

SHASTA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

**April 14, 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/SCOEBoard041421>

Or by phone at:
Phone: 1-669-900-6833
Meeting ID: 824 2399 9553
Password: 002189

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.)

De’An Chambless
Sherry Rodgers
Shere DePaoli
Rebecca Lewis
Renee Menefee
Mike Freeman
Mary Lord
Nathan Fairchild

Bruce Ross
Angela Rollins
Braxton Rollins
MaryAnn Minton
Gina Murphy
Dan Ostrowski
Kelly Freeman
Catherine Thompson

2. TELECONFERENCE PROTOCOLS

President Mills explained the protocols of the meeting, as it was held online.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

4. HEARING OF PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Several guests stated they were present for the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

5.1. Board

5.1.1. March 3, 2021 Board Planning Session Minutes

5.1.2. March 10, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

5.1.3. Revised Board Policy 5131.2-Students-Bullying

5.1.4. Excuse Board Member Kathy Barry's Absence at March 10, 2021 Regular Board Meeting for Reasons Deemed Acceptable to the Board per Board Bylaw Administrative Regulation 9250 and Education Code 1090

5.2. Administrative Services

5.2.1. Credentials and Oaths for Temporary Certificates

5.2.2. Resolution Regarding Lincoln's Birthday Observance

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

Shasta County Board of Education

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

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT: Hull

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. 2021-2022 Calendars
- 6.1.2. General Fund Board Report
- 6.1.3. Chrysalis Charter School Second Interim Budget (2020-21)
- 6.1.4. Northern Summit Academy Second Interim Budget (2020-21)
- 6.1.5. Redding STEM Academy Charter School Second Interim Budget (2020-21)
- 6.1.6. Shasta County Independent Study Quad Area Landscape

7. RECOGNITION

7.1. Woman of the Year-Senate District 1

Bruce Ross, District Director with the Office of Senator Brian Dahle, spoke to the Board.

On behalf of Senator Brian Dahle, Mr. Ross thanked Superintendent Flores for her leadership and for all she has done for the entire education community. The last few years have been unprecedented with fires, PG&E power outages, and COVID-19. There have been some extraordinary disruptions and the need for back up plans. Shasta County is profoundly lucky to have had the guidance and coordination of Judy Flores.

Throughout COVID, Ms. Flores has kept students in mind the whole time. She has worked closely with County Public Health, and had the understanding of when it was appropriate to push back when the State Department of Public Health changed plans that were not in the best interest of students. We are thankful for her leadership and causing Shasta County become a model to other counties.

Superintendent Flores shared that she could not have done all she has without such a great team of leaders at SCOE. Each one has taken on important roles beyond what they were hired to do. She shared appreciation for all the work that has been done by those on the SCOE Leadership Team.

2:00 p.m. 8. PUBLIC HEARING to Receive Public Comment Regarding Chrysalis Charter School Charter Petition Renewal

Catherine Thompson, Administrator at Chrysalis Charter School, thanked the SCOE Board for consideration of the charter renewal. They are currently celebrating the school's 25th year.

Glen Zane, Chrysalis Board President, shared that he has been associated with the school for 25 years and knew the founders of the school. His granddaughter just started at the school as a pre-K student. He has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the past 10 years. Chrysalis plays an important role in the education of students in Shasta County. The philosophy of the school, hands-on science, has been a true benefit to students for solving problems. Several former Chrysalis students hold advanced degrees.

Sarah Hoxie, a teacher at Chrysalis, shared that she has watched the school go through many changes and believes that the teacher-led model works very well.

Braxton Rollins, a student at Chrysalis, shared her experience. She said attending there has been very impactful and she feels at home there within her friendship circle. Her former school was very different. She feels free to express who she is at Chrysalis and is friends with everyone. The Friday Field Studies are very fun and are something she looks forward to doing. They tie in learning and having fun at the same time.

Maryann Minton has attended Chrysalis for eight years. She shared that she has adored every teacher and that Field Studies are her favorite thing to do. She and her brother have found the school to be a safe place.

Angela Rollins has been a teacher at Chrysalis for several years. She shared that it is an amazing community of tight-knit students and families. She loves being at this, teacher-led, collaborative school, and looks forward to a continuing partnership with SCOE.

