Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday January 16, 2020
Closed Session 3:45 p.m.
Open Session 4:00 p.m.
Board Room

APPROVED MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Board Present

Jane Royer Barr
Rose Filicetti
Sandra Nichols
Sue Roth (President)
Abel Sanchez
Bruce Van Allen
Dana Sales
Faris Sabbah (Secretary)

Staff Present

Mary Hart
Sage Leibenson

Absent

Debi Bodenheimer

2. CLOSED SESSION DISCLOSURE

President Roth disclosed that the Board will, in closed session, discuss matters relating to one claim for damage as noted in item 3.1. Comments from the public were invited to be made prior to commencing closed session. No public comments were made.

Presenter: Sue Roth (President)
3. **CLOSED SESSION**

3.1 **Claim for Damage**

Pursuant to Govt. Code § 54956.9, the Board met and conferred in closed session to receive information which, based on existing facts and circumstances, presents one claim for damages against the Santa Cruz County Office of Education.

4. **OPEN SESSION**

Open session commenced at 4:00 p.m.

Trustee Sanchez arrived at 4:00pm.

5. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Superintendent Sabbah (Secretary) led the Pledge of Allegiance.

6. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Agenda deletions and/or changes of sequence will be approved or the agenda will be approved as submitted.

It was M.S.C. (Filocetti/Barr) to approve the agenda.

Ayes: Barr, Filicetti, Nichols, Roth, Sales, Sanchez, Van Allen

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

7. **REPORT OUT ON CLOSED SESSION**

President Roth reported that in closed session, the Board announced they voted 6-0, with 1 absent to reject the claim pertaining to item 3.1.

8. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

9. **CONSENT AGENDA**

All items appearing on the consent agenda are recommended actions which are considered to be routine in nature and will be acted upon as one motion. Specific items may be removed for separate consideration. Item(s) removed will be considered immediately following the consent agenda motion as Deferred Consent Items.

9.0.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 17, 2019
9.0.2 Routine Budget Revisions
9.0.3 Donations

Trustee Nichols asked that the minutes be edited to replace the work “president” with “item” in item #7 of the December 17, 2019 minutes.
It was M.S.C. (Barr/Sales) to approve the consent agenda as amended.

Ayes: Barr, Filicetti, Nichols, Roth, Sales, Sanchez, Van Allen
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

9.1 **Deferred Consent Items (if required)**

None.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Official correspondence received by the Board, if any, was included herein. Copies of correspondence received within 72 hours of the meeting were made available at the meeting location.

11. **REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS**

11.1 **2018-2019 Fiscal Year Annual Audit Report**

Jill Stenton, Senior Manager at Eide Bailly, LLP, gave a presentation to the Board about the 2018-2019 final, audited, prior-year financial statements, which the Santa Cruz County Office of Education is required to file with the California Department of Education and the State Controller’s Office. Ms. Stenton was pleased to present that the audit resulted in a positive report with no findings. The Board and Superintendent Sabbah congratulated the business team of the Santa Cruz County Office of Education on their hard work and successful report.

11.2 **Charter Legislation Training by Counsel**

Legal Counsel for the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, Edward Sklar, gave a presentation on a number of new pieces of legislation that have revised several governing provisions pertaining to charter schools regarding the ways in which petitions are submitted, appealed, and revoked. The new laws also specify new criteria and procedures for the consideration and determination of these issues.

11.3 **Young Writers Program (YWP)**

Young Writers Program Director, Julia Chiapella, gave the Board a presentation about updates and accomplishments of the COE Young Writers Program (YWP). The presentation explained who the program has served, the role it has served in our community, and highlighted the publications that students have produced through the program.

11.4 **Extension Granted to Review And Approve PCS Memorandum of Understanding**

The County Superintendent of Schools announced that Pacific Collegiate Charter School has requested additional time to review Santa Cruz COE’s proposed Memorandum of Understanding required to approve the Petition to Renew Pacific Collegiate Charter School, which was originally due to the Santa Cruz County Board of Education on January 16, 2020. The Board will review the executed MOU at the next regular meeting on February 20, 2020.
12. PUBLIC HEARINGS, NEW BUSINESS, AND ACTION ITEMS

12.1 **Interdistrict Transfer Appeal Hearing #20-01**

The Board held an Interdistrict Transfer Appeal Hearing in open session concerning a student wishing to attend school in the Scotts Valley Unified School District.

