



SANTA CRUZ
COUNTY OFFICE OF
EDUCATION
DR. FARIS SABBAH • SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Santa Cruz County Board of Education ● 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 ● Tel (831) 466-5900 ● santacruzcoe.org
Ms. Jane Royer Barr ● Ms. Rose Filicetti ● Ms. Sandra Nichols ● Ms. Sue Roth ● Mr. Dana Sales
Mr. Abel Sanchez ● Mr. Bruce Van Allen

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday June 18, 2020
Open Session 4:00 p.m.
VIRTUAL Meeting hosted from the Board Room

APPROVED MINUTES

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

Board Present (via videoconference)

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

Staff Present (via videoconference)

Faris Sabbah (Secretary)
Rebecca Olker
Debi Bodenheimer
Sage Leibenson

Absent

None

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Superintendent Sabbah (Secretary) led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A call for a motion was made to make agenda deletions and/or changes of sequence, or approve the agenda as submitted.

It was M.S.C. (Sales/Filicetti) to approve the agenda as submitted.

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. 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.

- 5.0.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of May 21, 2020
- 5.0.2 Routine Budget Revisions
- 5.0.3 Donations
- 5.0.4 Approval of the North Santa Cruz County SELPA Local Plan

It was M.S.C. (Barr/Filicetti) to approve the consent agenda as submitted.

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

5.1 Deferred Consent Items (if required)

None.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Each item of official correspondence received by the Board was recited by the clerk for up to 3 minutes. New correspondence received included the following:

- One email from Carol Bjorn regarding the use of face coverings for students
- One anonymous letter from a parent regarding the reopening of schools

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7. REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Civic Summit: Student Recognition

The Board recognized one student who won the “It Ought To Be A Law” competition that took place at the 2020 Santa Cruz County Civic Summit. Student Leadership & Engagement Coordinator, Celeste Gutierrez, introduced the student, Casey, who gave a brief presentation about his winning project.

Superintendent Sabbah congratulated the student on his achievement.

7.2 Census Art Contest Award

The Board recognized student projects for their winning designs in the Santa Cruz County Office of Education’s 2020 Census Art Contest. Sarah Ferguson, Coordinator, Santa Cruz County Census gave the presentation.

Superintendent Sabbah congratulated the students on their achievement, and stressed the importance of participating in the Census. Dr. Michael Paynter expressed appreciation for Sarah Ferguson and thanked her for her work on the assignment.

7.3 Retirement Recognitions

The Board recognized the important contributions of retirees of the Santa Cruz County Office of Education.

Debi Bodenheimer introduced Dr. Kip Tellez, who said a few words in appreciation of Julia. Julia then has an opportunity to accept her award and speak.

Superintendent Sabbah then introduced Bryan Wall, who spoke in appreciation of Mark Hodges. Henry Michel also recognized Mark Hodges. Mark then had an opportunity to accept the award and thank the Superintendent, Board, and COE Staff for his time at COE.

Superintendent Sabbah then introduced Julie Pollock, who spoke in appreciation for Lauren Leff. Lauren then had an opportunity to accept her award.

Superintendent Sabbah then introduced Mark Hodges, who spoke in appreciation for Rayona Mullen Staniec. Rayona then spoke about her career in education.

Superintendent Sabbah then introduced John Rice and Jennifer Izant-Gonzales, who spoke in appreciation of Leta Vandenheuvel. Leta then spoke and accepted her award.

The Board then expressed appreciation for all the retirees and thanked them for their dedicated service.

7.4 ACSA Awards

The Board recognized Dr. Michael Paynter, Senior Director of Student Support Services, and Jessica Little, Senior Director of SELPA, for their awards as Administrators of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA). Jessica and Michael then had an opportunity to say a few words and accept their awards.

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Trustee Filicetti expressed appreciation for Dr. Paynter, and Trustee Barr expressed appreciation for both Dr. Paynter and Jessica Little.

7.5 COVID-19 Update

Superintendent Sabbah gave a presentation about what the Santa Cruz County Office of Education has been working on in collaboration with the Santa Cruz County Health Services agency and school districts to prepare for and respond to the outbreak of COVID-19 in our community. The presentation also included the anticipated impacts of COVID-19 on funding for California public schools.

Trustee Van Allen expressed appreciation for Superintendent Sabbah's leadership and communication with the community about this matter.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS, NEW BUSINESS, AND ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Revised PCS Petition for Material Revision

The Board was asked to either approve (Resolution #20-13) or deny (Resolution #20-14) the revised Petition for a Material Revision to Pacific Collegiate Charter School (PCS).

President Roth gave an introduction of the item, and then Debi Bodenheimer gave an overview of the review process and introduced Legal Counsel, Jennifer Nix of School and College Legal Services, who was present for questions.

Debi Bodenheimer then gave an overview of the COE Staff Report, which included a brief history of PCS, the conditions for approval and denial, the process of the review team, and the review team's recommendation. The Staff Report recommended approval of the request for the material revision.

