

SHASTA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

February 10, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

This meeting was held via teleconference and met the requirements of the Brown Act as allowed by the California Governor's Executive Order issued in response to the "shelter-in-place" requirements based on the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

The meeting was accessible via a technology device, at:
<http://bit.ly/SCOEBoard02102021>

Or by telephone at:
Phone: 1-669-900-6833
Meeting ID: 814 1326 0541
Password: 324257

ADOPTED

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

Members Present

Kathy Barry, Vice-President
Robert Brown
Rhonda Hull
Steve MacFarland
Laura Manuel
Denny Mills, President
Jennifer Snider
Kaitlin Killion, Student Board Member
Leah Perez, Student Board Member

Members Absent

None

Administrators Present

Judy Flores, Shasta County Superintendent of Schools
Adam Hillman, Associate Superintendent, Administrative Services
Brien McCall, Associate Superintendent, Instructional Services

Others Present

Erica Flores, 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.)
Mike Freeman
De'An Chambless
Jodie VanOrnum
Rebecca Lewis
Carie Webb
Michelle Larsen
Renee Menefee
Sherry Rodgers
Carie Webb

Kurt Swanson
Joy Garcia
Rea McFadden

2. TELECONFERENCE PROTOCOLS

President Mills explained the protocols that would be utilized during the meeting, as it was held online.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: Board Member MacFarland moved to approve the Agenda as submitted.
Board Member Snider seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Killion, Perez

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. January 13, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

5.2. Administrative Services

5.2.1. Credentials and Oaths for Temporary Certificates

5.3. Instructional Services

5.3.1. Revised Administrative Regulation 5125-Students-Student Records

ACTION: Board Member Manuel moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the minutes pulled.
Board Member Snider seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Killion, Perez

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

ACTION: Board Member MacFarland moved to approve the January 13, 2021 Board minutes with changes as discussed.
Board Member Manuel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Killion, Perez

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.

6.1. Administrative Services

6.1.1. General Fund Board Report

6.1.2. Northern Summit Academy 2019/20 Audit Report

6.1.3. Redding STEM Academy Charter School 2019/20 Audit Report

6.1.4. Quarterly Report on Requests from Community/Agency for Funding/In-Kind Services

6.1.5. Annual Certification Regarding Workers' Compensation

6.2. Instructional Services

6.2.1. Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints

6.2.2. School Accountability Report Cards

6.2.3. SARB Annual Report

7. PRESENTATION

7.1. Grading for Equity

Trudy Pellizzari, Director of District and School Support, gave the presentation to the Board.

Joe Feldman, author of Grading for Equity led a 2-day engagement workshop and offered coaching with some professional learning sessions throughout the school year. 45 teachers and 12 administrators attended from eight elementary and high school districts attended.

Grading for Equity has goals for teachers, students, and the county school system. Teachers use standards-based grading and assessment practices that are more accurate, fair, and understandable to students, families, and staff. Students have a stronger sense of belief in their own success, trust in their teachers, and can more accurately gauge their own performance. The school and county system develops an accurate measure on how students are doing in the county.

Superintendent Flores shared that equity is about everyone having access to the same opportunities. However, many teachers will give extra credit if a student brings in canned foods or school supplies, yet over 50% of Shasta County students are on free and reduced lunch. Therefore, it is an example of inequity, since not all students are able to bring in those items. In addition, summer camps and after school opportunities, are not accessible to all students, since not all students have access to transportation or the funds that enrichment experiences require.

Board Member Manuel shared that she thinks this is a great program and is glad SCOE is involved. Shasta County's inequity is rooted in poverty. She shared that she was surprised there wasn't already uniformity in grading.

Ms. Pellizzari shared that many teachers have commented that they have been grading the same way that they were graded in school or the way their master teacher graded.

Board Member Snider was impressed with the action research the teachers were doing to see the impact of the change on their practices. She also commented that it is important to ensure children are learning the things they need to learn and that they drive the grading. If a student doesn't like their grade on a test or assignment, they should be able to take charge of their own learning and retake it.

8. DEPARTMENT UPDATE

8.1. Early Childhood Services-Part 2

Renee Menefee, Executive Director of Early Education & Support Services, introduced her team to the Board.

Brandy Groves, Director of Early Education and Instruction, shared her program's goals, celebrations, and challenges.

- They are working to help districts learn the requirements of the California State Preschool Program as they start the transition of taking over preschool sites.
- They have consistently provided in-class preschool at most sites, without interruption, throughout the COVID pandemic.
- Their greatest challenge currently is keeping sites staffed, and attracting and hiring qualified teachers.

Michelle Larsen, Health and Nutrition Services Division Director, presented for her programs.