9. PRESENTATION

9.1. STEM Conference-Sherry Rodgers

Sherry Rodgers, Instructional Services Coordinator, presented with a slideshow.

Ms. Rodgers recently coordinated the Seventh Annual STEM Career Day. The theme was “Geographic Information Systems”. Normally the event is in-person, but this year it was virtual. Students from 39 schools over seven counties registered for the event. Many local businesses and organizations served as sponsors and many SCOE and Shasta College employees served as volunteers.

The student feedback of the event was very positive.

- 94% of the students surveyed said they learned information about the educational requirements of STEM careers.
- 82% said they learned about a STEM career option they did not know about before.
- 78% of students said they learned about classes and activities they could enroll in during high school to start preparing for a STEM job.
- 70% of students said that after the event they are now more interested in a STEM career talking to businesses and colleges.

Ms. Rodgers thanked the Board for their support in sponsoring the event.

Rebecca Lewis commended Ms. Rodgers for stepping up and making the event happen despite the challenges of a virtual event.

10. DISCUSSION/ACTION

10.1. Board

10.1.1. Equity Statement

President Mills shared that the Equity Statement Committee met about a week ago and had a great discussion. She read the most recent draft of the SCOE Equity Statement:

SCOE is committed to building understanding of bias and its impacts to ensure equity and inclusion among our students in our organization, schools, and the greater community through...

- *developing, enhancing, and maintaining equitable systems.*
- *offering differentiated programs, services, and resources.*
- *providing equitable access to all supports and services.*
- *fostering success for all students, schools, and community partners.*

Vice President Barry shared that the committee had a robust discussion, which was respectful and inclusive, receiving input from everyone on the committee. She shared that the current draft is result of a lot of thought on behalf of committee members.

Board Member Brown shared that there was a great deal of heartfelt discussion and opinion sharing in the meeting.

Board Member MacFarland shared that he appreciated Mike Freeman’s input at the last discussion and that it helped him understand how equity relates in education. He shared that the word “Bias” makes him feel uncomfortable, as it is a hot button political issue. Many people currently feel that anytime they disagree with someone they are labeled biased. He shared he is concerned the use of the word could cause division or disunity.

Board Member Snider shared that the use of the word “our” twice in the first part of the statement is confusing.

Board Member Hull shared she agreed that they should find a word to replace “bias”.

Board Member Manuel agreed about eliminating the double use of the word “our”. She likes the use of the word “bias” but prefers more concise wording. The word “Differentiated Programs” may only be known to those in education and not meaningful to the general public.

Board Member Barry commented that the use of the word “bias” doesn’t only refer to racial bias. In our area, we experience rural bias, as we are not always represented in statewide educational discussions and decisions.

Student Board Member Killion shared that she thinks use of the word “bias” is appropriate, as its recognition is very important.

Board Member Snider shared that she is not in favor of removing the word “bias”.

President Mills shared that two major points have arisen: the length of the statement and the use of the word “bias”.

Superintendent Flores was asked to reconvene the Equity Committee to bring the feedback from the board’s discussion and work on another iteration. Superintendent Flores invited board members to submit alternative language by the end of April if they had suggestions for the committee to consider in light of the conversation.

10.1.2. Schedule Time for June 2021 Special Meeting/Budget Study Session

The meeting is scheduled for June 16. The meeting normally runs 1-1.5 hours, and lunch will not be included at this meeting.

Superintendent Flores proposed a start time of 10:00 a.m.

ACTION: Board Member MacFarland moved to approve Item 10.1.2, setting the start time of the June Special Meeting/Budget Study Session at 10:00 a.m.
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:

11. ACTION

11.1. Board

11.1.1. Administrative Regulation 5131.2-Students-Bullying (First Read)

Mary Lord, Executive Director of Student Programs, shared that this Administrative Regulation is new. It reflects the new law that requires districts to provide information and resources on how to solve issues around bullying and harassment. Students must be allowed to have an interdistrict transfer if they are being bullied at their current school. There is more guidance on how staff should respond to complaints of bullying.

ACTION: Board Member MacFarland moved to approve Item 11.1.1 as submitted, waiving the first read.

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:

11.1.2. Chrysalis Charter School Renewal

Nathan Fairchild, Program Director of Education Programs, provided an overview. Charter schools are typically up for renewal every five years, and the process for renewal is the same as an initial petition.

