

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, June 24, 2020
3:00 p.m.

The Nevada County Board of Education
will hold the regular board meeting via teleconference.
The public portion will begin virtually at 3:00 p.m.

To join the Zoom meeting, please visit <https://zoom.us/j/92417875454>

Meeting ID: 924 1787 5454
One tap mobile
+16699006833,,92417875454# 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 through the Zoom meeting chat feature. A moderator for the meeting will read your comments for the record.

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

M I N U T E S

1. Meeting called to order by Board President Baker.

2. Established quorum

Wendy Baker	present via zoom
Ashley Neumann	present via zoom
Heino Nicolai	present via zoom
Louise Johnson	present via zoom - joined after Agenda Item 8
Susan Clarabut	present via zoom

3. Salute to the flag

4. Adoption of the Agenda

On a motion by Nicolai and seconded by Clarabut, the Nevada County Board of Education adopted the June 24, 2020 Agenda; all in favor; motion passed unanimously.

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

Board President Baker acknowledged receipt of emails expressing their support for Board Candidates Delgado Fava and Walker.

Several members of the audience expressed their support for Delgado Fava.

Joseph Bonomolo spoke out against the forced mandate vaccine agenda.

Eric Christen learned that the NCC Women's health specialist in our schools refer young ladies to abortion provider services. Christen would like to know how students get to and from the provider on school time; if parent involvement is required and if not, why not?

Rochelle LaRocca, a kindergarten teacher in Nevada County, expressed concerns over the CDC restrictions. LaRocca is an advocate for no masks; no gloves and the most limited

restrictions possible. Further stating it's difficult to imagine how this would work and she would like to start the new year bright and with hope.

6. Closed public forum

7. Board member vacancy to the Nevada County Board of Education

Whenever a vacancy occurs, or whenever a resignation has been filed with the county superintendent of schools containing a deferred effective date, the school district or community college district governing board shall, within 60 days of the vacancy or the filing of the deferred resignation, either order an election or make a provisional appointment to fill the vacancy.

A. Review of process (*page 1*)

B. Applications (*page 2*)

Supt. Lay announced the names of the candidates present who applied for the vacancy to fill the seat of Area I as follows: George Rebane; ~~Petty~~ Peggy Delgado Fava; Louise Bennicoff Johnson; and Jamal Walker.

C. Interview of prospective Board member(s) to fill the seat of Area I – representing Chicago Park, Nevada City, Penn Valley, Twin Ridges, Union Hill, and Camptonville Union School Districts.

Interview questions were provided to the Board. The Board proceeded to conduct interviews.

D. Deliberation Process and Motion to Appoint

The Board deliberated and discussed each candidate, noting that all candidates were incredible. Public comment was heard in favor of Delgado Fava and Walker.

On a motion by Nicolai and seconded by Clarabut, the Nevada County Board of Education provisionally appointed Louise Bennicoff Johnson to fill the vacancy in Trustee Area I and will hold office until December 2020; the motion carried 3-1; (Ayes: Nicolai, Clarabut, Baker; Nay: Neumann).

8. Oath of Office

Should the Nevada County Board of Education make an appointment to fill the Area I Vacancy as described above, Supt. Scott W. Lay will administer the Oath of Office to the newly appointed Trustee of Area I.

Supt. Lay administered the Oath of Office to the newly appointed Trustee of Area I, Louise Bennicoff Johnson.

9. 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 May 13, 2020 (*page 24*)

On a motion by Clarabut and seconded by Nicolai, the Nevada County Board of Education adopted the June 24, 2020 Agenda; all in favor; motion passed unanimously.

10. Public Hearing – NCSOS Budget and COVID-19 Written Report (*page 27*)

A. Opened public hearing to receive public comment on the 2020-21 Proposed Consolidated Budget of the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools, Nevada County Special Education Services, Nevada County SELPA, Special Education Pass Thru, Child Development and the COVID-19 Written Report

Public comment was heard by several members of the audience, expressing concern over reopening restrictions; that the SSPI's recommendations are unhealthy for children physically, mentally and emotionally; and that anything less than 5 school days a week is a tragedy for students.

Corker expanded on how the *COVID-19 Written Report* was created, that each department participated in reporting.

Supt. Lay advised that several reports are coming up, including the superintendent's report where he will report on the opening of the schools.

B. Closed public hearing

11. Staff Reports

A. Alternative Education, *Amy Brooks (page 28)*

Brooks appreciates these difficult discussions, hearing the valid points and all the thoughts that go into the decision making. Reopening Earle Jamieson and Sugarloaf Mtn. Juvenile Hall is discussed daily, currently there is a 4-page plan to return 5-days a week as the goal, keeping in mind regulations and health codes.

