

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Santa Cruz County Office of Education
400 Encinal Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Regular Board Meeting
August 18, 2011
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Board Room

APPROVED MINUTES

1.0 ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Board Present

Jack Dilles
Aaron Hinde
Arnold Levine
Gina Locatelli
Vic Marani
Dana Sales
George Bud Winslow
Michael Watkins, Secretary

Staff Present

Bryan Wall
Theresa Rouse
Mary Hart
Cindy O'Conner
Sandy Mast
Nohemi Macias
John Rice
Kyle Rucker
Brunella Deeds
Cathy Potts-Sales
Eric Sanders
JoAnn Allen

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Superintendent Watkins led recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Action # 857

Ayes: Unanimous
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

4.0 REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There were no remarks from the audience.

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

It was M.S.C. (Dilles/Winslow) to approve the consent agenda, with an amendment to the minutes of the July 21, 2011 Board meeting to reflect that Trustee Sales recused himself in the matter of 11.0, 11.1, and 11.2.

- 5.0.1 Minutes of Board Meeting of July 21, 2011
- 5.0.2 Routine Budget Revisions
- 5.0.3 Donations
- 5.0.4 Resolution 11-10 Board Member Absence

Ayes: Dilles, Hinde, Levine, Locatelli, Marani, Sales, Winslow
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

5.1 DEFERRED CONSENT ITEMS (if required)

There were no deferred consent items.

6.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

E-mail correspondence, dated August 1, 2011, from Ken Wagman, regarding Pacific Collegiate School annual fund drive.

George Wylie, San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District Board member, addressed the Board, indicating he concurred with Mr. Wagman's correspondence. After further discussion, Board members requested a copy of the letter Pacific Collegiate School sent to parents requesting donations.

8.0 REPORTS/DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

8.1 Program Report: Alternative Education Programs

Sandy Mast, Senior Director of Alternative Education, provided an overview and highlights of Alternative Education programs.

Alternative Education runs 23 programs on 17 different sites throughout Santa Cruz County, serving students in grades 7-12.

Ms. Mast noted that our Alternative Education students' grade rates are in the top ten percent of similar programs statewide.

This year Alternative Education will expand their services, opening Ponderosa Community School, located in Ben Lomond. Ponderosa will have a "green" focus. There will also be an online academy school, and the Oasis program will move to the Cabrillo College campus. S.O.S., a drop-out prevention program, will expand to the Cabrillo College Watsonville campus.

Ms. Mast reported that, in addition to the 400 Alternative Education Students attending summer school, Alternative Education also served 500 students from local school districts, who would not have graduated otherwise.

8.2 Constitution Day Activities

Trustee Locatelli reported on the activities and events planned for the Constitution Day essay contest. Trustee Locatelli distributed flyers and posters to promote the event, noting that Francisco Diaz, Education Chair of the Santa Cruz County Fair, had distributed a number of posters to schools. KSCO has also agreed to produce and air a commercial, featuring different community leaders reading an amendment. Trustee Locatelli noted another positive benefit of this event is that SCCOE is forming partnerships with service organizations. Trustee Locatelli reported that \$1,300 had been raised to date.

8.3 Write-Start/Stuff the Bus Backpack Project

JoAnn Allen introduced Nohemi Macias, Program Coordinator, Student Support Services. Ms. Macias reported that she coordinates the Write-Start/ Stuff the Bus Project, which supplies homeless and low-income students with new backpacks and school supplies.

Ms. Macias stated the program began in 1989, and since has provided 22,600 backpacks to students in need, noting that last year there were 3,300 homeless children received backpacks and school supplies throughout the year. Three years ago SCCOE partnered with United Way to assist with the program. Ms. Macias noted the project would not be possible without the community involvement and volunteers.

8.4 Superintendent's Report

County Superintendent of Schools, Michael C. Watkins, will provided an update on activities and matters of interest since his report of July 21, 2011:

Tom Torlakson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

State Superintendent Tom Torlakson is planning a visit to Santa Cruz County to meet with superintendents and local school board trustees. This visit has just been confirmed today therefore we are in the preliminary stages of organizing a luncheon meeting and will release information as it becomes available.