- They are currently focusing on having every new family go through health and nutrition to ensure their nutrition needs are met.
- Their recent California Department of Education audit received a perfect score. They are currently preparing for their next audit at the end of February.
- There is wonderful collaboration between SCOE & Shasta County Public Health. Twice per month, there is a meeting attended by over 100 school officials and childcare providers with the goal of keeping schools open.
- July 1st of this year, all food programs are moving from California Department of Education to Department of Social Services. They are preparing to respond to changes.

Joy Garcia, Director of Inclusive Early Education, shared for the inclusive programs:

- Due to COVID restrictions, Bridges to School Success has created a cadre of online services that have been used by parents from both Shasta and Tehama County.
- Early Connections have been one of the few special education programs that has been able to assess children without delay during COVID restrictions.
- Help Me Grow has expanded to become "Community Connect" for students ages 9 - 18. Currently over 40 schools have referred more than 400 students for care coordination due to attendance worries.

Rea McFadden, Director of Early Education Workforce and Strategic Planning, shared for the programs she oversees:

- Her team is focusing on decreasing access and enrollment barriers to partnering agencies and families, especially at-risk populations.
- They are working on building relationships with partnering agencies to increase services to families.
- They are providing professional development opportunities to support staff during the transition to a new enrollment structure.

Board Member Barry commended the team for all they are doing to continuously improve systems and services to families, and all during a pandemic.

Board Member Brown commended them on a great job making it easier for students to become better students.

9. ACTION

9.1. Board

9.1.1. SCOE Vision Statement

Superintendent Flores introduced the item. She shared the current draft of the Vision Statement:

“Our vision for all students in Shasta County: A rigorous, supportive education that results in resilient, resourceful young people who think critically, work collaboratively, embrace diversity, and maintain lifelong curiosity.”

Ms. Flores shared the comments and the “fist to five” ratings given by the SCOE Leadership Team.

Board Member Snider asked what the percentage of people is that gave the draft a “1” rating. Ms. Flores responded that it is one or two people.

Ms. Snider shared that she would be open to making the suggested change in putting the word “supportive” before “rigorous”.

Board Member Manuel shared that she believes the polling looks good, and she would support the change to the order of “supportive” and “rigorous”.

Board Member Brown shared he would like to keep the statement as is.

Board Member MacFarland shared his objection to the use of the word “diversity”, due to the current political climate and the word becoming politicized.

The final version of the Vision Statement after changes is as follows:

“Our vision for all students in Shasta County: A supportive, rigorous education that results in resilient, resourceful young people who think critically, work collaboratively, embrace diversity, and maintain lifelong curiosity.”

ACTION: Board Member Brown moved to approve **Item 9.1.1.**, with changes as shown above. Board Member Snider seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Killion, Perez

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

9.1.2. Review/Reaffirm/Revise Board Bylaw 9150-Student Board Members-Student Board Member Application and Recruitment Process Timeline (2021/22)

Board Member Snider brought up the Board's previous discussion to change the interview procedure from interviewing all candidates at the same time, to interviewing one at a time. She also mentioned adding to the procedure that the interview questions will be sent to all candidates the morning of the interviews.

Board Member Manuel requested input from the Student Board Members.

Ms. Perez shared that the interviews are already a stressful process, and that having all candidates answer the questions one at a time adds an extra layer of stress. Ms. Killion agreed with this observation.

Ms. Perez also shared the idea to allow candidates to include a letter of recommendation from peers, since a Student Board Member serves on the Board to represent other students.

ACTION: Board Member Snider moved to approve **Item 9.1.2** to interview one student at a time, providing the questions to students the morning of the interviews. Board Member Manuel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Killion, Perez

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

9.1.3. Student Board Member attendance at the Student Advocacy Conference-March 6, 2021, via teleconference

Superintendent Flores shared that she received an email invitation for our Student Board Members to attend this conference. Student Board Member, Leah Perez, is presenting at this meeting, and Student Board Member, Kaitlin Killion, is interested in attending.

ACTION: Board Member Manuel moved to approve **Item 9.1.3** to pay for the registration cost for attendance for Kaitlin Killion. Board Member MacFarland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Killion, Perez
NOES:
ABSTENTIONS:
ABSENT:

9.2. Instructional Services

9.2.1. Administrative Regulation 5142-Students-Safety (First Read)

Carie Webb, Principal of Shasta County Independent Study, shared that this regulation supports an already-established Board policy. It provides communication of school rules for playground safety, inspection of new playgrounds, and it prohibits certain activities without the approval of a school administrator. It also addresses laboratory safety.