In speaking with Catherine Thompson, Director of Chrysalis, they discussed the school's strengths and weakness, and created a charter that better serves the school. The team recommends a renewal for another 5 years.

Board President Mills asked if there were any significant changes made to the charter.

Mr. Fairchild responded that there were no changes in the day-to-day operations, only in some of the legal wording. The school will continue to function the same way it has functioned for the last 5 years.

Board Member Manuel commented that she thinks Chrysalis continues to be the gold standard of charter schools and is happy the Board has had a long relationship as their authorizer.

ACTION: Board Member Manuel moved to approve Item 11.1.2 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:

11.1.3. Chrysalis Memorandum of Understanding

An MOU exists to detail the relationship between the charter and the county office. They worked hard to make sure it served both the school and county office well.

ACTION: Board Member Snider moved to approve Item 11.1.3 as submitted.
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:

11.1.4. GAMUT Reconciliation

Superintendent Flores spoke to the Board. Due to previous ADA Compliance issues, Board policies were removed from the SCOE website. The California School Board Association (CSBA) recently completed a major upgrade to their system to make the policies ADA compliant. In the process of doing so, there were several places where our policies needed rewording or renumbering.

Board Member Manuel asked if the upgrade makes it possible to post Board packets to the website.

Ms. Flores shared that, no, it only affects Board policies and administrative regulations.

ACTION: Board Member MacFarland moved to approve Item 11.1.4 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, Snider

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Student Board Members

AYES: Killion, Perez

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

11.1.5. Review Student Board Member Applications/Select Applicants to Interview/Approve Interview Questions (2021-22)

Superintendent Flores shared that all three applicants provided complete packets and are eligible to interview. She asked if there were any proposed changes to the interview questions.

Board Member MacFarland asked the Student Board Members if they have any suggestions.

Student Board Member Perez commented that the second part of question 2 seems the same as question 3.

Ms. Flores proposed combining the second part of question two with question three.

ACTION: Board Member Manuel moved to approve Item 11.1.5 with changes to interview questions as discussed.
Vice President Barry 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:

11.1.6. Resolution to Establish Pension Contribution Trust

De'An Chambless, Executive Director of Business Services, reported to the Board. At the March Planning Session they had discussed placing part of the Ending Fund Balance in a Pension Contribution Trust with PERS. Since then, she has found out that PERS doesn't provides trusts for school districts and county offices. However, PARS has good trust programs, with the same advantages for investment earnings. The difference is that the funds will remain in the General Fund but will be restricted and only available as future pension contributions.

Board Member Brown asked how the funds will be retained in the General Fund but protected from encroachment.

Ms. Chambless shared that it will be designated to use only for pension contributions.

Mr. Hillman shared that the amount is reflected in our books but the cash physically goes to another entity and it is an irrevocable contribution.

ACTION: Board Member MacFarland moved to approve Item 11.1.6 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, Snider
NOES:
ABSTENTIONS:
ABSENT:
Student Board Members
AYES: Killion, Perez
NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

12. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

- Kaitlin Killion, Enterprise High School

Ms. Killion shared that there are now only two months of school left. She shared that, on campus at Enterprise High, things are getting livelier. Students are in-person 4 days per week, with many commenting that it feels like the first day of school or a reunion. The freshmen are finally getting the opportunity to experience high school life.

The ECREW/Link Crew is a group of juniors and seniors who help acclimate incoming freshmen. They are currently working on helping the new, nervous, scared, or intimidated feel welcome.

There are currently no updates regarding graduation or prom.

Enterprise will get a Wellness Center next school year.

Vice president Barry thanked Ms. Killion for her report and asked if she has college plans.

Ms. Killion shared that she was recently accepted at UC Santa Cruz and will be double majoring in Earth Science and Literature.

- Leah Perez, Shasta High School

Ms. Perez shared that most students considered last Monday the first day of school. It was strange coming back. There are many classmates that don't know each other. It's nice socially, emotionally, and mentally to be back together.

Clubs meeting in person again and sports are opening up. There are 19 different sports teams happening at the same time, which feels hectic. There are only two coaches for the entire track team, but everyone is trying to make it work.

There will be no spring musical this year. Instead, they'll do a compilation of the last 50 years of musicals, choosing the favorite songs and releasing a video.

