

**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 9, 2014**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Nevada County Superintendent of Schools**

**Houser Conference Room**

112 Nevada City Highway, Nevada City, CA 95959

**MINUTES**

**I. Meeting called to order** by Board President Michael

**II. Established quorum**

Bob Altieri	Present
Jack Meeks	Present
Tracy Lapierre	Present
Marianne Slade-Troutman	Present
Trevor Michael	Present

**III. Salute to the flag**

**IV. Additions to the Agenda none**

**V. Adoption of the Agenda**

Slade-Troutman passed out her letter which was left out of the board packet March 12, 2014 minutes in error.

**On a motion by Slade-Troutman and seconded by Lapierre, the Agenda was adopted as presented. Motion passed 5 ayes.**

**VI. Opened public forum** – Recognition of members of the audience wishing to address the Board – none.

**VII. Closed public forum**

**VIII. Presentation**

A. Sierra College Child Development Center, Morgan Best

Best walked the Board through a powerpoint presentation. A partnership between NCSOS, Head Start/Early Head Start, First 5 Nevada County, and Sierra College enables the CDC to provide an exemplary learning environment for children of college students and community members.

The program provides an observation gallery opportunity for Sierra College students enrolled in the Early Childhood Education Program. In addition Ghidotti Early College High School student's volunteer time which helps meets their community services requirements.

Accomplishments include a 5 Star Rating from the Local Planning Council's Quality Rating Project. The CDC's Head Start program has been rated in the top 10% out of 10's of thousands HS programs throughout the U.S.

## **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 Board member 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 March 12, 2014 (*page 1*)
- B. During the first quarter of 2014 January-March, there were no complaints filed to be reported, pursuant to Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures (*E.C. 1240(H): Board Policy 1312.3 – Uniform Complaint Procedures*) (*page 9*)

**On a motion by Altieri and seconded by Slade-Troutman, the consent Agenda was approved. Motion passed 5 ayes.**

## **X. Staff Reports**

- A. Alternative Education, Sanford

Sanford provided updates on enrollment and attendance. Currently focused on testing – CAHSEE and CAASPP. Computer lab and system is working great. LCAP update was provided by Shar Johns. A summer school presentation will follow later in the meeting.

- B. Educational Services, Johns

Handed out newsletter introduced Kathleen Kiefer and Chris Espedal.

1. Kathleen Kiefer, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability

Kiefer, originally from Cottage Hill Elementary, holds a Master's in Education and Instructional practices and is very excited for the opportunity to be able to touch lives of hundreds of students.

Plans include visiting every campus; creating a library of services she will be able to offer; with a goal of districts being able to 'check her in and out' as needed. This is an important link which currently doesn't exist. Time will be taken to work shoulder-to-shoulder directly with teachers or on teams to help the school districts with their needs.

Three English Language Arts Spring Workshops are scheduled which are FREE to Nevada County Educators. Common Core State Standards Summer Workshops are also being planned.

A team of 8 energetic Common Core Coaches have been hired, representing eight different schools. They will help sites immediately with their needs. Site requests were taken and services will be tailored to needs.

A monthly newsletter for teachers will be completed; and *LiveBinders* are being updated constantly. Meeks requested information to the *LiveBinders*. Johns will send out link and access code to all Board members. Interest in what we are doing has been expressed outside our county; Johns will be speaking in Sacramento about our model.

Michael expressed concern that copyright laws are being followed and asked whether we need to have an intellectual property policy for example *LiveBinders*; Johns will research the copyright laws.

2. Chris Espedal, Safety and Schools Climate Coordinator

Espedal brings 13 years of health and emergency preparedness experience; and also holds a certification in *Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)*. Espedal has

been meeting with school districts and law enforcement. A comprehensive safety plan template was created and shared with school districts. In collaboration with other Nevada County agencies, Espedal was asked to represent Nevada County school systems attending training in creating a plan for a mass crisis.

With regards to School Climate, Espedal will become a PBIS trainer; introduce a framework for school climate; and is in collaboration with Nevada County Behavioral Health.

C. Business Services, Fitting

School districts 2<sup>nd</sup> Interim were reviewed, and there are 10 positive districts. Multi-year projection looks good. The Business Office is currently awaiting the May Revise, the next update to the Governor's Budget.

There were two staff member vacancies; one has been filled; the 2<sup>nd</sup> position recruitment did not turn out a qualified candidate.

**XI. Superintendent's Report**

A. PVSD/RSSD Consolidation Update: Penn Valley Union Elementary School District

Consolidation is moving forward; the new Board is meeting regularly working on a variety of issues.

B. Penn Valley Union Elementary School District Superintendent Search

Flyers have gone out. The position is posted. Surveys have gone to staff and community members. Supt. Hermansen is meeting with the Board again on May 8<sup>th</sup>. We are moving forward with the plan to have the new superintendent in place by July 1, 2014.

