NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 10, 2011
4:00 p.m.

Nevada County Superintendent of Schools
Houser Conference Room
112 Nevada City Highway, Nevada City, CA  95959

Minutes

I. Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. Established quorum
Altieri   present
Meeks    present
Slade-Troutman present
Michael  present
Voss     present

III. Salute to the flag was led by Shelly Sexton.

IV. Additions to the Agenda – none.

V. Adoption of the Agenda
On a motion by Slade-Troutman and seconded by Voss, the agenda was adopted as presented. The Motion was unanimously approved.

VI. Opened public forum

VII. Closed public forum

VIII. Presentation
Supt. Hermansen introduced RJ Guess, the new Executive Director for Muir Charter. RJ has been the Deputy Director for the past 8 years at Muir and we are fortunate to have him. Muir currently has 44 schools. Their ADA continues to grow; 600 students in 2003 to 1,296 in 2011. RJ appreciates the support from NCSOS, including the charter business staff.

IX. Approval of the Consent Agenda
These items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. They will be acted upon by the Board at one time without discussion, unless a trustee or citizen requests that an item be removed for discussion and separate consideration. In that case the designated item(s) will be considered following approval of the remaining items.

A. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting of July 13, 2011

B. Confirmation of School Attendance Review Board (SARB)

On a motion by Michael and seconded by Voss, the Consent Agenda was adopted as presented. The Motion was unanimously approved.

X. Action Items –
A. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education accept the 2011/12 45 Day revise based on the State’s adoption of the budget?

Fitting provided a memo detailing information of the 2011/12 45 day revise.
On a motion by Slade-Troutman and seconded by Voss, the 2011/12 45 Day revise based on the State’s adoption of the budget was adopted as presented. The Motion was unanimously approved.

XI. Discussion / Information Items

A. Status Update on Sierra Montessori Academy (SMA) Charter

Supt. Hermansen introduced Henry Bietz, Interim Director for SMA and Pam Down, Business Manager for SMA. The Board was reminded that they had recently approved a 1 year extension for SMA based on the improvement of leadership; increased enrollment; financials being met; and a new facility which may result in more students.

Since the Board approved the one-year extension of the charter, several issues have come to the attention of the County Office.

Supt. Hermansen and Donna Fitting shared concerns with the Board relating to a change in funding status, a change in leadership and CASH flow issues. They also indicated to the board that they did not feel revocation appropriate at this time, but the Board needs to be aware of the concerns.

The Board held a detailed discussion of these concerns.

The County Office will continue close monitoring of SMA.

B. Discussion of Charter Schools Performance on State Testing

Supt. Hermansen provided a summary of the Charter schools STAR results which included the years 2008; 2009; and 2010; the STAR Results for Nevada County and California; and the Nevada County CAHSEE 2010/11 10th grade results by school.

C. AB 3632: Provision of Mental health Services to Students with Disabilities

AB 3632 provided funds for mental health services for students with disabilities to flow through the County Office of Education to Behavioral Health. County Mental Health had the responsibility to provide services.

Current law has changed that process and educational agencies are responsible for mental health services for students with disabilities. Supt. Hermansen and SELPA Director, Michelle Sexton, are working with school districts and County Behavioral Health to ensure students continue to receive services.

D. Expulsion Appeals from Sierra County

Sierra County has requested the Nevada County Board of Education to hear their expulsion appeals. The Board discussed this, and requested Supt. Hermansen to find out how the process works in other counties that do it before making a decision.

XII. Reports

A. Board member reports

1. SARB, Meeks – no report
2. Budget Review Committee, Slade-Troutman/Meeks – no report
3. Legislative, Voss – no report
4. NCSBA, Michael – Teacher of the Year dinner is set for 10/27/11 at 5:00 p.m.; an inspirational movie, “Celebrate What’s Right in the World,” in lieu of a speaker, will be shown.
5. Charter Schools Liaison, Altieri/Voss – no report
6. Individual Board member reports – no report

B. Superintendent's Report

1. Scholar Day at the Fair – Over 8000 letters, which included free admission and free popsicle coupons, were given out to districts to distribute to their scholar students. Supt. Hermansen; Stan Miller; and Judy Nielsen handed out the popsicles.

2. Facilities Update – We are still looking for a facility to be able to house all our employees under one roof. Several buildings have been looked at; and a further analysis of what we can afford will be done. Slade-Troutman reminded us that students may not be housed in a building which is in an airline flight path.

C. Staff Reports

1. Curriculum and Instruction – Miller - no report

2. Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Update – Shelly Sexton discussed the function and activities of the SELPA.

3. Business Services – Fitting reported that they are closing the books getting rady for the year end audit.

D. Future agenda items

1. Open Hearing and Resolution for Sufficiency of Instructional Materials.


3. Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant Report – Bernheimer, McGrew and Turner will report in September 2011

4. Review of Charter School oversight responsibilities and Revocation Procedures

XIII. Correspondence

A. Treasury report from Nevada County Treasurer and Tax Collector detailing the Portfolio of investments for NCSoS as of June 30, 2011

B. NCSoS staff phone extensions and e-mail addresses as of August 3, 2011.

Adjournment at 6:45 p.m.

Next Meeting Date:

WEDNESDAY, September 14, 2011, time 5:00 p.m., 112 Nevada City Highway, Nevada City

Approved: _____________________________________  Date:  September 14, 2011___

Robert Altieri, President