

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, May 14, 2014
12:30 p.m. Budget Workshop
2:00 p.m. Board of Education Meeting
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. Budget workshop (page 1)

Donna Fitting led the Board through a power point presentation for the Budget Workshop and reported on the May Revise, that COE's would be fully funded in 2014-15, with an additional \$536,000 in COE funds; noting an additional unknown liability for STRS. Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) were discussed.

Management proposals for budget development included the following: Staff salary increase of 4%; Increased LCAP requirements; Mini grants to teachers and schools; Grant writer to sustain FRC's/SSHS activities; Step up to Kindergarten readiness in partnership with First 5; PBIS Training; Summer school pilot; FRC parenting classes; Nevada County Arts Council partnership; and ERC School/Business partnership. Of the new funds, \$135K is recommended to be held for unanticipated needs.

III. Established quorum

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

IV. Salute to the flag

V. Additions to the Agenda - None

VI. Adoption of the Agenda

On a motion by Slade-Troutman and seconded by Lapierre the Agenda was adopted as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. Opened public forum – Recognition of members of the audience wishing to address the board:

Don Bessee, property owner, feels the budget is on a flat trajectory and that it is not fiscally prudent to hire people in this climate and feels that staff positions should be cut.

VIII. Closed public forum

IX. Presentation

1. Nevada County's Innovative Approaches to Children's Behavioral Health Services *(page 4)*

Supt. Hermansen introduced Karl Snyder, representing Children's Behavioral Health. Nevada County Behavioral Health was recently acknowledged Statewide receiving the *2013 CSAC Challenge Award*. A video was produced highlighting Nevada County's System of Care approach to mental health services for kids, teens and their families; which was shown to the Board and audience.

Snyder noted that the *Sources of Strength* program reaches out to teens; that evidence based programs are in place; and there are school based services available now which are helping to break down barriers. Several Nevada County agencies that have contact with kids and their families meet monthly collaborating.

Slade-Troutman noted the budget allowed \$30,000 for a grant writer. Hermansen replied that as a part of her position, Marina Bernheimer has written grants. With the SSHS Grant ending, there is a need to generate more money. Bernheimer can continue to write grants using the collaborative and outcome data received.

2. SELPA – Eli Gallup, Assistant Superintendent

Gallup led the Board through a powerpoint presentation detailing goals of the SELPA; their responsibilities to the California Department of Education and their governance structure. Also described was the student population served; the Council of Superintendents'; and the different Advisory Committees in place. Currently in Nevada County approximately 1,100 students are being served.

SELPA has a solid funding model, which needs only fine tuning.

X. 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 April 9, 2014 *(page 5)*

On a motion by Slade-Troutman and seconded by Altieri the Agenda was adopted as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

XI. Staff Reports

A. Alternative Education, Sanford

Sanford reported on current attendance. The Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) will be brought before the Board next month. CAHSEE administration for May is underway. A Wildlife rehabilitation organization is visiting the school next week.

Summer school applications are coming in; 5-10 are anticipated to enroll.

B. Educational Services, Johns

Johns reported that they are fully entrenched in the school district LCAPS throughout the county. Johns and Donna Fitting will be meeting with each District CBO and Superintendent prior to their LCAP going to their Board for approval.

NCSOS Student Program Managers are doing an amazing job working with students. The Art Docent Luncheon hosted 50 volunteers. This is the first year they have gone digital and are reaching more students now. The Annual Young at Art exhibit at the Rood Center coordinated by Judy was incredible.

Chris Espedal, NCSOS Safety and School Climate, recently attended a training at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Alabama. Joining Chris were representatives from the Nevada County Public Health Department, Mental Health Department, Nevada County Office of Emergency Services, and local hospitals. Funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency the training provided planning exercises and collaboration opportunities for the trainees. Recognition was given to Nevada County for being on the cutting edge of preparedness.

Nevada County Behavioral Health Services was recently awarded state recognition for innovative children's services. One such service is the Sources of Strength (SoS) program implemented in our local high schools. SoS is an adult facilitated, student-led bully and suicide prevention program.