ACTION: Board Member Snider moved to approve **Item 9.2.1** as submitted, waiving the second read.
Board Member MacFarland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

AYES: Barry, Brown, Hull, MacFarland, Manuel, Mills, Snider
NOES:
ABSTENTIONS:
ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Killion, Perez
NOES:
ABSTENTIONS:
ABSENT:

9.2.2. Administrative Regulation 5141.26-Students-Tuberculosis Testing (First Read)

Carie Webb shared that this regulation is an update to reflect guidance from the California Department of Public Health regarding health screening. It also provides for a waiver if parents are unable to obtain or do not wish to obtain it for their children.

ACTION: Board Member Hull moved to approve **Item 9.2.2** as submitted, waiving the second read.
Board Member MacFarland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

AYES: Barry, Brown, Hull, MacFarland, Manuel, Mills, Snider
NOES:
ABSTENTIONS:
ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Killion, Perez
NOES:
ABSTENTIONS:
ABSENT:

9.2.3. Board Policy & Administrative Regulation 5141.21-Students-Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions (First Read)

Michelle Larsen, Director of Health and Nutrition Services, shared that this Administrative Regulation provides for new rules regarding non-inhaled cannabis and students. SCOE schools will not administer it. If a student requires it during the school day, the parent must come to the school and administer it.

Board Member Brown asked if this applies to students in Juvenile Hall.

Superintendent Flores shared that SCOE has no authority over distribution of medication at Juvenile Hall.

ACTION: Board Member Snider moved to approve **Item 9.2.3** as submitted, waiving the second read
Board Member MacFarland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Killion, Perez

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

10. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

• Kaitlin Killion, Enterprise High School

Ms. Killion shared that the school seems to be coming back to life. Everyone is focusing on starting the second semester strong. Sports are opening back up. Currently tennis is back and basketball will start back up next year. There is currently a Badminton tournament going on. The prize is a gift card. There is a lot of tutoring available to students, as well as open classrooms for studying and using Wi-Fi.

ASB applications are currently open.

Students are excited about the possibility of attending prom.

• Leah Perez, Shasta High School

Ms. Perez shared that there is a lot more going on at school.

They are currently starting up a school-wide game called Wolf Wars. It is like the game Assassin with minor modifications for COVID. There is a lot of excitement and good involvement.

Sports have started again. Cross Country had their first race last week. There are five other sports allowed to start in current COVID tier.

Currently her school is working on a Wellness Center. It has been under construction and should open in April. There will be a 24-hour support hotline to call or text.

Prom is in the planning stage. It is likely they will be able to have prom, and people are excited.

Yesterday was the new SUHSD Student Board Member's first meeting. She enjoyed it and was able to propose agenda items for the next board meeting.

Ms. Perez and a friend have been running a virtual tutoring company since last April called "Copernicus Tutoring".

President Mills asked how many students are accessing the tutoring services.

Ms. Perez share they are currently tutoring 40 students.

11. BOARD BUSINESS

11.1. Board Focus Areas:

11.1.1. COVID Updates & Impacts

Mike Freeman, Senior Executive Director of Instructional Services, presented to the Board. He shared about how teacher support currently looks different because of COVID. It used to look like trainings with chart paper and lunch, but now it looks like having office hours to provide support and connections that they need.

There was recently a New York Times article published about teaching in the pandemic not being sustainable. In particular is the hybrid model, as teachers are on all the time, teaching students both in person and online. Teacher burnout is prevalent. In March, SCOE will be offering, "Teaching at Tough Times". It is a hope-centered professional development session to help support and sustain teachers.

Sacramento County Office of Education has received a FEMA grant on behalf of all county offices of education. SCOE will receive \$100,000 for developing a Social Emotional Learning community of practice with schools throughout the county.

State testing is still scheduled for spring, although the Federal administration may be coming in with a waiver. For now, they are helping districts prepare for state testing during a pandemic, which will be a challenge.

11.1.2. Whiskeytown Environmental School Update

Nate Fairchild, Program Director of Educational Programs, shared the update.

Whiskeytown Environmental School's (WES) nonprofit support group, WES Community, is conducting fundraising for the National Park Service. The 4-agency WES Forever team continues to meet monthly in support of all WES-related efforts.

The National Park Services is seeking Carr Fire funds through the Great American Outdoors Act.

A surprise donation of \$25,000 came from an anonymous donor in Silicon Valley.

Questions:

Board Member Manuel shared that she worries about how the schools and districts will feel about the amount of money being invested, and whether the school districts will utilize the program.