Maria Reitano, PCS Head of School, gave a short presentation about PCS' diversity plan progress, echoed the findings of the COE Staff Report and recommendations, and urged the Board to follow the recommendations set forth in the COE Staff Report.

The Board Clerk read written public comments received prior to the Board Meeting. Public comments received in support of the PCS Material Revision from the following individuals were read aloud:

Aaron Hinde, Beth Redmond-Jones, Chris Marentette, Daniela Yoga, Dr. Sally Sheriff, Dyane Villalobos, Karoline Grigsby, Jennifer Athey, Jessica Espinoza, Ken Olson, Lisa Segnitz, Todd Harrison, and Tomer Dichterson. One comment was received from Ronan Keith in opposition to the PCS Material Revision.

The following individuals made live public comments in support of the PCS Material Revision: Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz, Diana Holm, Sikina Jinnah, Deana Tanguay, Jaime Azcarate, Claire Grojean, Jason Miller, Lauren Friend, Chiara Gabriel, and Judit Camacho.

The Board then had an opportunity to ask clarifying questions of Maria Reitano and COE staff. A number of questions were asked and answered.

Jennifer Nix, Legal Counsel for COE, made a few brief comments explaining the powers of the board regarding this decision.

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The Board then had an opportunity to deliberate. After much discussion, it was motioned to approve Resolution #20-14 to Deny the Request for a Material Revision to PCS on the following basis:

1. The proposed changes are not educationally sound (Education Code 47605 (b)(1))
2. The proposed changes are not demonstrably likely to be successfully implemented (Education Code 47605 (b)(5))
3. The description of the changes is reasonably comprehensive (Education Code 47605, (b)(5)).

The reasons cited for these findings the Santa Cruz County Board of Education include: concern that the addition of a 11 year old students to a campus with high-school aged students would be developmentally inappropriate, disagreement with the research presented by PCS that removing the “double jump” that students experience without a 6th grade option would increase enrollment of underrepresented student populations, and that ultimately the addition of a 6th grade population is not, at this time, necessary to help increase diversity at PCS.

It was M.S.C. (Barr/Nichols) to approve Resolution #20-14 to Deny the Request for a Material Revision to PCS pending amendments by staff and legal counsel. It was requested that staff present the amended resolution incorporating a Findings of Fact at the July 18, 2020 meeting of the Santa Cruz County Board of Education.

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

8.2 Request to Convert Cypress Charter High School into a Countywide Alternative Education Community School (Resolution #20-15)

The Board was asked to consider approving Resolution #20-15 to approve the request to convert Santa Cruz County Cypress Charter High School into a countywide Alternative Education Community School.

President Roth introduced the item. Debi Bodenheimer and Superintendent Sabbah then gave an overview of the process and shared the recommendation of COE Staff to approve the Request to Convert Cypress Charter High School into a Countywide Alternative Education Community School.

Members of the public were then invited to make a comment. No public comments were made. The Board then had an opportunity to ask questions of staff and deliberate.

It was M.S.C. (Barr/Filicetti) to adopt Resolution #20-15 approving the request to convert Cypress Charter High School into a Countywide Alternative Education Community School.

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

Superintendent Sabbah thanked the Board for their support.

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8.3 Court & Community COVID-19 Written Report

It is recommended that the Board adopt the COE Court and Community School COVID-19 Written Report. The EO N-26-20 states the form will report at a minimum, a description of how the LEA is meeting the needs of unduplicated pupils, defined consistent with Ed Code 42238.02(b)(1), during the period of school closures specifically how the LEA continued delivering high quality distance learning opportunities, provided school meals, and to the extent practicable, arrange for the supervision of students during ordinary school hours. Jennifer Izant-Gonzalez gave a short presentation to the Board.

Superintendent Sabbah and the Board thanked COE staff for their hard work since the COVID-19 crisis began.

It was M.S.C. to approve (Nichols/Sales) Court & Community School COVID-19 Written Report.

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

8.4 CAC COVID-19 Written Report

It is recommended that the Board adopt the CAC COVID-19 Written Report. The EO N-26-20 states the form will report at a minimum, a description of how the LEA is meeting the needs of unduplicated pupils, defined consistent with Ed Code 42238.02(b)(1), during the period of school closures specifically how the LEA continued delivering high quality distance learning opportunities, provided school meals, and to the extent practicable, arrange for the supervision of students during ordinary school hours.

It was M.S.C. to approve (Filicetti/Van Allen) CAC COVID-19 Written Report.

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

8.5 Cypress COVID-19 Written Report

It is recommended that the Board adopt the Cypress High School COVID-19 Written Report. The EO N-26-20 states the form will report at a minimum, a description of how the LEA is meeting the needs of unduplicated pupils, defined consistent with Ed Code 42238.02(b)(1), during the period of school closures specifically how the LEA continued delivering high quality distance learning opportunities, provided school meals, and to the extent practicable, arrange for the supervision of students during ordinary school hours.

It was M.S.C. to approve (Filicetti/Nichols) Cypress COVID-19 Written Report.

