UNADOPTED

Minutes of
Madera County Board of Education
September 8, 2020

Present: Cathie Bustos, Nancy Prosperi, Alfred Soares, Jr., Grant Sturm, Bobby Thatcher, Joe Vived, Dr. Cecilia A. Massetti, Executive Secretary

Absent: None

Vacant: Area 2

Also in Attendance: Fred Cogan, Julie DeWall, Jessica Drake, Scott Ellingson, Alan Macedo, Dianna Marsh, Jennifer Pascale, Tricia Protzman, Rob Russell, Hugo Sanchez

1.0 Call to Order

Vice President Alfred Soares, Jr., called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m., followed by the flag salute.

2.0 Consideration of Minutes

2.1 Regular Meeting August 11, 2020

Mrs. Pascale announced no written or verbal comments were submitted for this agenda item.

Cathie Bustos moved to approve the minutes of August 11, 2020, seconded by Joe Vived and carried by unanimous vote.

Ayes: Bustos, Prosperi, Soares, Jr., Sturm, Thatcher, Vived
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

3.0 Adoption of Board Agenda

Mrs. Pascale announced no written or verbal comments were submitted for this agenda item.

Joe Vived moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Nancy Prosperi and carried by unanimous vote.

Ayes: Bustos, Prosperi, Soares, Jr., Sturm, Thatcher, Vived
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

4.0 Information

4.1 Public Comment

Vice President Alfred Soares, Jr., stated this time is offered to members of the public wishing to address the Board on matters under the jurisdiction of the Board, but not listed on the agenda. Board members may listen to but not discuss matters not on the agenda. (G.C. 54954.2)] The Board will not take action on any items presented under public comment. Speakers are limited to 3 minutes. Anyone addressing the Board is asked to complete the form titled, "Madera County Board of Education Request to Address the Board," so they can be called to the podium to speak. No one came forward to address the Board.

4.2 Letter and Communications

Dr. Massetti reported:

- There have been no formal letters or communication
- Students connected to the internet in Madera were disconnected for a short time due to a fiber line being cut by a construction company. The service failure was not due to MCSOS equipment.
- Fires have caused school closures for Yosemite, Bass Lake, Raymond-Knowles, and Chawanakee.
- This year marks the 14th Excellence in Education event. EECU does not feel comfortable bringing people together for the event in October. Instead, we will decorate a portion of the conference center and invite district nominees and finalists to have their picture taken at separate times. The winner's speeches will be recorded and a video will be put together. A scaled down event may be offered in the spring.

4.3 Non-School Sources

None

4.4 Madera County School Boards Association (MCSBA) Executive Committee Meeting Report

Mr. Sturm reported the flyer for the September 30 meeting has been mailed. The meeting will be held at Matilda Torres High School. Public Health Officer Dr. Simon Paul and Public Health Director Sara Bosse will present on Epidemic/Pandemic Preparation. Administrator, SELPA Paige Sanders will present on Trauma Informed Practices. Raffle items may be brought to Jennifer, or call to let her know what you are bringing.

4.5 Communications Committee Report

Mrs. Prosperi stated the first meeting will be held October 14th.

4.6 Madera County Foundation Board Report

Mrs. Bustos reported there has been no meeting since the Board last met.

4.7 Member Report(s)

None

5.0 Information from the Superintendent and Staff

5.1 MCSOS General Fund & Charter Schools Actual vs. Budget – Prior Year

Mrs. Pascale announced no written or verbal comments were submitted for this agenda item.

Mrs. DeWall reviewed the General Fund and Charter School Actuals. The actuals are in-line with the Budget for the 2019-2020 school year. Nearly all funds budgeted have been spent. Mrs. DeWall provided pie charts for an easy understanding of where the money was allocated. Most expenses were for salary and benefits.

Mr. Vived asked about the difference spent on certificated salaries for charter school staff compared to those being paid out of the general fund. Mrs. DeWall explained these are typical expenditures. The CAES division has far fewer classified staff. The expenditures shown for the charter schools reflect only charter school expenditures. The general fund expenditures reflect all services provided outside of restricted programs. These include all business, human resources, technology, operations staff, and services.

Vice President Soares, Jr., opened the Public Hearing on the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan (LCP) at 3:50 p.m.

No one came forward to speak to this item.

Vice President Soares, Jr., closed the Public Hearing on the LCP at 3:51 p.m.

5.2 Consideration of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan (LCP)

5.2.1 Pioneer Technical Center

5.2.2 Madera County Independent Academy

5.2.3 Madera County Superintendent of Schools for Court and Community/Gould Educational Center

Mr. Macedo explained Senate Bill 98 suspends LCAPs for the 2020-2021 school year and requires that Learning Continuity and Attendance Plans (LCP) be submitted in place of the LCAPs. The LCPs outline the action plan for each school site for the remainder of the school year.