B. Educational Services, *Teena Corker – nothing further to add to written report.*

i. Staff Report *(page 29)*

ii. 2019-20 LCAP Progress Monitoring for Earle Jamieson Educational Options and Sugarloaf Mtn. Juvenile Hall Program *(page 31)*

Corker had nothing additional to add to her written report.

C. Business Services, *Darlene Waddle – No report now, will discuss items later in the agenda.*

D. SELPA/Special Education, *Eli Gallup*

Often times, Special Ed has to wait for General Ed to see how days and instructional times are set. Gallup has been meeting weekly with the Special Ed Director developing plans in working towards a 5-day instruction week as the goal. Several Special Ed Directors have left and Gallup is helping to support those districts.

Gallup is happy to report that 100% of NCSOS Special Ed teachers are returning. We're looking to hire a new Special Ed Principal as Debbie Morris, has taken a position in Sacramento.

12. Superintendent's Report

Supt. Lay expressed his appreciation for all the public comments.

With regards to opening schools, the goal is 5-days a week at EJ; SL; and NCSOS Special Ed.

As we look at the bigger picture of the County, it's important to know that it's not the County Board that decides which schools will open or close. That is up to each individual school district with the local requirements from Nevada County Public Health.

Supt. Lay continues to meet weekly with the School District Superintendents and Charter Directors. The goal is to be open 5-days a week come August. Barriers include the changing recommendations and guidelines. Supt. Lay clarified that the actual guideline that is used is the California Department of Public Health, a smaller document which Nevada County Public Health uses. NC Public health has been great to work with, instead of telling the schools what they can't do, they are telling us how to do it. This is a work in progress and throughout the summer. Multiple plans are being developed. Bussing is an issue. Childcare is also being looked at. Final decisions and recommendations will be based on Nevada County Public Health guidelines. A letter from NCPH, to each District Superintendent, should be going out July 1.

We may see a shortage of substitute teachers also, as a majority are over 65 years of age. We are reaching out to see who is willing to come back for the 2020-21 school year.

Every district and charter school surveyed parents. As of the end of May, a significant number (10-30%) of parents were afraid to send their students back to school and won't do so until there is a vaccine; that may change come August. More information will come out from the Districts and Charter schools as we move through the summer.

Supt. Lay has been asked to join a committee of bias and inequality in Nevada County. Jamal Walker is also on the committee. First we will be looking at our own NCSOS organization -

hiring practices, biases we may not be aware of, demographics and textbooks. Supt. Lay has asked each School District and Charter School to look into this.

Governor and legislature are in agreement and have issued 700+ pages to review prior to signing. Education has been spared in that they will be held harmless with the money we will be getting from last year. Some concessions to accounting, looking at the trailer bills. A big issue for Nevada County is deferrals. We are working with all the districts, reviewing reserves and making sure all financial obligations are able to be met.

Nevada County has two new District Superintendents: Andy Parsons for Union Hill School District and Andrew Withers for Grass Valley School District.

Kimberly Farwell has notes from last week's *County COVID-19 Task Force* meeting, yesterday's *Board of Supervisor's* meeting that have conflicting messages from today's Supt. report. Farwell is concerned no one is taking responsibility and would like to know who parents should contact with concerns.

Supt. Lay advised he isn't able to speak to other reports, only that information is changing week to week, reiterating it is up to each individual school district using guidelines from California Department of Public Health and Nevada County Public Health.

Supt. Lay announced to the public that they are welcome to email him with questions, slay@nevco.org.

13. Action Items

- A. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education adopt *Resolution 20-03*, Blanket Transfer Resolution to the FY20120-21 budget?

(page 37) **ROLL CALL VOTE**

On a motion by Clarabut and seconded by Neumann the Nevada County Board of Education adopted *Resolution 20-03*, Blanket Transfer Resolution to the FY2020-21 budget; by roll call vote; all in favor; motion passed unanimously.

- B. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education Approve the Education Protection Account?
(page 38)

On a motion by Nicolai and seconded by Baker the Nevada County Board of Education Approve the Education Protection Account; all in favor; motion passed unanimously.

- C. Adoption of FY2020-21 Budget

Shall the Nevada County Board of Education approve the 2020-21 Proposed Consolidated Budget of the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools, Nevada County Special Education Services, Nevada County SELPA, Special Education Pass Thru and Child Development?
(EC 1620, 1622, 33129, 52066, 52067 and 52068)

(page 39)

Waddle spoke to the Budget and answered questions of the Board.