Prom was supposed to happen this weekend, but now they are not sure if it will take place. If it does, it will be held at the Arboretum.

A couple of weeks ago they had a rally for the Shasta/Enterprise game. They held the rally virtually and it was fun. They played games inside of classrooms.

Ms. Perez has been accepted to Cornell and Georgetown Universities, and is on the waitlist at Harvard.

13. BOARD BUSINESS

13.1. COVID Updates & Impacts

Rebecca Lewis and Shere DePaoli shared the report with a slideshow.

Ms. DePaoli shared that due to COVID and the government-provided waivers no one did state testing for the 2019-20 school year.

Ms. Lewis shared that they are currently working with local districts to determine what testing supports are needed for students this spring.

President Mills asked if they are getting a sense of what districts are thinking of doing.

Ms. DePaoli responded that she has spoken with about five districts and they plan to give the Smarter Balanced Assessments.

Superintendent Flores shared that, at the high school level, there was never the option not to test. With colleges moving away from SAT and ACT testing, they are looking to use 11th grade assessments in colleges. Jim Cloney, Superintendent of Shasta Union High School District, has taken that position and many other high schools are following suit.

13.2. Early Childhood Services Facility Update

Renée Menefee, Executive Director of Early Education & Support Services, gave the report. She shared that everyone is working hard to get the project out to bid. This includes the Project Manager, Bruce Damali, and SCOE's Maintenance & Operations and IT teams. Ms. Menefee shared that there will be a new kitchen, more meetings rooms, and more storage space included in the expansion.

Kurt Swanson, Operations Director of Early Childhood Services, shared that they are still in the planning stages of the expansion. He shared a breakdown of costs from Nichols, Melburg, & Rossetto Architects as they prepare for the bidding process.

Board Member Manuel asked if there were new plans for parking space.

Ms. Menefee shared that there is enough daily parking for staff and visitors. There is also area to expand the parking lot.

14. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Flores shared her report to the Board.

California Community Schools Partnership Program Grant

The California Department of Education released their list of grantees for the California Community Schools Partnership Program. Out of the 102 that applied, SCOE was one of 20 granted funding. There is a two-week appeals window currently open. After that closes, we will be notified of the grant amount and whether the timeline for grant implementation will change due to the late notification.

The focus of grant is to build out the work we've been doing with Community Connect. The plan is to open up a door for behavior and mental health intervention. Behavior is often an expression of mental health challenges. The plan is to add eight social workers to be housed on campuses throughout the county. These will be sites with high incidence of low income (free-reduced lunch).

Donnell Ewert with Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency wants to annually provide mental help support. With the county's support, plus the grant, we can build the system.

COVID

There have been more than 60,000 doses of the COVID vaccine given. That's over one third of all residents. Vaccines are now available to those over 16 years old.

The Champions for Education item that was originally scheduled for this Board meeting has been rescheduled for the May Board meeting. Dr. Ramstrom and Janessa Hartmann plan to attend for the Recognition item.

15. MEETING FEEDBACK/SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Board Member Manuel shared that the movie, "The Last Good Indian" was shown recently and that Winter Fox was in the movie.

Rebecca Lewis shared that, due to great response to the film, other districts asked to see it. Another viewing will be held Thursday, April 22. Ms. Lewis said she would forward the information to the Board.

Ms. Manuel also shared that she recently attended a meeting with the statewide school district organization group. She requested an update on where things stand with the California Voting Rights Act and trustee areas.

Superintendent Flores shared that there is a meeting scheduled with our attorney for this Friday to discuss this subject and there will be a presentation at the May Board meeting.

Superintendent Flores asked if the Board would be willing to resume in-person meetings, following the Public Health guidelines of masking and distancing. All Board members and Student Board member are in favor, except Board Member MacFarland, who cannot attend in person due to health reasons. A Zoom link will be provided for him to connect virtually.

16. REMINDERS/UPCOMING EVENTS

- *April 22, 2021-Local Child Care Planning Council Meeting-Via Teleconference*

17. NEXT MEETING – May 12, 2021, 1:30 p.m.-In Person at the Professional Development Center, in Shasta Hall, 2985 Innsbruck Drive, Redding

18. ADJOURN

President Mills adjourned the meeting at 4:33 p.m.

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