Mr. Vived asked about the benefits of changing the filters in the buildings and if that task had been completed. Mr. Cogan responded that the recommendation from the CDC is to use MERV 13 filters. All air filters have been upgraded to MERV 8 or above. The filters are scheduled to be replaced again in October and at that time all filters will be replaced with MERV 13 filters. Mr. Cogan added that the primary goal when writing the LCPs was to ensure learning success for students.

Mr. Macedo commented that charter schools are moving to an all-digital platform. Currently, some packets are being provided along with distance learning formats. Enrollment has increased.

Mr. Soares, Jr., asked if hot spots and other technology needs have been met. Mr.

Macedo responded that hot spots have been difficult to obtain for schools throughout California. MCSOS' order has been delayed, but it should arrive soon for distribution. 10-15 Chromebooks are being handed out on a daily basis at PTC – Madera.

Mr. Vived asked why iPads were purchased for Gould students. Ms. Drake explained that for some students with special needs educational applications are on that platform. iPads are a medium they are familiar with and have had success in accessing. Hot spots are being issued with every iPad to filter content. Chromebooks have the filtering ability built in.

Mr. Thatcher asked how students doing with technology. Mr. Macedo stated classes have been using Google Classroom for some time. Zoom is new to most students and teachers. It has changed the way learning is delivered. Students are really good on their phones, but are not academically literate in technology.

Mrs. Prosperi asked if keyboarding classes are available to students. Mr. Macedo said keyboarding is available through Odysseyware. Students in K-3 are using Typing Wizard.

Mrs. Prosperi asked how students are doing in the Social Emotional Well-being (SEWB) area. Mr. Macedo explained social and emotional needs are being addressed before every class begins. Students are having to deal with a lot. Dr. Massetti added that counseling staff and behavioral specialists are checking in with students. Those who have regularly scheduled therapy, continue to receive those services.

Mr. Cogan commented that addressing social and emotional needs is easier with high school students who are able to communicate the struggles in their lives. Students at MCIA (elementary/junior high) were issued green, yellow, and red cards to help them express their stress levels (green = good, yellow = okay, red = not doing well at all). The teachers use the cards at the start of their lessons to assess the students' well being.

Mr. Thatcher noted the coat drive might be very important for students this year and asked that staff keep it in mind.

Ms. Drake added that teachers are working with parents and families for non-verbal students to maintain a sense of how students are doing socially and emotionally.

Mr. Vived asked if students are accessing services through County Mental Health. Ms. Drake stated that some students receive those services.

Dr. Massetti stated that Public Health granted permission to do in-person assessments. Psychologists and Occupational Therapists can now move forward with evaluations to maintain annual assessment requirements.

Ms. Drake stated the MCSOS IT department has helped staff and families. There is an IT help-line that parents may use when they need help with technology. Trainings have been uploaded for teachers and parents to access.

Mr. Soares, Jr., asked how far behind students are because of COVID. The response was that it is difficult to know. Assessments were being done in March when the school closure was initiated. Data on what has been lost will not be exact. CAES is using iReady and Loss Links to help determine educational gaps.

Mr. Soares, Jr., asked if families have been made aware that they can access free food at school sites. Mr. Cogan replied that flyers have gone out to families letting them know which sites are providing free meals to students.

6.0 Old Business

None

7.0 Closed Session

None

8.0 New Business

8.1 Consideration Issuance of Temporary County Certificates

Mrs. Pascale announced no written or verbal comments were submitted for this agenda item.

Mrs. Protzman asked the Board to ratify the issuance of Temporary County Certificates (TCCs) from August 1-31, 2020. TCCs are issued in order to authorize the individual to work while the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing reviews his/her waiver request, emergency permit, initial and/or renewal credential application packet.

Joe Vived moved to ratify the TCCs, seconded by Cathie Bustos and carried by unanimous vote.

Ayes: Bustos, Prosperi, Soares, Jr., Sturm, Thatcher, Vived
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

8.2 Consideration Annual Update of Handbook for Emergency Care, Infectious Diseases and Specialized Care

Mrs. Pascale announced no written or verbal comments were submitted for this agenda item.

Ms. Drake explained the policies and procedures have not changed. Only emergency contact numbers have been updated.

Mr. Vived asked when Gould and PTC would be getting an external defibrillator. Ms. Drake stated Gould does not require one because sports are not offered there.

Mrs. Prosperi asked for clarification as to why Matilida Torres High School was not included in the update. MCSOS does not have classes located at that new campus.

Mr. Sturm commented that Nurse Bostick covers a lot of sites. Mrs. Drake affirmed that

she does currently cover a lot of sites. MCSOS is working to contract with an agency to fill the two open nurse positions. Once that occurs, Nurse Bostick will be removed from some of the sites.