Comprehensive school safety plan templates were made available to all western Nevada County schools. Chris is working closely with administrators for implementing and training the adopted plans. A template for site-specific and incident-specific safety plans is also available for administrators to utilize.

Kathy Kiefer, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, represented NCSOS at Sacramento State University to present the new NCSOS coaching model to teachers and administrators. Workshops are being designed based on districts' feedback in regard to staff needs. Several workshops are planned by Kathleen and the NCSOS instructional coaches over the summer. The team will be available to deliver workshops to the districts beginning in August. Face to face conversations, phone calls, and classroom visits are helping to build relationships with teachers across the county.

Slade-Troutman asked Kiefer how she was trained. Kiefer advised she completed a Master's program; professional development; numerous trainings through PCOE & SCOE; and personal research.

C. Business Services, Fitting

The business office is busy working on the budget; supporting the districts; and getting FIELD Charter business services in place. NCSOS welcomed new staff member, Terry Tripp. NCSOS Payroll Analyst position is still open.

SMA lunch program administrative review is completed.

Board questions were answered by Fitting.

Fitting reported that the countywide financial hardware is no longer supported and a system migration to new hardware will take place, requiring a consultant.

Slade-Troutman is happy to see the mini grants for teachers in the budget recommendations.

XII. Superintendent's Report

A. Penn Valley Superintendent Search

NCSOS office is conducting the search for the new PVUESD Superintendent. Jim Shroyer, a retired Superintendent, was hired for consulting. The position closed May 2nd with 21 applicants. Of the 21, 5 candidates were selected to be interviewed on May 27th by the PVUESD Board Panel and a Staff/Community Panel. PVUESD is happy with the support being received.

XIII. Public Hearing – John Muir Charter School Renewal Petition (Action)

- A. Opened hearing regarding the renewal of John Muir Charter School Petition (EC 47607(b)) *(page 15)*. No comments received.
- B. Closed public hearing
- C. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education approve the renewal of John Muir Charter School Petition? *(page 16)*

Supt. Hermansen led the board through the three requirements for Charter Renewal. Muir came to our Board on appeal. All required documents and records were submitted; and all criteria has been met for renewal. John Muir Charter School has operated in a fiscally sound and efficient manner. They have healthy reserves which have helped them through the recent fiscal crisis and cash flow challenges. The charter school is constantly striving to improve educational opportunities for the students it serves. Management is responsive to guidance from the county office and works closely with staff in a collaborative manner. Staff feels the charter school has a high likelihood of continued success and recommends renewal.

On a motion by Altieri and seconded by Slade-Troutman, the Nevada County Board of Education approved the renewal of John Muir Charter School Petition. Motion passed 5 ayes.

XIV. Action Items

- A. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education approve the Disposal of Leasehold Improvement Assets – Sierra Montessori Academy *(page 18)*

On a motion by Slade-Troutman and seconded by Altieri, the Nevada County Board of Education approved the Disposal of Leasehold Improvement Assets – Sierra Montessori Academy. Motion passed 5 ayes.

- B. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education Approve the 2014-15 School Calendar for Earle Jamieson Educational Options and Sugarloaf Mountain Juvenile Hall Program? *(page 21)*

On a motion by Slade-Troutman and seconded by Lapierre, the Nevada County Board of Education approved the 2014-15 School Calendar for Earle Jamieson Educational Options and Sugarloaf Mountain Juvenile Hall Program. Motion passed 5 ayes.

- C. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education approve Resolution 14-05, Notice of Election and Specifications of the Election Order for election to be held on November 4, 2014? (Roll Call Vote) *(page 22)*

On a motion by Altieri and seconded by Slade-Troutman, the Nevada County Board of Education approved Resolution 14-05, Notice of Election and Specifications of the Election Order for election to be held on November 4, 2014. By roll call vote, the motion passed 5 ayes.

- D. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education approve the Notice of Board Member Election to be held on November 4, 2014? *(page 23)*

On a motion by Altieri and seconded by Slade-Troutman, the Nevada County Board of Education approved the Notice of Board Member Election to be held on November 4, 2014. Motion passed 5 ayes.