C. Spring into Health

A nine week Spring Wellness Program for all NCSOS employees has been introduced. The program includes tracking points for a variety of fitness and mental health areas; prizes are awarded; healthy potlucks are well attended.

**XII. Public Hearing**

A. Opened public hearing regarding the Submission of Petition for Consideration of Approval of Countywide Charter from Farmworkers Institute on Education and Leadership Development (FIELD) for the Escuela Popular Instituto Campesino de Cesar Chavez (EPIC) (*page 10*)

Roxanne Gilpatric, NCSD Superintendent, is interested in finding out where EPIC will operate. If they will be in Nevada County, what grade level will they serve? If grades 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade are served in Nevada County Gilpatric is opposed.

B. Closed public hearing

**XIII. Action Items**

A. Review of petition of Countywide benefit Charter for Farmworkers Institute on Education and Leadership Development (FIELD) for the Escuela Popular Instituto Campesino de Cesar Chavez (EPIC). (*page 11*)

David Villarino, President and CEO of FIELD, thanked the Board for the opportunity to present FIELD as a Countywide Charter. FIELD is a 501(c)3 based in San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys. Currently there are 3 sites; an additional site will be located in

Nevada County, as this is a requirement of being authorized as a Countywide Charter. EPIC's Nevada County site will serve approximately 15 students; grade 12; ages 18 and above; typically these students have dropped out of high school. EPIC plans to grow at a sustainable rate, setting a growth target rate; and not have any deficits or debts.

FIELD's mission is to promote social prosperity for the workforce in rural communities, recognizing there are fewer resources available in the rural areas.

Since 2002 FIELD has served over 35,000 students in rural communities. Programs focus on literacy and English as a Second Language (ESL) using Core Values. Current career pathways offered are for teaching and child care; next will be solar panel green construction and natural resources trade, to prepare students to be able to acquire college degrees for Forestry and National Park Service. Looking into the future, programs include automotive; agriculture; entrepreneurship; and healthcare.

FIELD exclusively works with 10 community colleges around the State delivering outstanding programs. Contracting with community colleges, FIELD now offers credit classes for students. A *Workforce Investment Act (WIA)* Grant was received from the State for FIELD Programs.

RJ Guess, Muir Charter Director, advised that FIELD will contract with Muir as consultants; and noted that Muir is working in partnership with FIELD, there is no competition. This partnership is beneficial to both FIELD and Muir.

Villarino has done preliminary presentations for several Nevada County agencies; whom have indicated there could be 18+ clients to refer to EPIC.

Working closely with FIELD, Supt. Hermansen explained the review process of the COE staff and referred the Board to the two conditions which must be found for Board approval and for meeting the requirements of a Countywide Charter.

Supt. Hermansen called out the requirement for EC47605.6(1) on Teacher Credentialing, noting that FIELD needs to have qualified teachers.

The next section, EC4705.6(a)(1) required a site located in Nevada County. Villarino noted there will be a location in Nevada County. EPIC is working with John Muir on this.

The next condition, regarding providing educational services to a pupil population that will benefit from those services and cannot be served as well by a charter school that operates in only one school district in the county's requirement, was met.

With regards to the signatures required by 47605.6(a) these were included in the Boards March 12<sup>th</sup> packet – the requirement was met.

Michael led the Board through each finding and guidelines for meeting the requirements of a Countywide Charter. The Board found the Charter School meets all the findings.

**Shall the Nevada County Board of Education Approve the petition of Countywide benefit Charter for Farmworkers Institute on Education and Leadership Development (FIELD) for the Escuela Popular Instituto Campesino de Cesar Chavez (EPIC)?**

**On a motion by Altieri and seconded by Meeks, the Nevada County Board of Education Approved the petition of Countywide benefit Charter for Farmworkers Institute on Education and Leadership Development (FIELD) for the Escuela Popular Instituto Campesino de Cesar Chavez (EPIC). Motion passed 5 ayes.**

- B. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education approve the Annual Donation for NCSBA dues in the amount of \$100? (*page 92*)

**On a motion by Altieri and seconded by Slade-Troutman, the Nevada County Board of Education approved the Annual Donation for NCBSA dues in the amount of \$100. Motion passed 5 ayes.**

- C. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education approve the proposal for Summer Learning Program at Earle Jamieson (*page 93*)

Johns advised this program provides a credit recovery opportunity and the mandated CAHSEE intervention instruction.

**On a motion by Slade-Troutman and seconded by Lapierre, the Nevada County Board of Education approved the proposal for Summer Learning Program at Earle Jamieson. Motion passed 5 ayes.**

- D. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education schedule a special meeting for either June 4<sup>th</sup> or June 12<sup>th</sup> for Public Hearings for LCAP and Budget?

