

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Date: January 6, 2010

Meeting Location: Board Rooms A and B
101 Twin Dolphin Drive
Redwood City, California

Board Members Present: Susan Alvaro, Jim Cannon, Rhonda Ceccato,
Beverly Gerard, Ted Lempert, Memo Morantes

Board Members Absent: Rod Hsiao

Staff Officials Present: Jean Holbrook, Secretary
Marcia Serpa-Garcia, Staff Secretary

Other Staff Present: Jeannie Bosley, Peter Burchyns, Shelly Caress-
Mouton, Mefula Fairley, Tania Magana, Karen Philip,
Glenn Siegel, Judith Tichy, Gary Waddell

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Alvaro called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and noted that the meeting was being taped.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board President Alvaro led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

After a motion by Mr. Morantes and a second by Mr. Lempert, the Board unanimously approved the January 6, 2010, agenda as presented.

4. PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD, DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS

There were no persons wishing to address the Board.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 9, 2009, REGULAR MEETING

After a motion by Ms. Ceccato and a second by Mr. Morantes, the Board voted unanimously to approve the December 9, 2009, regular meeting minutes as presented.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

After a motion by Mr. Cannon and a second by Mr. Lempert, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as presented, taking action to:

- a. Appoint Revised Membership to the County School Attendance Review Board (SARB)

Ms. Alvaro commented that she has had the opportunity to work with Deputy Sheriff Jerry Justice in the past and is glad to see him on the School Attendance Review Board (SARB).

7. STUDENT SERVICES

- a. Report on Community Schools Transition Pilot Program

Deputy Superintendent Karen Philip made introductory remarks about a new Transition Pilot Program being implemented in the Court and Community Schools this year. She explained the elements that contribute to students' re-entry failure and then introduced Judith Tichy, Director, and Megan Price, Manager, Court and Community Schools; and Tania Magana and Shelly Caress-Mouton, teachers at Community School Central.

Ms. Tichy reported that Community School students face challenges when they return to a large comprehensive high school. This concern has been addressed by the Juvenile Justice Commission, Probation and school sites. She said that staff members from the Cleo Eulau Center are addressing this concern and credited Judith Gable, Program Director at Cleo Eulau, for being instrumental in collaborating with her, Ms. Price, the Community School teachers and Hector Serrano, Coordinator of Welfare and Attendance at Sequoia Union High School District. Ms. Tichy said that an intern from Cleo Eulau is assigned at Sequoia High School to provide transition support to the students.

Shelly Caress-Mouton explained that she communicated with the families of transitioning students at a parent meeting organized to explain the program, answer their questions and introduce the families to the counselor and district staff who would be helping their students during the transition process. Ms. Caress-Mouton said that College Bound staff from the Boys and Girls Club also attended the initial meeting and offered students transportation to tutoring and volunteer services.

Beth Walton, Marriage and Family Therapist with Cleo Eulau, said that she works with the Collaborative Counseling Program and oversees the Transition Pilot Program. She provided the Board with copies of Cleo Eulau's 2009 Annual Report, which explains the programs and services that Cleo Eulau provides. She stated that she works closely with Ms. Tichy, Ms. Caress-Mouton and Ms. Magana, and also with Mr. Serrano, Rick Cook and Judy Romero from Sequoia.

Ms. Walton described the services that the intern counselor provides to the students and families in this program and talked about the success rates for the program to date. She said that Cleo Eulau is collecting data for the Pilot Program and will evaluate the success of the program at the end of the school year.

STUDENT SERVICES (continued)

Ms. Magana highlighted the importance of getting the parents involved in the transition process. She provides information that helps them understand the process and the services available to help the students and families.

Ms. Tichy said that the various individuals involved with this Pilot Program are optimistic that this program will be successful and then she and the other speakers answered questions from the Board.

Ms. Alvaro suggested that Ms. Tichy contact the 17th District PTA to discuss possible support for this program.

Dr. Holbrook thanked the teachers and the Cleo Eulau staff for their support of the students.

8. INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

a. Presentation on 2009-2010 Williams Annual Report

Dr. Holbrook introduced Ms. Mefula Fairley, the Coordinator for the County Office's Williams Compliance responsibilities, who would be presenting the 2009-2010 Williams Annual Report and providing the Board with highlights of this year's information regarding the Williams Settlement.

Ms. Fairley reviewed the history of the lawsuit and the process of implementing the Williams Settlement Legislation. She said that the County Office responsibilities for reviewing schools are the same but that in the next round of visits new schools will be reviewed. She reported that in 2009-2010 two districts initially had difficulty meeting the textbooks and instructional materials requirements, but that they were in compliance by the 40th day of school. Two schools had facility deficiencies that were remedied within 30 days and verified by follow-up visits. She reported that there were several SARC discrepancies that included reporting on instructional materials and facilities conditions, and that the relatively few teacher misassignments were corrected within 30 days. Ms. Fairley reviewed the Valenzuela/California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) Intensive Instruction and Services Settlement and said that the one school that has overlapping Williams and CAHSEE funds did not receive a visit this year because the school used the funds for other purposes as allowed by the flexibility provisions of this year's State Budget. She then answered questions from the Board.

b. .Ratify Submission of Project: Child Care Facilities Renovation and Repair Funding

Following a brief discussion and after a motion by Ms. Gerard and a second by Mr. Morantes, the Board voted unanimously to ratify submission of the Child Care Facilities Renovation and Repair Funding project.

9. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

a. Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Holbrook said that she hoped the Board members had a wonderful holiday season, she wished them a Happy New Year and thanked them for attending the County Office Holiday Luncheon at which approximately 130 staff and retirees were present. She said that earlier in the day she sent the Board a link to photos of the event that are posted on a special Web site and thanked Karen Williams, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, for taking these pictures.

Dr. Holbrook reported that she and several of the Board members attended the Holiday Dinners at Camp Glenwood and the Margaret J. Kemp Girls' Camp. She said that it was a special honor for her to present a General Education Diploma (GED) to one of the young men at Camp Glenwood, and that she thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to talk to the young men and women at the dinners.

Dr. Holbrook thanked Ms. Philip for representing the Board and the Superintendent at the Youth Services Center Winter Olympics on Saturday, January 2, and asked Ms. Philip to tell the Board members about the event. Ms. Philip reported that it was a moving event at which many of the young men were honored for their achievements in art, poetry, essay contests, trivia contests and a variety of athletic events. She said she was privileged to address the students and encouraged them to keep up their excellent work.

Dr. Holbrook drew the Board's attention to a booklet titled *Are you Ready? A Parent's Guide to Starting Kindergarten*. She said that First 5 San Mateo County and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation prepared these resource booklets, and an accompanying DVD, and are making them available, free of charge, to public schools and Early Childhood Education programs in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. These are available in both English and Spanish and she thanked Jeanie McLoughlin and Soodie Ansari of the Instructional Services Division for providing input to the development of these resources. Dr. Holbrook also thanked Peter Burchyns, and Facilities Services staff for their support in providing delivery to the public schools in the County, and said that she thinks these resources will help children to be successful in kindergarten.

Dr. Holbrook discussed an article in the San Mateo Daily Journal that was located at the Board's places. The article addresses the critical needs of California's children, and was taken from the 68-page 2010 California Report Card released by Children Now, the organization for which Mr. Lempert serves as President. State scores on this report card show a "C" in early learning and development, a "D" in K-12 education and a "D+" for children's health coverage. San Mateo County scores are slightly higher than the state's but still not meeting all the local needs. Dr. Holbrook thanked Mr. Lempert's organization for this report and said that the County Office can use it as budget discussions begin.

Dr. Holbrook announced that two upcoming events have been added to their calendar:

- March 9 – Art in Action - when Dick Sperisen, Arts Education/School Design Coordinator Emeritus, will be honored for his lifetime contributions to art education in San Mateo County.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT (continued)

- March 10 – Principal for a Day – sponsored by the County Office and coordinated by Mr. Burchyns.

Dr. Holbrook announced that she was invited and plans to participate as Principal for a Day at Taylor Middle School in the Millbrae District. She suggested that Board members contact Ms. Serpa-Garcia if they wish to participate at either of these events.

Dr. Holbrook reported that she sent the Board copies of the transcript of the State of the State address, and also the comments that she made to the San Mateo Daily Journal regarding the address. She added that the Governor's Budget would be released on January 8, 2010, and said that County Office staff would be attending a School Services Workshop on January 12 and that she would provide more information as it becomes available.

Dr. Holbrook announced that interviews are still taking place for the position of Deputy Superintendent for the Fiscal and Operational Services Division.

Dr. Holbrook said that on January 11, she will join Ms. Alvaro, Ms. Ceccato and Ms. Philip in a meeting with County Manager David Boesch, Probation Chief Stu Forrest and Probation staff member Christy Morrill, to continue discussion of funding for the Group Supervisors in Community Schools.

Dr. Holbrook provided an update on Race To The Top (RTTT), for which the County Office hosted an input meeting in November on behalf of the Governor's Office and the Department of Education. She noted that:

- RTTT is funded at \$4.35 billion
- California's share is estimated at \$350–\$700 million
- States are preparing to submit applications
- California is working to remove barriers to funding and completed that process earlier in the day when the Senate approved legislation passed earlier in the week by the Assembly
- The Governor has said he will sign the legislation
- The deadline for the State's application is January 19
- Approximately 800 of the 1000 districts and County Offices in California have submitted Letters of Intent to Participate
- A memorandum of understanding (MOU) must be submitted by January 8, signed by the Superintendent, committing to work on four areas of reform

Dr. Holbrook said that there are four broad areas of reform which would be hard to argue with as important components of improving student outcomes, and noted that some of the details have been spelled out quite explicitly in the MOU and others are still to be defined.

