

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Meeting
Monday, July 13, 2020
8:00 AM

The Nevada County Board of Education
will hold the regular board meeting via teleconference.
The public portion will begin virtually at 8:00 AM

To join the Zoom meeting, please visit <https://zoom.us/j/99925208907>

Meeting ID: 999 2520 8907
One tap mobile
+16699006833,,99925208907# US (San Jose)

and you'll be prompted with instructions.

ANNOUNCEMENT No. 1: This meeting is being held pursuant to the procedures established in Executive Order N-29-20 issued by the Governor on March 17, 2020. All board members may attend the meeting by teleconference. The public may observe and address the meeting via Zoom.

ANNOUNCEMENT No. 2: The public will have access to the Nevada County Board of Education meeting through Zoom Teleconferencing. For those individuals who wish to make a public comment, please do so by using the Zoom raise your hand feature. A moderator will call on you at the appropriate time. Please note public comments are taken on action, discussion and information items only.

ANNOUNCEMENT No. 3: Should this Board meeting encounter any security breach or inappropriate issues, the meeting will be ended immediately.

A G E N D A

All times approximate

- 1. Meeting called to order**
- 2. Establish quorum**
- 3. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 4. Salute to the flag**
- 5. Open public forum** – Recognition of members of the audience wishing to address an agenda item may do so at this time. After being recognized by the Board president, please identify yourself. A member of the public may at this time make brief comments regarding items not on the agenda, although no action may be taken.
- 6. Close public forum**
- 7. Action/Discussion** 45 min.
 - A. Potential Closure of Sugarloaf Mtn. Juvenile Hall Program
- 8. Correspondence**
 - A. Nevada County Probation Department (*page 1*)

9. Adjournment

Next Regular Meeting Date: August 12, 2020, 3:00 PM

This agenda was posted at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting at the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office, 380 Crown Point Circle, Grass Valley; TKM, 400 Hoover Lane, Nevada City; and EJ, 112 Nevada City Hwy., Nevada City.

Posted: 7/10/2020
Date

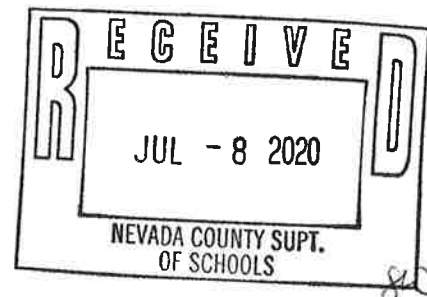
Notice: The agenda packet and supporting materials, including materials distributed less than 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting, can be viewed at the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office – located at 380 Crown Point Circle, Grass Valley, California. For more information, please call 530.478.6400 ext.2003.

Notice: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to access the Board meeting room or to otherwise participate at this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, contact the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office at 530.478.6400 ext. 2003 at- least 48 hours before the scheduled Board meeting so that we may make every reasonable effort to accommodate your needs. [G.C. §54953.2, §54954.2(a)(1); Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, §202 (42 U.S.C. §12132)]

NEVADA COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

MICHAEL N. ERTOLA
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Nevada County Board of Education,

On July 14, 2020, a resolution will go to the Board of Supervisors to recommending a slow closure of the Nevada County Youth Center on or before June 30, 2021.

The current 2020/21 Youth Center Budget is \$3 million. Over the past 12 months, the average local daily population is 2.9 and yet maintains 27 county staff.

Nevada County Juvenile Probation's investment in alternative strategies to working with youth and families to resolve conflict and provide rehabilitative opportunities, have diverted youth from the criminal justice system and resulted in a substantially reduced need for secure detention of juveniles. Examples are the Detention Risk Assessment Tool; Risk Assessments and Case Plans; Functional Family Probation; Response Matrix.

Due to the declining population in secure detention, the average daily cost per youth has increased by over 200% over the past decade. Over several years, Probation has sought to reduce costs caused by the steady decline in the daily Youth Center census by leasing juvenile hall beds to other counties. However, the revenue from these contracts will be reduced drastically upon the completion of El Dorado County's new detention facility in the fall of 2021.

The Grand Jury has reported on the low census at Juvenile Hall twice – first in 2013 and again in 2016. Both reports recommend closing the hall and instead contracting with a neighboring county to house our juvenile offenders. Both reports cite financial savings and repurposing the facility to serve the community in a greater way as reasons for the recommendation.

In 2018, an interdepartmental County staff workgroup was formed to identify and analyze the opportunities to repurpose the Juvenile Hall. The workgroup identified the needs of facilities for County programs. The costs of potential new uses and the pros and cons of keeping it as a juvenile facility. The stakeholder group met seven times over fourteen months to discuss options and have time to research and gather additional information between meetings. The workgroup considered using the facility for homeless services, mental health services, group home, adult reentry program, and as an expanded youth facility (including the relocation of Earle Jamieson Continuation School). After analyzing each option, on June 25, 2019, the Board approved the Expanded Youth Facility recommendation.

Subsequently, the unanticipated high costs of renovation and tenant improvements to accommodate Earle Jamieson Continuation School (\$400K), combined with insufficient commitment from community youth prevention programs and the low average daily local youth population for the last year, has guided the County towards this recommendation. Accordingly, it has been determined that the Expanded Youth Facility option is not feasible, and that the most appropriate option at this time is to close the Youth Center on or before June 30, 2021.

If the Board of Supervisors adopts the resolution, the Probation Department will begin the process to secure contracts with Placer and El Dorado County for the placement of Nevada County youth following the closure of the Youth Center, which is projected to result in significant cost savings to the County. Further, the County workgroup would be brought back together to discuss how best to repurpose the use of the facility.

Nevada County is committed to ensure these contract counties provide similar rehabilitative programming that currently exists in Nevada County. Further, the savings incurred by closing the Youth Center will be repurposed to increase youth prevention programs in the community. Lastly, the County is committed to meeting with each of the 27 Youth Center staff members to assist them in identifying and applying for other positions within the County.

Sincerely,

Michael N. Ertola
Chief Probation Officer
Nevada County Probation
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