

SHASTA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

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

September 8, 2021
Regular Meeting Minutes

ADOPTED

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Mills at 1:31 p.m.

Members Present

Kathy Barry, Vice President
Robert Brown
Rhonda Hull
Steve MacFarland
Laura Manuel
Denny Mills, President
Adam Little-Varga, Student Board Member
Carly Tawney, Student Board Member

Members Absent

Nick Webb

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.)
De' An Chambless
Rebecca Lewis
Mary Lord
Renee Menefee
Trudy Pellazari
Sherry Rodgers
Kurt Swanson

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Mills led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: Board Member McFarland moved to approve the Agenda as submitted.

Board Member Hull seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT: Webb

Student Board Members

AYES: Little-Varga, Tawney

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

4. HEARING OF PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

There was no public comment.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

5.1. Board

5.1.1. August 11, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

5.1.2. Deleted Board Policy 6159-Instruction-Distance Learning

5.2. Administrative Services

5.2.1. Credentials and Oaths for Temporary Certificates

5.2.2. Revised Board Policy & Administrative Regulation 3230-Business & Noninstructional Operations-Federal Grant Funds

5.3. Instructional Services

5.3.1. Revised Board Policy & Administrative Regulation 6159-Instruction Individualized Education Program

5.3.2. Revised Administrative Regulation 6162.51-Instruction-State Academic Achievement Tests

5.3.3. Revised Exhibit 5145.6-Students-Parental Notifications

5.3.4. Donation/Gift Acceptance-City of Redding Electric Utility

ACTION: Board Member Brown moved to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. Board Member McFarland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT: Webb

Student Board Members

AYES: Little-Varga, Tawney

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

6. 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.

6.1. Administrative Services

6.1.1. General Fund Board Report

7. DEPARTMENT UPDATE

7.1. Department Update-Professional Learning & Leadership Support Services (PLLSS)

Rebecca Lewis, Executive Director of Professional Learning and Leadership Support Services (PLLSS) provided an update to the Board. Trudy Pellizzari, Director of District and School Support, and Sherry Rodgers, Instructional Services Coordinator, were in attendance and representatives of the department. The focus of PLLSS is on supporting districts and students in Instructional Services. She displayed the statement from the website that provides a better understanding of their role.

Ms. Lewis shared the new additions to the PLLSS team. They included a position focused on literacy, with the hire of Stephanie Byars-Dickie, Tara Schwerdt, Counseling Coordinator, and two new program assistants.

The highlights of the department goals are around innovation, having a strong culture, and having a way to communicate about what is happening in the districts. She shared a video about what they do, the people that are a part of the department, and some of their programs.

They are learning to support educators in new ways with trainings that are both synchronously (real time) and asynchronously (on their own time) through the Canvas Learning Management System.

There are several aspects that are important to the work of the PLLSS department. The equity statement helps them to consider how they are working to connect the youth and ethnic populations, as well as considering how they are promoting healing in the community. Two initiatives that are happening this year are creating systems of support for student attendance and behavior. They are using the nurturing of hope mindset to shape the next steps of becoming a hope centered organization.

Programs have had to shift to continue. STEM Career Day was virtual for the first-time last year. It will continue virtually this year. Outdoor WES field lab experiences are available to the schools. In person shows are back at the Schreder Planetarium with masks and smaller capacities.

Culture is being cultivated in various ways. The Social Emotional Learning (SEL) model is being utilized both with staff and educators. In the department, they have found ways to celebrate one another. They have also worked on improving their communication with one another.

Mike Freeman, Associate Superintendent of Instructional Services shared how the LCAP was suspended in February 2020. The Learning Continuity Attendance Plan was developed for 2020-21. It is not the same as LCAP. SCOE helped with supporting districts in creating their Learning Continuity Plan and provided them with some language to use.

Ms. Lewis shared that the California Dashboard (accountability system) has been paused. It has shifted the differentiated assistance for district who had been identified and is meant to be a continuous positive improvement model. It has frozen the districts that have been identified as needing differentiated assistance since 2019. They are trying to identify how to provide supports in new ways.

Vice President Barry gave the PLLSS kudos for the work that they are doing. She loved the video that displayed the work. She wondered if there are a lot of new district administrators.

Ms. Lewis said that there are new principals and superintendents and staff that are new in their roles. They are receiving positive receptivity to the support that is being offered.

Superintendent Flores commented that if there are areas that the Board would like more information on they can bring it to Planning Session for future presentations.

8. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

● Adam Little-Varga, Central Valley High School

Adam Little-Varga is making it a point to help other seniors with the college process. He is currently helping with University of California applications and FAFSA applications. Most seniors are currently dual enrolled in classes with Shasta College. They are working to increase school spirit and have more events for volunteer clubs. Mr. Little-Varga is a TRIO Student which helps with the college process. He is making sure others know about it so they can take advantage of the assistance.