Mr. Fairchild shared that it will take some effort to reintegrate, but WES has a 50-year history serving the community. They will need to reach out more thoroughly throughout the county and beyond. He said he would love WES to serve the greater region as well. It is a big price tag and he wants to ensure it is still within the districts' best interest.

11.2. Board Comments/Discussion/Reports/Correspondence

Board Member Brown shared that the Executive Director of the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA), Sharon Hjella, has announced her retirement at the end of this year. They are currently vetting candidates.

President Mills shared that she is one of the three governors of the Eaton Trust. They are currently pursuing a project that will result in a new educational center within what was Judge Eaton's home. It is very close to SCOE's Magnolia office and will have a classroom that can be used for events.

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

12.1. Public Disclosure of Collective Bargaining Agreement-CDEA

Superintendent Flores shared that SCOE has settled with the CDEA bargaining unit for 2020-2021 school year.

12.2. Other

The Every Student Succeeding event turned out to be a very successful event, with positive feedback from principals and families.

Vaccines for educators will begin this Saturday. They will begin by vaccinating any educator with underlying health conditions, and educators in the 60+-age bracket, but maybe even down to the 50+-age bracket.

On January 14, the California Department of Public Health put out a new set of guidance for schools. It says no students may be less than 4 feet apart. This would mean that over 10,000 students in Shasta County would move to hybrid learning. Currently a safety review process is being developed that will require schools to seek a waiver.

Ms. Flores shared that she is very thankful for the relationship she has with Shasta County Public Health. They have met every week since April 2020. This has had a big impact on Shasta County schools staying open. There is a unit within Public Health dedicated to schools. No other county offices have that level of support.

The Shasta County Health & Human Services Agency, along with the Probation Department, want to provide support to Community Connect for ongoing funding sources. So far, there have been 400 student referrals from 40 different schools, and 60 since the beginning of this month.

Board Member Manuel shared that it would be nice if more of the community knew what our schools have been doing for a year now, and to know about Public Health is doing. President Mills shared that the Redding Record Searchlight hired a reporter to focus on education. Maybe she would be a good contact to get the word out. Ms. Flores shared that she's met with Nada several times and will continue, in coordination with information to share from Public Health.

Mr. McCall commented on how impressively Superintendent Flores has engaged in the community effort surrounding COVID, which is well beyond her job description to engage. She has modeled inspiring leadership to all of us.

13. DISCUSSION

13.1. Administrative Services

13.1.1. State Budget Update

Adam Hillman shared some highlights that were included in the Governor's proposal. The proposed budget will be revised again in May. There is good news for education. A large amount of the State's general fund comes from higher earners who were able to keep working during the pandemic, so the deficit isn't as bad as originally projected. In the current proposal is \$4.6 billion for learning loss and summer school activities. At the federal level, \$82 billion is going to schools nationwide. We do not anticipate our districts receiving budget cuts.

13.2. Board

13.2.1. SCOE Equity Statement

Superintendent Flores shared the current second draft of the Equity Statement:

“SCOE is committed to building the understanding of the issues of bias and inclusion, working toward true equity in our organization, schools, and in the greater community.”

Board Member Comments:

- Would like to replace the word “issues” with “challenges”
- Overall, very pleased. The group did a nice job distilling the important themes.
- Concerned that the word equity is too politicized following the recent contentious election.
- Do not want to overstep the Board’s jurisdiction by including “the greater community” in the equity statement.
- Might be better to use the words that describe equity instead of using the word equity.
- Like the wording from Portland Public Schools, that includes the idea of equity in their mission statement: “Their mission: prepare every student for college, career, and participation as an active community member, regardless of race, income or zip code.”
- Might change “regardless” in Portland’s mission to “get rid of the predictability of race”.
- Might be a good idea to simplify the wording to make it more accessible to all members of the community/educational backgrounds.
- Alternative wording: ***“SCOE is committed to building understanding of bias and its impacts, and is dedicated to equity and inclusion in our organization, schools, and greater community.”***

A question was asked about where the equity statement would be posted. Superintendent Flores shared that it would be included along with the Mission and Vision statements on the website and potentially on posters within SCOE buildings.

This feedback will be presented at the subcommittee’s next meeting on February 22. The group will create a third draft which will be brought before the Board at the March 3 Planning Session.

14. MEETING FEEDBACK/SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Board Member Manuel shared that she appreciated President Mills bringing up acknowledging donors in the future. She also mentioned being interested in hearing a presentation after Sherry Rodgers attends the STEM conference.

15. REMINDERS/UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 25, 2021-Local Child Care Planning Council Meeting (via teleconference)

16. NEXT MEETING – Board Planning Session-March 3, 2021 10:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

17. ADJOURN

President Mills adjourned the meeting at 4:47 p.m.

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