New Superintendents – Soquel, Pacific, and Scotts Valley

Superintendent Watkins met with Henry Castaniada, Soquel Union Elementary; Eric Bitter, Pacific Elementary; and Penny Weaver, Scotts Valley Unified to welcome them to the County and to advise them of the services that our office can offer to their districts.

Annual Managers Retreat

The annual Managers Retreat was held yesterday. Managers reviewed updated information on key messages, mission statement, strategic vision, beliefs, and discussed ways in which to implement the strategic areas of focus.

Bostwick Children's Center Open House

An open house was held at the new Bostwick Children's Center which is housed at the Chrysalis Autism Center in Live Oak. It is a community preschool program which allows for more preschool availability for county residents and mainstreaming opportunities for the Chrysalis program.

Kate Kinsella Workshop

Nearly 300 educators gathered at the Coconut Grove for a presentation by Kate Kinsella on *Improving Education for English Language Learners: Research-Based Approaches*. Ms. Kinsella presented in the morning and attendees spent the afternoon working in groups to discuss strategies to take back to their classrooms.

Administrator Kick Off

174 administrators attended the annual leadership event presented this year by Sue Gendron, International Center for Leadership in Education. Her presentation was entitled *Planning for the Common Core Standards & Next Generation Assessments*. In an effort to assist the districts in this time of financial challenges, the COE hosted this event as well as, the Kate Kinsella workshop, free of charge for in-county educators.

Arts & Education in the Local Jails

Superintendent Watkins met with County Sheriff Wowak, Jack Bowers of the William James Association, Mark Hodges and Jim Howes of our Regional Occupational Programs to discuss new educational opportunities for inmates in the County jail facilities. He continues to meet with the taskforce looking at how to integrate those being returned from state facilities to local facilities.

BASTA – Broadbased Apprehension Suppression Treatment and Alternatives

Law enforcement, judicial, education and community leaders met to discuss next steps in the continuing work to address youth and gang violence in our community. The formation of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council is moving forward as individual community governmental organizations sign on to support the re-formation of the council. The regional teams continue to meet to address specific problems and situations in their area.

CCSESA Executive Director Search

Superintendent Watkins participated in the interview process for the new executive director for CCSESA (California County Superintendents Educational Services Association.) Three very talented people were interviewed and Peter Birdsall was appointed to the position. He is a well-respected advocate and consultant for education. He has worked both in the private sector consulting on education and in the California Department of Education. He is known for his ability to develop strong relations with key education agencies and legislative leaders.

CCSESA – California County Superintendents Educational Services Association

As the newly elected President Elect for CCSESA, Superintendent Watkins attended my first Board of Directors meeting on August 8th to welcome Peter Birdsall to the position of Executive Director for CCSESA. The Board of Directors meets regularly to discuss evolving issues in education, legislation, and current topics of concern to schools and county offices.

CALMHSA K-12 Mental Health Prevention and Early Intervention Initiative (Prop 64)

CCSESA has received final approval to move forward with the mental health initiative funded by Prop 64. Our office will be the lead agency for Region V which includes Monterey, Santa Clara, San Benito and Santa Cruz County. We will receive a \$1,000,000 grant to identify needs and resources within the region to build capacity for training and technical assistance. The grant is to provide early intervention with a focus on kindergarten through eighth grade by building relationships between local agencies to develop an effective referral process.

CCSESA State & Federal Legislative Committee

In today's phone conference with the CCSESA State & Federal Legislative Committee, one of the main topics of discussion was the mid-year trigger for cuts to education. The triggers are based on revenues meeting expectations and the placing of a ballot measure on the November 2012 ballot. There is a potential for another \$1.5 billion cut to education bringing the total cuts over the last three years to nearly \$20 billion. Key dates: December 15th, Department of Finance will assess revenue estimates to see if the triggers will be engaged and February 1, 2012 the cuts would actually occur.

Second Harvest Foodbank Facility Dedication & Grand Opening

Superintendent Watkins was honored to be one of the speakers for the dedication and grand opening of the new Second Harvest Foodbank facility. This organization does an amazing job of ensuring that families are fed countywide. Over the past several years, their commitment has grown and the community has answered their call by supporting their mission to feed children and their families.

Positive Discipline Community Resources

The Santa Cruz County Office of Education will be sponsoring a series of parent education classes entitled *Positive Discipline for Parenting Teenagers*. The classes will be offered in both English and Spanish and will take place in both North and South County.