**On a motion by Slade-Troutman and seconded by Michael, the Nevada County Board of Education scheduled a special meeting for June 12th at 2 PM for Public Hearings for LCAP and Budget. Motion passed 5 ayes.**

#### **XIV. Information/Discussion Items**

- A. John Muir Charter School Renewal Petition (*page 96*)

RJ Guess, Director, advised Muir's Charter Petition is up for renewal on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The petition has been updated and incorporates the 8 State priorities. Muir has grown remarkably strong since starting in 2002; from 400 students to 1600 students and expecting 2014/15 to grow to 2000.

Standards and benchmarks driven with skills remediation, creating a higher quality educated student ready to move on. Muir is fiscally conservative and their reserve balance is maintained. Business services received from NCSOS are great; Guess maintains what makes a great charter, is a great authorizer.

- B. Budget Review

NCSOS Program Budget reviews (*page 166*)

Michael thanked the business office for creating the program budgets.

Meeks' had questioned the General Fund Budget, line 51, Professional Services/Postage during the March Board meeting. Michael presented a report, which he had requested the business office create, highlighting some of these expenditures.

Michael drew the Boards attention to Line 20, column CM which indicates the total budget for NCSOS which the Board has operational control over, \$6,512,056 million. Directly to the left shows 60%, this signifies how much we have received of that \$6,512,056 million. NCSOS is shy by 15% or \$1,000,000 of what we should have received. The end of the year is not here yet, if we had spent the money that represents three quarters of what we could spend, depending on the terms of the contract or payroll, we could've ended up with cash flow obligations with no money to cover.

These break-downs provide a sense of what's going on in the NCSOS office and the costs associated in those programs.

Discussion followed regarding legal fees, noting they could be higher this year as our attorneys have been consulted for a variety of matters. Looking on line 60, the surplus highlights the money we've received and spend, coming out \$228K ahead. The significance of that, on page 168, line 25 indicates the estimated distribution summary of

services provided to Charters, column F, \$1.354,364 million. The most relevant point, line 58 column F you see that at the end of the year NCSOS has created a surplus of nearly \$700,000. Even though we charge Charters, as it turns out we don't spend all they money they pay us. We have nearly \$700k over and above what they give us and contract us for. However, line 60, you can see, we only come out ahead by \$225k; indicating that nearly \$500k of this is being used in other programs. For example, Earle Jamieson and Sierra College CDC we are spending more than what is received.

Clarifying the line titles, Fitting explained that the State gives accounting code structure; SACS dictates labels. Some labels our office can change; some cannot be changed.

In looking at these program budgets, we can expect to see budget adjustments in May. A review of programs; deficits; FRC's losing half of their budget; any additional services needed; and supporting local needs will be considered.

Michael expressed the importance of the Board focusing on key elements. The Board will need to decide whether to help sustain the FRC's; staff recommendations are needed.

C. Draft LCAP Presentation (*page 180*)

Johns walked the Board through the draft LCAP for Sugarloaf Mtn. Juvenile Hall Program and Earle Jamieson Educational Options, providing an overview of this collaborative effort. Three sections are required to be completed using the provided template, which was approved by the State Board of Education.

Michael noted the Description of Goals on page 183; Johns advised that they will be working individually with each student and that goals must be identified. It's challenging to create metrics and attendance goals. In reporting on measurement, next year, there will be different students.

D. By-Laws of the Board (*page 201*)

Slade-Troutman made a request to Michael for a closed session on personnel. Michael advised Slade-Troutman that closed session is not allowed for personnel issues, as the Board does not have any employees. Closed session is restricted by state law; examples could include *Real Property or Litigation*.

Slade-Troutman wants to discuss issue publically, but did not want to explain at this time.

**XV. Board Reports**

A. SARB, Lapierre

Lapierre wanted to point out how Marty Mathiesen goes out of his way to help kids.

B. Legislative, *Meeks* – no report.

C. NCSBA, *Michael* – no report.

D. Charter Liaison, *Altieri* – no report.

E. Individual Board Reports – none.

**XVI. Future Agenda Items**

A. SELPA Update – Eli Gallup

B. LCAP and 2014/15 NCSOS Budget Public Hearing

**XVII. Correspondence**

A. NCSBA Forum – *Technology: Implications of New State Testing System on School Districts in Nevada County and Technology Related Issues (page 222)*

B. Speech Tournament Finals Report (*page 223*)

C. Fiscal Reports (*page 224*)

**XVIII. Adjournment** at 5:40 PM

Next Meeting Date: May 14, 2014: Board Budget Workshop 12:30 PM;  
Board of Education Meeting 2:00 PM,  
112 Nevada City Highway, Nevada City

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Trevor Michael, President

Date: May 14, 2014