commented that it was an unusual proclamation in that it never declares March as the month in the final paragraph.

ACTION: Board Member MacFarland moved to approve item 7.1 by adding March and removing Redding in the final paragraph. Board Member Manuel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

AYES: Barry, Brown, Gorman, MacFarland, Manuel, Mills, Webb

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Gebhart

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

9. ACTION

9.1. Administrative Services

9.1.1. Second Interim Budget (2022/23)

Adam Hillman, Associate Superintendent of Administrative Services, reviewed the second interim budget. Our budget is in excellent shape. We are scheduled to receive the largest COLA increase since 1979-80, above 8%. It allows us to make a meaningful adjustment to our salary schedule and benefit package. We have settled with two of the groups.

Notable changes in the budget that he reviewed included:

- Unrestricted surplus increased approximately \$800,000 over the first interim.
- LCFF increased \$425,000 mostly due to the adjustment of differentiated assistance.
- State revenue increased primarily due to transportation increase.
- Increased our capital outlay primarily for the HVAC project that we are doing at the EXCEL campus.
- Salary savings due to vacancies.
- Restricted programs now have an estimated net surplus of \$43,000.
- The ending fund balance is healthy and allows us flexibility. We are setting aside \$1.3 million to purchase buses. Over a seven-year period it will be paid back from the districts.
- Deferred maintenance went down by \$400,00 because of the corresponding offset for the HVAC units.
- Restricted programs were increased with new funding from grants.
- Multiyear projection in the next two years we are showing surpluses of 2.8 million and 4.8 million.
- There will be big changes for SELPA and special ed due to funding for mental health services going directly to districts and charter schools.
- There is 7.5 million in our fund balance earmarked for facilities. We have not specifically designated that for the annex being explored across from the Professional Development Center. It still needs to be discussed in detail with the board. Regardless of where, more space is needed for the staff we have in place.
- ECS's deficit is due to the remaining capital outlay associated with the new building project.

ACTION: Board Member MacFarland moved to approve item 9.1.1. as submitted. Vice President Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

AYES: Barry, Brown, Gorman, MacFarland, Manuel, Mills, Webb

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:
Student Board Members
AYES: Gebhart
NOES:
ABSTENTIONS:
ABSENT:

9.2. Board

9.2.1. Board Vision Statement for SEMH Strategic Plan

Vice President Brown liked Option 1 the best. Board Member Mills agreed.

ACTION: Board Member Gorman moved to approve item 9.2.1. selecting Option 1. Board Member Mills seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

AYES: Barry, Brown, Gorman, MacFarland, Manuel, Mills, Webb

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Gebhart

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

9.2.2. County Representative to California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly Election

President Barry shared that the board has the opportunity to move forward the one incumbent, Bruce Ross, for our region. If he is not voted in, Shasta County will not have a voice on the assembly.

Board Member Mills, Webb, Manuel, and MacFarland voiced their support of Bruce Ross and the importance of having his local voice at the state level.

Board Member Gorman voted no because he would like to dissolve our relationship with CSBA.

ACTION: Vice President Brown moved to approve item 9.2.2. as submitted. Board Member Mills seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

AYES: Barry, Brown, MacFarland, Manuel, Mills, Webb

NOES: Gorman

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Gebhart

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

10. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

- Ava Gebhart, Foothill High School

Student Board Member Gebhart shared that the following things are happening at Foothill.

- The goats and pigs are back on Foothill's campus.
- A mock trial event with a mini court case, local agents, and government officials.
- WASC is visiting Foothill. It has been a good opportunity for students to learn what the school stands for, what it hopes students achieve, and why they are at the school.

She serves on the ACSA Legislative Policy Committee. Those meetings have started up and provide a good insight into what we may see in the future.

President Barry called for a five-minute break at 5:50 pm.