Santa Cruz County College Commitment

Another planning meeting was held for the Santa Cruz County College Commitment. Plans are coming together and a press conference is tentatively scheduled for September to introduce and explain the program to the community.

Santa Cruz County Pro

Superintendent Watkins met with Norma Milete, Santa Cruz County Association of Realtors to discuss my participation in their education series Santa Cruz County Pro. They have asked me to speak to the Association members in December regarding the future of education and our local districts in the next 10-15 years.

Child Welfare Services Systems Improvement Planning (SIP)

Theresa Rouse, Educational Services represented our office at the Child Welfare Services SIP meeting. Update information on federal, state and county budgets was presented along with a review of progress on the 2011-2014 SIP Strategic Plan. An overview and evaluation of the Families Together program were presented.

Tannery Arts Reception

Superintendent Watkins attended the Tannery Reception this past month with a focus on engaging the community to support the continuing renovations to the Tannery site including the construction and remodeling for performance arts facilities. The Board is planning ongoing fundraising opportunities to create this amazing arts resource for the entire Santa Cruz County community.

Firelight Foundation

Superintendent Watkins met with Peter Laugharn, executive director, the Firelight Foundation. The foundation works to help children in Africa affected by AIDS and poverty. He was speaking to him in regards to partnering with the foundation and the local Model United Nations organization to bring a more global awareness to high school students.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Orientation Day

The staff will be meeting on Monday, August 29th at the Coconut Grove for our annual welcome back to the school year event. Food service begins at 7:45 a.m. with the program to begin at 8:30. We will once again recognize employees for longevity, introduce new employees, and have a guest presentation. Trustees are invited to attend.

Countywide Board Dinner

Superintendents and their trustees have been invited to a Countywide Board Dinner to be held on September 7th at the Coconut Grove at 6:00 p.m. John Watson, Evergreen Education Group and Michael Horn, Innosight Institute will give presentations on 21st Century Learning. The County Office will again host this event free of cost to the districts. We are looking forward to a very informative evening with these two experts in the field.

Soquel Union Elementary School

At the invitation of Superintendent Henry Castanaida, Superintendent Watkins will be speaking on Supporting Our Children at their district-wide staff meeting on August 22nd.

League of Woman Voters

On September 16th, Superintendent Watkins will be speaking to the League of Woman Voters on *Confronting Issues and Creating Solutions for Schools in the 21st Century*. The luncheon meeting will take place in our Tech Center and a flier is attached for your information. (flyer attached)

FoodWhat

Tonight Superintendent Watkins will be attending the FoodWhat End of Summer party to celebrate their work with students, including ours. They have a garden to table program where students learn all the ins and outs of raising their own food. Students will share their experiences and the impact of this program on their lives.

ACSA Welcome Back Event

Each year, the local chapter of ACSA, Association of California Administrators Association, holds a breakfast meeting to bring together administrators from Santa Cruz, San Benito, and Monterey county to share new information and set the tone for the new year.

Inside Education

Inside Education's schedule of meetings is attached to your copy of the superintendent's report. The monthly meetings will begin on September 21st with a look at preschool education. If you know of anyone who might be interested in attending this series that educates the public about all aspects of education, please let us know so we can put them in contact with the program's coordinator. Every year we receive rave reviews from participants who thank us for the opportunity to learn about such a variety of topics regarding education. (dates attached)

Monthly Meetings

Superintendents Council

CCSESA Finance Committee

Children's Network Executive Committee

Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance

SECA – Special Education Coordinating Council

Children's Network

Museum of Art & History Taskforce

Migrant Headstart Board

8.5 Trustee Reports (3 minutes each)

Trustee Levine reported that he attended the Administrator Kick-Off event, featuring Kate Kinsella.

Trustee Winslow reported that he also attended the Administrator Kick-Off.

Trustee Dilles reported that he attended the BASTA meeting and was impressed with the broad representation at the meeting. He noted that Superintendent Watkins has been a great leader in this effort, getting the community to care about the same thing together. Mr. Dilles noted that San Jose has best practices in place, and the BASTA group is going to review for what they may be able to glean from them. Trustee Dilles also attended a welcome event for new superintendent to the Scotts Valley Unified School District, Penny Weaver.