On a motion by Nicolai and seconded Clarabut the Nevada County Board of Education approved the 2020-21 Proposed Consolidated Budget of the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools, Nevada County Special Education Services, Nevada County SELPA, Special Education Pass Thru and Child Development; all in favor; motion passed unanimously.

- D. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education approve the COVID-19 Operations Written Report for NCSOS Programs?

(page 137)

Neumann questioned what webinars were the staff trained on. Corker explained there were three webinars presented to administrators/counselors; educators/teachers; and paraprofessionals/classified staff. Corker will send the Social Emotional Learning Community of Practice (SEL CP) webinars links to the Board.

On a motion by Clarabut and seconded by Johnson the Nevada County Board of Education approved the COVID-19 Operations Written Report for NCSOS Programs; all in favor; motion passed unanimously.

- E. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education Approve the Annual Workers' Compensation Certificate regarding self-insured workers' compensation claims for FY2020-21?
(page 141)

On a motion by Nicolai and seconded by Baker the Nevada County Board of Education Approve the Annual Workers' Compensation Certificate regarding self-insured workers' compensation claims for FY2020-21; all in favor; motion passed unanimously.

- F. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education Approve and authorize the submission of application for Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for school year 2020-21 so that staffing is achieved with the best possible candidates, in addition to retaining our countywide substitute teachers?
(page 142)

On a motion by Clarabut and seconded by Nicolai the Nevada County Board of Education Approved and authorized the submission of application for Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for school year 2020-21 so that staffing is achieved with the best possible candidates, in addition to retaining our countywide substitute teachers; all in favor; motion passed unanimously.

- G. Shall the Nevada County Board of Education approve the Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Combined Alternative Educational Programs?
(page 146)

Neumann asked to place on next month's agenda to review the history books for EJ and Sugarloaf so that they include the major omissions.

Corker explained that this is for equal access to all curriculum; not content.

Neumann believes there are inequities with Common Core itself; major omissions that lead to racial bias. It was noted that the books currently used are outdated and therefore may be historically accurate in that case.

On a motion by Clarabut and seconded by Neumann the Nevada County Board of Education approved the Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Combined Alternative Educational Programs; all in favor; motion passed unanimously.

14. Information/Discussion Items

- A. SP 4219.21 Personnel Policies and Procedures – Professional Standards: and Professional Standards Exhibits: E 4119.21; E 4219.21; E 4319.21 (page 264)

Neumann questioned what the punishment is if a school employee violates the policy? Is it in their contract that they lose their pension?

Supt. Lay responded that they will research the query with HR.

- B. 2020-21 Annual Report to the Board of Temporary County Certificates (page 280)

15. Board Reports

- A. SARB, *Heino Nicolai*

- B. Legislative, *Ashley Neumann*

AB77 Education Finance tagging onto bill.

Legislature taking down statues, how will that affect school? A lot more people are concerned about racism and systemic bias within the textbooks far more so than a random statue and viewing this fuels racism.

At the CDE Assembly Hearing there was a lot of concern of mask wearing; bodily autonomy of children; and how contract tracers work.

- C. Charter Liaison, *Heino Nicolai* – no charter schools visited.

- D. Individual Board Reports

- i. Ashley Neumann Memo (page 283)

Neumann would like to place a review of EJ/SL history books on the agenda.

Neumann surmised that the issue lies within the California Standards and Common Core and would like to review the state standards, the history books, where the omissions are and how to go about having Nevada County fight for historical accuracy and a lack of bias in our history books; or do something else to compensate for this.

Johnson clarified that the SBE adopts a list for K-8 and the districts are in charge of selecting from that list. In grades 9-12, the staff must review the California Standards for the content area against the textbooks and certify to the School Board that the textbook is aligned to the California Standards. Johnson further stated that it's important that credentialed teachers in that specific content area be involved in any review of textbooks and curriculum.

Board President recommended placing Neumann's query on next month's agenda as a discussion item.

Supt. Lay reiterated that a review of curriculum has been requested of each district; and that Corker is working on this currently with Andrea Marks.

16. Correspondence

A. Nevada County Public Schools Advisory #7 – Reopening of Nevada County Schools
(page 284)

17. Adjournment

Next Meeting Date: July 8, 2020

Approved amending spelling in Agenda Item 7.B. ~~Petty~~ to Peggy

Wendy Baker, Board President
Nevada County Board of Education

July 8, 2020

Date