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

11.1. Public Disclosure of Proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement - CSEA

Superintendent Flores explained that the board is not involved in negotiations. However, she was sharing the information since the proposed agreement needs to be made public. The proposal aligns with the COLA that the state has put out. The tiered health and welfare benefits cap has not changed since 2012-13. The benefits cap will be rebench and SCOE will pay 80% instead of 50%. There will not be a fiscal impact to the current year, since it begins in the 2023/24 fiscal year.

The board participated in a FranklinCovey Training last week. We have used eight FranklinCovey books over the years. They are an international leader in leadership training. The purpose of the Great Boards Training is to build systems to engage our community in initiatives where we can positively impact student outcomes, accelerating student success countywide. We will receive the training over a two to three-year process.

Since the last board meeting, Superintendent Flores has been able to:

- Speak to the Retired Teachers Association and Leadership Redding.
- Spent a day with new county superintendents.
- Visited the Shasta Historical Society for "Her Side of the Story" Reception.
- Spoke a variety of issues at California Practitioners Advisory Group (CPAG).
- Toured R-STEM with board members.
- Toured ECS and discussed partnerships with Miguel Rodriguez of Shasta County Health and Human Services.
- Visited four preschool classrooms with Brandy Groves.
- Attended the annual SCOE Bowling night.
- Attended board meetings for Children's Legacy Center, NorCal Education Leadership Collaborative Advisory Board, Western Educational Equity Assistance Center Advisory Board, and Simpson University Teacher Preparation and Credentialing Advisory Board.

12. DISCUSSION

12.1. Board

12.1.1. Preparation for Educator Appreciation Event

Superintendent Flores shared that we have an Educator Appreciation Event to honor everyone in the education community. It includes a speech by student board members, dinner, music, and awards. Superintendent Flores and President Barry will meet with Student Board Member Gebhart to begin planning.

12.1.2. Recording of Meetings

The information requested on the recording of meetings was included in the packet. James Alspach, Director - Information Technology, explained the prices listed on the spreadsheet.

Board Member MacFarland shared that meetings were recorded and broadcasted in the past. There was a very low viewership. It required staff and costs to produce and air.

All of the Board Members agreed to move it to an action item. It was worth exploring, possibly on a trial basis.

12.1.3. Board Reports/Correspondence/Comment

- Board Member Gorman asked for a clarification on the pay scale, whether it was certificated or classified staff.
- Vice President Brown shared that he is attending a CCBE seminar in Sacramento and will report back next month on what he learned.
- President Barry reached out to the board members regarding the training. In the responses she received, the Board found the training worthwhile. The goal is moving forward together to engage our community authentically and help student outcomes for our county.
- Associate Superintendent Freeman went with a team to the Cajon Valley to learn about the Poverty simulator from community partners.
- Board Member Webb shared that Youth Options sponsors something similar to the poverty simulator for high schoolers. Leadership Redding has incorporated something similar on social issues day.
- Board Member Gorman requested a one-page document on the services that we provide. Superintendent Flores shared the one-page document that we have at the sign in table.
- Board Member Manuel suggested sharing a few facts at the beginning of the meeting.

13. **REMINDERS/UPCOMING EVENTS**

- March 14, 2023 - Principal for a Day Introductory Breakfast
- March 15, 2023 - Principal for a Day
- March 22 and 23, 2023 - Shasta County Spelling Bee at Sequoia Middle School
- March 29, 2023, 9:00 & 9:45 am - Board Tour of Chrysalis Charter School
- April 4, 2023, 4:00-5:30 pm - Student Voice Panel
- April 6, 2023, 9:30 & 10:30 am - Board Tour Northern Summit Academy

14. **BOARD MEMBER MEETING FEEDBACK**

Student Board Member Gebhart mentioned that she does not always know what the acronyms mean. She was thankful for the FranklinCovey training.

15. **NEXT MEETING** - Board Study Session, April 19, 2023, 12:00 p.m. at Shasta County Office of Education, 2985 Innsbruck Drive, Redding, CA 96003

16. **ADJOURN**

President Barry adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Flores, Shasta County Superintendent of Schools
Ex-Officio Secretary to the Board