Trustee Locatelli reported that she attended the Community Foundation 211 Event. She also attended a Cabrillo Host Lion meeting to promote the Constitution Day essay contest, noting that the organization donated \$500. Trustee Locatelli attended a "Save the Santa Cruz Fair" rally, with more than 160 in attendance. She is also working on building at the fair, and distributed fliers seeking volunteers, noting it is an excellent opportunity for community service.

Trustee Sales attended the grand opening of Assemblyman Luis Alejo's regional office .

Trustee Hinde reported that he met with Superintendent Penny Weaver; volunteered at the Scotts Valley Art and Wine Festival; had a productive trip to Los Angeles regarding childhood obesity. Trustee Hinde also reported that there will be a fundraiser for the Scotts Valley High School Falcon Club on October 1st at 11:00 a.m. There is an official SCCOE bocce ball team, and he is soliciting volunteers from the Board to participate.

President Marani reported that he attended the Cabrillo Host Lions meeting with Trustee Locatelli to promote the Constitution Day activities. He will also be attending a charter school task force meeting in Sacramento. Mr. Marani noted that he had received positive feedback on the coordination of school calendars this year, and thanked Deputy Superintendent, Bryan Wall for leading this effort.

President Marani asked for a moment of silence to remember Tom Milnes, beloved Scotts Valley Middle School teacher and husband of Jeanne Milnes, a teacher in Alternative Education.

9.0 NEW BUSINESS and ACTION ITEMS

9.1 Santa Cruz County College Commitment

Theresa Rouse, Ed.D., Associate Superintendent, Educational Services, Gave a presentation on the Santa Cruz County Education Partnership's commitment to provide information, services, and resources to assist Santa Cruz County students and their families prepare for college.

9.2 Adopt Resolution 11-11, Santa Cruz County College Commitment

After discussion, it was M.S.C. (Hinde/Winslow) to adopt resolution 11-11, Santa Cruz College Commitment.

Action # 857

Ayes: Dilles, Hinde, Levine, Locatelli, Marani, Sales, Winslow
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

9.3 Nomination(s) California School Boards Association 2011 Director-at-Large, American Indian, Black or County

Trustees discussed qualifications and biography's on candidates. After further discussion Trustee Levine moved to nominate Sara Wilkins for the position of Director-at-Large, County. There was no second on the motion, and the motion was lost.

Trustee Sales stated that actual election of this person will be done by the Delegate Assembly. The Board is being asked to vote on a nominee, and he believes that Ms. Wilkins' own county would nominate her, and therefore this item should not be on the SCCOE agenda at all.

After discussion, it was M.S.C. (Sales/Winslow) to let our duly appointed representative cast his vote at CSBA.

Ayes: Hinde, Levine, Locatelli, Sales, Winslow
Nays: None
Abstain: Dilles, Marani
Absent: None

10.0 AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS (if any)

Solar Committee:

Mary Hart, CBO/Associate Superintendent, Business Services reported that there have been meetings with two companies. These companies have provided data on what they can do in this building, but have not yet provided information on potential savings. We will convene a meeting of the solar ad hoc committee prior to the September Board meeting.

Policy Committee:

Trustee Dilles reported that we are currently working on coordinating dates with CSBA to conduct a workshop on policy revisions and updates.

President Marani reported that Trustee Hinde will be an Alternate for Trustee Dilles to attend BASTA meetings.

11.0 ADDITIONS, IF ANY, TO FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

It was requested that a report on supplemental/increased services provided by SCCOE to districts be placed on the September 8, 2011 agenda.

12.0 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS and COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, September 7, 2011 6:00 p.m.	Superintendent and School Board Member Professional Development Dinner Cocoanut Grove, Santa Cruz
Thursday, September 8, 2011 4:00 p.m.	Regular Meeting of the County Board of Education Santa Cruz County Office of Education
September 9 – 11, 2011	CCBE Fall Conference Hyatt Regency, Monterey
Thursday, October 20, 2011	Regular Meeting of the County Board of Education Santa Cruz County Office of Education
Thursday, November 17, 2011	Regular Meeting of the County Board of Education Santa Cruz County Office of Education
TBD	CSBA Policy Workshop
TBD	Board Retreat

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

President Marani adjourned the meeting at 4:20.