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

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8.6 Approve Resolution #20-16 in Support of Prop 30 and 55, Education Protection Funds Act (Santa Cruz County Office of Education)

It is recommended that the Board adopt Resolution #20-16 to approve usage of the funds made available from Proposition 30 and Proposition 55 for educational expenditures within the County Office of Education's budgets. Rebecca Olker gave a brief presentation about this item to the Board.

It was M.S.C. to approve (Barr/Nichols) to adopt Resolution #20-16.

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

8.7 Approve Resolution #20-17 in Support of Prop 30 and 55, Education Protection Funds Act (Career Advancement Charter)

It is recommended that the Board adopt Resolution #20-17 to approve usage of the funds made available from Proposition 30 and Proposition 55 for educational expenditures within the County Office of Education's budgets.

It was M.S.C. to approve (Filicetti/Roth) to adopt Resolution #20-17.

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

8.8 Approve Resolution #20-18 in Support of Prop 30 and 55, Education Protection Funds Act (Cypress Charter High School)

It is recommended that the Board adopt Resolution #20-18 to approve usage of the funds made available from Proposition 30 and Proposition 55 for educational expenditures within the County Office of Education's budgets.

It was M.S.C. to approve (Barr/Filicetti) to adopt Resolution #20-18.

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

8.9 Resolution #20-19 in Support of Equity and Anti-Racism in Schools

The board was be asked to consider adoption of Resolution #20-19 in Support of Equity and Anti-Racism in Schools in recognition of the historic, systemic violence and discrimination experienced by Black communities and all communities of color. This resolution would support the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's efforts to develop equitable educational policies and practices that help disrupt the structures of racism in schools. Trustee Van Allen

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introduced this item, emphasized the importance of equity and anti-racism in schools, and expressed appreciation for Trustee Filicetti's work to help research and write the resolution.

It was M.S.C. to approve (Nichols/Filicetti) to adopt Resolution #20-19.

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

8.10 Resolution #20-20 In Support of Protection of State Education Funding

The Board was asked to consider adoption of Resolution #20-20 in support of the protection of California funding for public schools in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Trustee Filicetti introduced this item.

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

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

8.11 Resolution #20-21 In Support of Protection of Federal Education Funding

The Board was asked to consider adoption of Resolution #20-21 in support of the protection of federal funding for public schools in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Trustee Filicetti introduced this item.

It was M.S.C. to approve (Nichols/Filicetti) to adopt Resolution #20-21 pending an amendment to specify "The Santa Cruz County Office of Education" where needed.

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

8.12 PUBLIC HEARING Adopt Santa Cruz County Office of Education 2020-2021 Budget

The Board conducted a public hearing to solicit recommendations and comments from members of the public regarding the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's 2020 - 2021 Budget.

President Roth opened the public hearing and explained the procedures for the item. President Roth then invited Interim Deputy Superintendent, Rebecca Olker, to make an opening presentation. Following the presentation, President Roth invited comments from the public. No public comments were made. President Roth then closed the hearing and announced the Board will consider the decision in the next agenda item.

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8.13 Approval of 2020-2021 Budget

Following a Public Hearing held on June 18, 2020 to solicit recommendation and comments from members of the public regarding the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's 2020 - 2021 Budget, it was requested that the Board adopt the Budget as presented.

Trustee Barr spoke to the gravity of the impact COVID-19 may have on the COE's budget, and expressed concern about the need for strict and careful budgeting over the next few years. Superintendent Sabbah concurred. Trustee Barr recommended the Board consider hosting a Board budget workshop to review the budget further.

It was M.S.C. to approve (Filicetti/Sales) to adopt the 2020-2021 Budget as submitted.

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

8.14 Schedule Special June 25th Meeting

It was agendized that the Board would consider scheduling a Special Board Meeting on June 25, 2020, to comply with Education Code 52062(b)(2), to consider the adoption of the 2020-2021 annual budget. Because the Board approved the budget in item #8.13, this item was tabled.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

10. TRUSTEE REPORTS (3 minutes each)

Trustee Sanchez attended meetings of the Board Charter Subcommittee and COE all-staff meetings.

Trustee Sales attended the Future of Education webinar event hosted by Santa Cruz Works which featured guest panelist, Superintendent Sabbah.

President Roth attended meetings of the Agenda Committee and COE all-staff meetings.

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

Trustee Filicetti attended Santa Cruz Operational COVID-19 calls, COE all-staff meetings, a Capitol Advisors Governor's May Revise workshop, a CSBA Brainstorming Session, a CORE Coffee Chat regarding a Guided Tour of DataShare Santa Cruz County, a June 2nd Edsource Webinar "Distance Learning 2.0: Adapting What Has Worked as PVUSD Looks Ahead", a Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR) webinar "Back to School: What Parents Can Expect and Policymakers Should Do" panel discussion, a meeting of the Board Agenda Committee, and attended the Future of Education webinar event hosted by Santa Cruz Works which featured guest panelist, Superintendent Sabbah.

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

None.

12. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND COMING EVENTS

Santa Cruz County Board of Education

Regular Meeting (Virtual)

July 16, 2020

4:00 p.m.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The Board President adjourned the meeting at 9:51 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.

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