● Carly Tawney, Foothill High School

Carly Tawney provided some highlights of things taking place at school. School spirit events have returned this year including Hawaiian Day, the painting of senior parking spots, and the opportunity to attend volleyball games. School lunches and brunches are still free for students. Studio 530 took the photos for senior portraits and the yearbook. They gave all seniors free portraits.

Ms. Tawney shared about a couple of different types of classes on their campus. There is a work experience class that is for juniors and seniors. It allows students to work up to 6 hours a day, 32 hours in a week. It is a dual enrolled class with Shasta College. There are several dual enrolled (college and high school credit) classes. Several teachers received the needed extra credentials/units to teach them. The class covers topics like stress and time management.

Carly shared that she feels slightly underprepared in deciding what to do after high school. She would like to see more information about the steps regarding financial aid, scholarships, and the school application process. She would like to see more school/counselor initiated communication and more focus on the college application process. A teacher told her that only 20% of FHS students attend a 4-year college right out of high school.

She noticed that there is not a distance learning option for students out on quarantine. Teachers are using individual options and there are not any required Zooms or counting of attendance. Many students are missing out on important instruction. Teachers have been good at posting assignments on Google Classroom. Students have done a great job at wearing masks in classrooms because they do not want to be contract traced or quarantined.

9. BOARD BUSINESS

9.1. Board Focus Areas

9.1.1. COVID Updates & Impact

Mike Freeman, Associate Superintendent of Instructional Services, shared the impact of the Delta variant graph. It showed how this is not last year's COVID, ages 0-17 are growing under this variant. Mr. Freeman shared a case study in Marin County from June where the Delta variant presented itself as allergies in a teacher that only occasionally wore a mask. The teacher ended up infecting half of the class. This has been shared with the superintendents so they can have talking points and enforce the mask mandate.

The transmission rate is high. At the last COVID liaison meeting, Public Health gave us extended recommendations. They are suggesting cohorting and eliminating non essential visitors and activities.

Distance Learning was not extended under AB130. Independent Study or in-seat learning are the two options.

President Mills asked what legislation is being pushed through to help.

Districts are asking a lot of questions around Independent Study and AB130. Can Independent Study be used during quarantine? What about students who are quarantined with an IEP? These questions are leading to conversations that Judy is having at the legislative level. An assembly bill and senate bill are coming by Friday to answer all of the questions.

Mask mandates have not been well received in some schools. Some districts are struggling because some of the parents are not enforcing it. Mandatory Testing will be required by October 15. Districts are trying to determine what this means and where to find supplies.

There has been an impact on Student Services. Project SHARE has received some resistance to students wearing masks, especially where mask wearing has been loosely enforced.

Board Member Brown asked how food services are being impacted?

Superintendent Flores shared that the Enterprise Elementary School District is down 18 different food service people. They have gone back to disposable plates and using premade food rather than cooking. School cafeterias have also had an increase in traffic with reduced staff.

Board Member Manuel asked that more detail be provided on masking throughout the county.

Associate Superintendent Freeman shared that outlying areas are struggling to toughen up because they started with relaxed enforcement. The vast majority have fallen in line. It is only a few districts that are struggling with enforcement.

Associate Superintendent Hillman commented that the county puts out their daily numbers. The CDC said that if a community has a seven day average of above one hundred cases per 100,000 people you are a high risk community. The week he saw it, we were at 836, eight times as dangerous as a dangerous community.

Associate Superintendent Freeman shared that the SCOE Instruction Services staff went and supported a school that lost a staff member to COVID.

9.1.2. Early Childhood Services Facility Update

Kurt Swanson, Operations Director of Early Childhood Services, shared about the work that took place last month at Early Childhood Services. He wanted to thank everyone for their help during this time. He shared pictures of the construction team and construction taking place. Mr. Swanson said that Maintenance & Operations took everything that they could utilize before the demolition began.

Board Member MacFarland inquired about the projected completion. Mr. Swanson said that the project completion date is ten months.

President Mills called for a ten-minute break at 2:46 p.m. She called the meeting back to order at 2:56 p.m.

9.2. Board Comments/Discussion/Reports/Correspondence

President Mills mentioned the California Association of Student Councils Region 1 Student Advocacy Virtual Conference as an opportunity that the Student Board Members could attend.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

10.1. Reach Higher Shasta Quarterly Update

Superintendent Flores shared that the Reach Higher Shasta Secondary September 8, 2021 meeting was postponed because of everything else the superintendents are handling.