Dr. Holbrook explained that in San Mateo County fourteen districts plus the County Office have submitted Letters of Intent. On Tuesday, January 5, she met with Dan Deasy, San Mateo County Educators Association President, about the MOU and let him know that if California is funded the process for writing the County Office plan would be inclusive and the union would be involved. Dr. Holbrook said that she would submit the required MOU by January 8, 2010, and that

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT (continued)

California expects to hear by April if it is funded. If funded, there would then be 90 days to write a four-year plan to address the reform areas. If California is not funded this time, there will be another opportunity to apply.

Dr. Holbrook announced that Charles Scott, a custodian in Early Childhood Education, is home from the hospital and recovering nicely.

Dr. Holbrook wished Ms. Ceccato a happy birthday in advance of the actual date (January 15).

[NOTE: Letters of commendation were received for Dr. Jean Holbrook, Deputy Superintendent Karen Philip and Karen Williams, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, from Rabbi Jay Miller, Executive Director of the Peninsula Clergy Network.]

10. BOARD MEMBERS

a. Discuss and/or Act on Legislation

There was no report on Legislation.

b. Board Committee Assignments

The Board discussed and agreed to the following committee assignments for 2010:

<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>BOARD MEMBER</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>
1. Budget Planning Committee for 2010/2011	<u>Mr. Cannon</u> <u>Mr. Hsiao</u> <u>Mr. Morantes</u>	<u>Ms. Alvaro</u>
2. Teacher-of-the-Year Selection Committee	<u>Mr. Lempert</u>	<u>Ms. Gerard</u>
3. San Mateo County School Boards Association (SMCSBA) Nominating Committee	<u>Mr. Morantes</u>	
4. Superintendent's Salary Committee	<u>Ms. Gerard (Chair)</u> <u>Ms. Alvaro</u> <u>Ms. Ceccato</u>	<u>Mr. Cannon</u>
5. Closing the Achievement Gap Committee	<u>Ms. Alvaro</u> <u>Mr. Cannon</u> <u>Ms. Ceccato</u>	<u>Mr. Morantes</u>

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

c. Board Member Comments

Ms. Gerard

Ms. Gerard wished everyone a Happy New Year and said that she looks forward to 2010.

Ms. Gerard reported that she attended the Holiday Luncheon and that during the holiday season she enjoyed the centerpiece that she won at the event. She said that the wreaths made by the students at Camp Glenwood were exceptional and that she still has hers up.

Ms. Gerard announced that she will attend the SMCSBA Dinner Meeting on January 25.

Mr. Cannon

Mr. Cannon reported that he enjoyed the Holiday Luncheon and thanked the members of the Fiscal and Operational Services Division for the wonderful job they did on the decorations and the event.

Mr. Cannon reported that he attended the Holiday Dinners at Camp Glenwood and at Margaret Kemp Girls Camp, and said the atmosphere at both events was outstanding.

Mr. Cannon announced that he will attend the San Mateo County (SMC) Summit on January 9.

[NOTE: Dr. Holbrook reported that prior to the Board meeting she was given a newspaper article written by John Horgan about the SMC Summit that is being hosted by County Supervisor Rich Gordon.]

The Board members briefly discussed the upcoming SMC Summit.

Mr. Lempert

Mr. Lempert wished his colleagues and the County Office staff a Happy New Year.

Mr. Lempert reported that he attended the Holiday Luncheon and enjoyed the event.

Mr. Lempert reported that Children Now has been working hard to ensure that early education is included in the MOU for Race to the Top.

Ms. Ceccato

Ms. Ceccato wished her colleagues and the County Office staff a Happy New Year and said that she looks forward to working with her colleagues in 2010.

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

Mr. Morantes

Mr. Morantes reported that he attended the Holiday Dinner at Margaret J. Kemp Girls' Camp and said that the young women seemed to enjoy the event. He also attended and enjoyed the County Office Holiday Luncheon.

Mr. Morantes reported that the first Redwood City Chamber of Commerce Education Committee meeting of the year took place earlier in the day and thanked Dr. Holbrook for the update on the Governor's State of the State address.

Mr. Morantes reported that he was on the Environmental Subcommittee and enjoyed serving breakfast to the County Office Environmental Motto Contest Winner and her colleagues in December.

Mr. Morantes announced that he will attend the SMC Summit.


Ms. Alvaro

Ms. Alvaro welcomed Portola Valley Superintendent Anne Campbell to the meeting.

Ms. Alvaro commented that she is thrilled to know that Mr. Sperisen will be honored for his contributions to art education in San Mateo County.

Ms. Alvaro reported that she attended the Holiday Gathering Dinner at Camp Glenwood on December 17, and said that she especially enjoyed an essay written by one of the students. She thanked the San Mateo Rotary for the gifts its members brought to the event and said that she would send a letter to them letting them know how much it means.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



Jean Holbrook, Ed.D., Secretary
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