The Appellant and Governing District each were invited to state their names for the record. President Roth offered for the Letter of the Appeal to be read, to which both parties declined. Superintendent Sabbah then explained the powers of the County Board in Interdistrict Attendance Appeal hearings. The Appellant and Governing Board were each allotted five minutes to state the reasons why the County Board should or should not uphold the decision of the Governing District. Both parties were then each provided two minutes to make a rebuttal. The board then deliberated in open session.

It was M.S.C. (Nichols/Barr) to uphold the decision of the Scotts Valley Unified School District.

Ayes: Barr, Filicetti, Nichols, Roth, Sales, Sanchez, Van Allen
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

12.2 **Approve Resolution #20-01 in Support of Proposition 13**

The Board was asked to adopt Resolution #20-01 in support of Proposition 13: Public Preschool, K-12, and College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2020. The funds would provide resources for the renovation and upgrade of existing classrooms and laboratories that enhance teaching and learning, for the construction and expansion of schools to accommodate growth, and for career technical education facilities to enhance job and career training. If the bond passes, it would provide $15 billion for facilities at the state’s preschools, k-12 schools, community colleges, and four year colleges and universities.

After a lively conversation, the Board requested that the Resolution be edited to remove the specific language “Proposition 13”, and add language making it clear that the item would appear on the March 2020 Ballot.

It was M.S.C. (Van Allen/Nichols) to approve Resolution #20-01 as amended.

Ayes: Barr, Filicetti, Nichols, Roth, Sales, Sanchez, Van Allen
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

12.3 **Approve Resolution #20-02 in Support of Measures T and U (SCCS)**
Santa Cruz City School Superintendent Kris Munro asked the Board to adopt Resolution #20-02 in Support of Measure T & U for our local high schools. The purpose of both measures would be to protect and maintain the quality of education of Santa Cruz City Schools’ (SCCS) high schools. The passing of Measure T would continue previously approved, locally controlled funding, keeping overall tax rates flat. Measure U would renew existing locally-controlled funding for instructional enrichment and student-support services, and would implement an $18/year parcel tax.

It was M.S.C. (Van Allen/Nichols) to approve Resolution #20-02.

Ayes: Barr, Filicetti, Nichols, Roth, Sales, Sanchez, Van Allen
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

13. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Faris M. Sabbah, provided an update on activities and matters of interest.

14. TRUSTEE REPORTS (3 minutes each)

Trustee Filicetti attended the third meeting of the Cabrillo College Bond Advisory Committee, a meeting of the Santa Cruz County School Boards Association, and two alternative education graduation ceremonies at Sequoia High School.

Trustee Nichols attended one alternative education graduation ceremony.

Trustee Barr attended meetings of the Agenda Committee and Charter Committee.

Trustee Sales attended two alternative education graduation ceremonies at Sequoia High School.

Trustee Roth attended a meeting of the Santa Cruz County School Boards Association, two graduation ceremonies at the Santa Cruz Portuguese Hall, and meetings of the agenda and charter subcommittees.

15. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS (if any)

15.1 Community Outreach and Legislative Committee Update

None.

16. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND COMING EVENTS

Delivering on Our Promise: The Santa Cruz COE’s Strategic Plan for Education
Watsonville Civic Plaza, 275 Main St., Watsonville CA 95076
January 21, 2019
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Santa Cruz County Civics Summit
17. **ADJOURNMENT**

The Board President adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

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**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Public Participation:**

All persons are encouraged to attend and, when appropriate, to participate in meetings of the Santa Cruz County Board of Education. If you wish to speak to an item on the agenda, please be present at the beginning of the meeting as any item, upon motion, may be moved to the beginning of the agenda. Persons wishing to address the Board are asked to state their name for the record. The president of the Board will establish a time limit of three (3) minutes, unless otherwise stated by the president, for comments from the public. Consideration of all matters is conducted in open session except those relating to litigation, personnel and employee negotiations, which, by law, may be considered in closed session. Expulsion appeal hearings are heard in closed session unless a request for hearing in open session is made by the appellant.

**Backup Documentation:**

Any writings or documents that are public records and are provided to a majority of the governing board regarding an open session item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the County Office of Education, located 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060, during normal business hours.

**Translation Requests:**

Spanish language translation is available on an as-needed basis. Please make advance arrangements with Sage Leibenson by telephone at (831) 466-5900  Traducciones del inglés al español y del español al inglés están disponibles en las sesiones de la mesa directiva. Por favor haga arreglos por anticipado con Sage Leibenson por teléfono al numero (831) 466-5900.

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