Nancy Prosperi moved to approve the updates made to the Emergency Care, Infectious Diseases, and Specialized Health Care Handbook, seconded by Grant Sturm and carried by unanimous vote.

Ayes: Bustos, Prosperi, Soares, Jr., Sturm, Thatcher, Vived
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

8.3 Approval of 2019-2020 Budget Revisions

Mrs. Pascale announced no written or verbal comments were submitted for this agenda item.

Ms. DeWall reported the largest adjustments have been savings recognized for supplies and services. Because of the school closures in March, staff did not have the opportunity to plan for the next year and order their materials as usual. Revenue for Child Development Programs is down because of attendance and parent fees. Madera County Independent Academy saw a substantial drop in revenue due to ADA projections. There is an overall decrease projected to the MCIA fund balance of approximately $430,000. The revenue for Pioneer Technical Center is down by about 1.3%.

Mrs. DeWall reviewed the Special Education Pass Through Fund. These monies are received by MCSOS and distributed to districts. There is an increase of about $2 million.

Mr. Soares, Jr. asked if there is a way to quantify the cost of distance learning. Mrs. DeWall explained the numbers being reported reflect last year. Information on the cost of distance learning will be seen when the 2020-2021 school year budget is reviewed. Dr. Massetti noted that expenses for distance learning are being offset by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Personal protective equipment, computers, specialized software, etc. can be paid for with these funds, which equal about $1.6 million. The majority of the funds need to be spent by December. All of these funds are being tracked for future reports at the state and federal levels.

Grant Sturm moved to approve the 2019-2020 Budget Revisions as presented, seconded by Bobby Thatcher and carried by unanimous vote.

Ayes: Bustos, Prosperi, Soares, Jr., Sturm, Thatcher, Vived
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

8.4 Consideration Revision of Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) – Madera County Superintendent of Schools (Court and Community)
Mrs. Pascale announced no written or verbal comments were submitted for this agenda item.

Mr. Sanchez explained the budget has been updated to the SPSA for the Court and Community program.

Mr. Sturm noted that American Indian should be changed to Native American. Dr. Massetti commented MCSOS would notify the State. The form cannot be changed because it is a State template.

Grant Sturm moved to approve the revision to the Single Plan for Student Achievement, seconded by Cathie Bustos and carried by unanimous vote.

Ayes: Bustos, Prosperi, Soares, Jr., Sturm, Thatcher, Vived
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Dr. Massetti reminded the Board of the Special Meeting scheduled for September 22, 2020, at 3:30 p.m.

Because the Notice for Public Hearing on the LCP stated it would be heard at 5:15 p.m., Vice President Soares, Jr., re-opened the Public Hearing on Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan (LCP) at 5:15 p.m.

No one came forward to address this item.

Vice President Soares, Jr., closed the Public Hearing on LCP at 5:16 p.m.

Vice President Soares, Jr., opened the Public Hearing on Instructional Materials and Supplies at 5:17 p.m.

No one came forward to address this item.

Vice President Soares, Jr., closed the Public Hearing on Instructional Materials and Supplies at 5:18 p.m.

8.5 Consideration of Resolutions to Determine Sufficiency of Textbooks and Instructional Materials for Students Served in Madera County Superintendent of Schools Programs

8.5.1 Resolution No. 2, 2020-2021 Availability of Instructional Materials (Special Education)
Ms. Drake explained this item provides a list of the materials used at integrated high school sites: Chowchilla, Madera, and Yosemite.

8.5.2 Resolution No. 3, 2020-2021 Availability of Instructional Materials (Career Technical and Alternative Education)
Mr. Cogan stated all materials needed are available in-house for students.

8.5.3 Adoption of Instructional Materials for Pupils in Grades 9-12
Mr. Cogan explained supplemental English Language Arts (ELA) and English Language Development (ELD) curriculum was added to the materials adopted in previous years.

Nancy Prosperi moved to adopt Resolution No. 2, 2020-2021 Availability of Instructional Materials (Special Education), Resolution No. 3, 2020-2021 Availability of Instructional Materials (Career Technical and Alternative Education), and the instructional materials for the Career and Alternative Education Services programs and Special Education programs in grades 9-12, seconded by Cathie Bustos and carried by unanimous vote.

Ayes: Bustos, Prosperi, Soares, Jr., Sturm, Thatcher, Vived
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

9.0 Other

9.1 Consideration Excusing Member from Absence at a Meeting for Purposes of Member Participation in Conference(s)
None

10.0 Adjournment

Bobby Thatcher moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Cathie Bustos and carried by unanimous vote.

Ayes: Bustos, Prosperi, Soares, Jr., Sturm, Thatcher, Vived
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cecilia A. Massetti, Ed.D.
Executive Secretary

CAM/jep