XV. Information/Discussion Items

- A. Budget Review

1. NCSOS Programs *(page 24)*

Michael walked the Board through the NCSOS Programs budgets, first referring the Board to Line 20 Column CM which indicates NCSOS is behind in collections of funds. Moving down to Line 58 Column CM indicates expenditures at 66%. These numbers should be watched so they don't flip.

STRS and PERS trajectory is significant and we will try to have staff break-out into an easy format. These costs could go up to 19%. The expectation is that fund will be fully funded by 2045. Fitting addressed questions regarding STRS and PRS.

A discussion was held regarding PERS & STRS unfunded liabilities. Health care costs are also going up. The prior policy of NCSOS was to pay for the lowest cost plan. In 2013/14 a cap was established and employees pay the difference.

State pension fund cost has risen. Changes made address the need that we have the funds to pay out pensions.

Alternative Ed budget funds are behind on collections. Michael called out Line 50 Column AA, a surplus deficit indicates the program runs at a loss. NCSOS doesn't receive enough money from the State/Feds to run the program as is.

Slade-Troutman noted \$16K in the Bridgeport Science fund we weren't using, but could, however it's one-time money. Supt. Hermansen replied we may want to keep this money there in the event we want to bring back a science program. Funds for Alt. Ed could be covered under the General Fund. The decision will need to be made whether to make cuts to Alt. Ed or add money from the General Fund to support the program.

Foster Youth reflects a small loss as noted on line 47. However in previous years Foster Youth has come out ahead. Deficit spending is noted in the beginning balance and money carried over.

The budgets shown identify the different programs operated by NCSOS and the revenue sources to support them. These programs include Alternative Ed, Foster Youth, Family Resource Centers and Sierra College Child Development Center. Many of these programs require support from NCSOS general fund to operate. NCSOS helps support these programs through revenue it receives from Charter Business Services. Due to increased efficiency and economy of scale, NCSOS has reduced the business services fee to our local Charters from 5% to 4%.

Fitting and Supt. Hermansen answered Slade-Troutman's questions regarding incoming money.

Altieri noted under LCFF County Office of Education's are required to do certain things. The State allocated money to cover those expenditures, money is spent at the direction of the States requirements. This was the purpose of hiring two new employees. Altieri noted it was Slade-Troutman who made the motion to double the budget reserves. We are saving money, what if there is another economic downturn? We want funds for uncertainties, the recession was an uncertainty. The extra money is intended to be there for unanticipated events.

Michael suggested the Board focus on reviewing and comprehending the daily operation of the NCSOS Budget. The focus needs to be on the balance sheet: how much money we have, and what we owe.

XVI. Board Reports

A. SARB, *Lapierre*

Lapierre was unable to attend both meetings, however full calendars were noted for both; and better parent response was noticed recently.

B. Legislative, *Meeks*

Proponents are busy swapping amendments to get their bills passed.

C. NCSBA, *Michael*

Technology Forum provided an update on the implications of the new state testing system to school districts in Nevada County.

D. Charter Liaison, *Altieri* - No report.

E. Individual Board Reports

Slade-Troutman received a letter from Barbara Ross, NJUHSD Scholarship Coordinator who thanked Slade-Troutman for attending the Awards dinner and provided the names of each recipient.

Michael requested the Board to review program budgets on pages 29-37 in preparation of the adoption.

XVII. Future Agenda Items

A. LCAP Public Hearing and NCSOS Budget 2014-15 Public Hearing, June 12, 2014

B. LCAP and Budget 2014-15 Adoption, June 18, 2014

XVIII. Correspondence

A. Treasury Report from Nevada County Treasurer and Tax Collector detailing the portfolio of Investments for NCSoS as of March 31, 2014. (*page 38*)

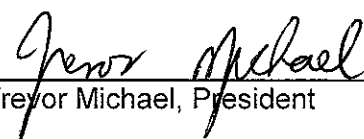
B. Classified School Employees of the Year Recognition Breakfast (*page 59*)

C. Fiscal Reports – none.

XIX. Adjournment

Next Meeting Date: June 12, 2014, 2:00 PM, 112 Nevada City Highway, Nevada City

Approved: _____


Trevor Michael, President

Date: June 18, 2014