She reviewed the Five-Year History of First Week Enrollments that was included in the packet. Superintendent Flores noted that we are up 110 students in school districts in the county. The charter schools dropped by 265 students. The New Day Academy closed and is now under Columbia School District as Shasta View Academy. There are more students attending the Northern Summit Academy rather than remaining in their district for independent study. Private school numbers are not available until the end of October or beginning November.

Board Member Manuel mentioned that nationally there were a lot of kindergarteners that did not attend. She asked how kindergarten enrollment was locally. Both Cottonwood and Redding School District had stated in the spring that they had half the kindergarten enrolled at the end of 2020-21 school year for this school year. Parents were waiting to hear about the masking requirements.

Superintendent Flores shared the data that she reported at the Weekly Media Briefing. 625 students were in modified quarantine, which was significantly less than last week. There were 1,663 at home in quarantine, which was an increase of 520 students. 226 students had a positive case yesterday. Both numbers that had to do with school staff, quarantined and positive cases, had an increase from last week.

She shared about the Youth Mental Health Summit that is being planned for September 20 at the Professional Development Center. There are various mental health providers in Shasta County, but not a master continuum to show who is eligible for what services or a master list of services. They are asking county providers and community agencies who provide mental/behavioral health services to come together and share who they serve and what they do, so that gaps in service can be identified.

She shared items in terms of her priorities.

Communication – Point in time data has been a powerful way to help School District Boards. She is going to send a video message to staff on Friday.

Capacity Building – At the first official superintendent meeting in August, Wendy Hall, Jeremy Sawtelle and Superintendent Flores shared with them about what it looks like to support the school teams in the areas of attendance and behavior. SCOE Cabinet has started looking at our departments and planning for the future as various leaders retire. Administrative Council prepared for the Leadership Team meeting in September and planned for various Leadership Team members to lead portions of the meeting.

Equity – Superintendent Flores, Rebecca Lewis, and Kelly Rizzi attended a meeting with staff of the McConnell Foundation. They are interested in putting a land acknowledgement together and wanted to find out about our work with the American Indian Advisory. Dave Tanner would like to be a representative to the American Indian Advisory if the Advisory members are willing. The McConnell

Foundation is interested in continuing to meet.

Student Voice – She shared the “This is Equity” video.

The key pieces from the video are giving students opportunities to share their ideas, needs, stories, communities they are coming from, and perspectives. Superintendent Flores created a survey for the Native American Advisory to select students to share their stories.

11. ACTION

11.1. Instructional Services

11.1.1. Updated Reopening Plans for 2021-22 School Year

Mike Freeman stated that these are updated reopening plans that are in alignment with Shasta County guidance.

ACTION: Board Member MacFarland moved to approve item 11.1.1. as submitted.
Board Member Hull seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT: Webb

Student Board Members

AYES: Little-Varga, Tawney

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

11.1.2. New Board Policy 5145.6-Students-Parental Notifications

Mary Lord, Executive Director of Student Programs, said that the policy was updated to gender neutral language.

ACTION: Board Member Hull moved to approve item 11.1.2. as submitted, waiving the second read.
Board Member Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT: Webb

Student Board Members

AYES: Little-Varga, Tawney

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

11.1.3. **PUBLIC HEARING-Receive Public Comment Regarding Sufficient Textbooks and Instructional Materials for Fiscal Year 2021/22**

Mary Lord shared the annual report that identifies sufficiency of instructional materials and new

adoptions regarding curriculum.

Ms. Lord said that they are still looking for a science textbook. They found digital curriculum that they may be able to purchase.

Board Member MacFarland wondered about the age of the textbooks with one being adopted in 2007. Mary Lord shared that Gina Murphy, Excel Principal, is still searching for one that she likes. Textbooks are supplemental to Edgenuity - Online Learning Platform since it is always current.

Board Member Manuel asked about the state requirement for how current books need to be. Superintendent Flores explained the adoption process and the fact that purchasing physical resources is no longer a requirement.

The Public Hearing closed at 3:42 p.m.

11.1.4. Resolution Regarding Sufficiency or Insufficiency of Instructional Materials

ACTION: Board Member Manuel moved to approve item 11.1.4. as submitted.
Board Member Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT: Webb

Student Board Members

AYES: Little-Varga, Tawney

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

11.1.5. Certification of Instructional Materials

ACTION: Board Member Brown moved to approve item 11.1.5. as submitted.
Board Member Barry seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT: Webb

Student Board Members

AYES: Little-Varga, Tawney

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

12. MEETING FEEDBACK/SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no meeting feedback or suggestions.

13. REMINDERS/UPCOMING EVENTS

14. NEXT MEETING – Planning Session – September 22, 2021, 10:00 a.m. at SCOE Professional Development Center, 2295 Innsbruck Drive, Redding

15. ADJOURN

President Mills adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m.

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