

HUMBOLDT COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION
901 Myrtle Avenue, Eureka, CA 95501

MINUTES
September 13, 2017

President Bill Ruff called the meeting of the Humboldt County Board of Education to order at 3:01 p.m. with a quorum present.

PRESENT: Loretta Eckenrode, Marc Rowley, Bill Ruff, Mary Scott, Robert Siekmann

ABSENT: None

ALSO Chris Hartley, Superintendent; Heidi Moore-Guynup, Assistant Superintendent; Brian Graves, HCSTA; Maureen Yost, CSEA; Carol Ingram, Stacy Young, Beth Chaton, Debra Kingshill, Felicia Doherty, HCOE; Michael Bazemore, NPA; and Janine Melanson, Administrative Assistant

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/FLAG SALUTE

Robert Siekmann led the flag salute.

2.0 ADJUSTMENT OF THE AGENDA

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

3.0 BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS/REPORTS

Mary Scott shared that she attended the HCOE Welcome Back staff meeting and thought it was upbeat and a great way to start the year; Brian Graves agreed.

Mary Scott complimented the display at the fair – she felt it was easier to read and take in, and in a much better location.

Loretta Eckenrode went to county board conference in Monterey. She found it to be very informative and made her proud of the HCOE board and the work done here. President Ruff asked if there were any discussions or sections on the sanctuary issues – Loretta responded that there were not. She attended 7 sessions: one was on charter petitions and appeals. CSBA spoke about 17 people being hired to represent areas of the state in order to disseminate information to the community. This came after they did a survey regarding what people thought California spends per pupil compared to the national average. The majority of those surveyed thought California was well above the national average when in fact California is 45th in the nation. The group formed is called PACR and they will involve business and community in their work. They will reach out to county offices as well. Vernon Billy spoke on this topic. The last session Loretta attended was regarding homeless youth and how to help provide them with safe, healthy housing.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

5.0 PRESENTATION– Michael Bazemore – Northcoast Preparatory Academy (NPA) Update

Michael Bazemore presented the update on NPA to the Board. NPA ranks #28 in the nation and #23 in California in the Washington Post's America's Most Challenging High Schools list.

Michael expressed a special thank you to Dr. Hartley and the Board for their support. He also named Cheryl Ingham, Jennifer Fairbanks, Marci Laffranci and Sarah Poust for their support and assistance.

Mission and goals have not changed since last report.

Michael recapped some of the accomplishments including the international program, theater productions, hosting the San Francisco Opera group at the Arkley Center, and participation in the Jane's Creek Restoration Project in partnership with the City of Arcata. The hope is that, through the restoration, Coho fingerlings will again come up the creek and feed. All students again completed the Junior Cotillion Manners course and the annual Ball was the final examination. All graduating seniors found good matches for higher education and scholarships.

Goals for the current year include full implementation of the IB Middle Years program. They will have a visit from IB in November to help with this goal. Partnerships with sister schools will continue. Programs for local work in the community are being developed.

President Ruff asked if there has been progress in obtaining a physical site. Michael indicated that they continued to work on it over the summer. Negotiations are in progress for 4 acres by Mad River Hospital, but financial options have not been pinned down. They have strong support from the city, so just need to go through the permit process once the site is determined.

Loretta asked if they keep in touch with graduates. Michael indicated they have an alumni gathering each year and are setting up paths to connect graduates in certain professions (law, medical, etc.) with current students. President Ruff asked if any graduates attended Stanford. Michael indicated they have and that one is the son of an HCOE employee – Anthony Diamond. He has been named in Forbes 30 Under 30, owns his own company and has won a Grammy.

6.0 CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved/seconded (Scott/Siekmann) to approve the consent agenda. **The motion carried with the following hand vote.**

Hand Vote

AYES: Eckenrode, Rowley, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Action was taken on the following consent items:

- 6.1 Approve Minutes - August 9, 2017
- 6.2 Approve Travel Claims
- 6.3 Adopt 2017-18 Appropriations (Gann) Limit
- 6.4 Adopt Proclamation in Support of Red Ribbon Week
- 6.5 Adopt Proclamation in Support of School Bus Safety Month
- 6.6 Approve Revised Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) for Court/Community Schools
- 6.7 Accept \$200 Donation from Alan & Nanci Radford for the PALS (Autism Infant/Preschool Program)
- 6.8 Accept of \$7000 Grant from Humboldt County Fish & Game Advisory Commission - Classroom Aquarium Education Program

7.0 PUBLIC HEARING

7.1 Sufficiency of Standards-Aligned Textbooks and Instructional Materials - Humboldt County Office of Education Schools

No public were present; President Ruff closed the hearing.

8.0 ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Adopt Resolution Regarding the Sufficiency/Insufficiency of Instructional Materials

It was moved/seconded (Rowley/Scott) to adopt resolution regarding the Sufficiency/Insufficiency of Instructional Materials. **The motion carried with the following hand vote.**

Hand Vote

AYES:	Eckenrode, Rowley, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None

8.2 Receive and File Annual Financial Report

Carol Ingram reported on the unaudited actual report for the close of 2016-17. A bar graph comparison of revenues and expenditures showed trends over the past three years. Local revenues increased, mainly due to special education. Increase in employee benefits are shown, representing the increased PERS and STRS costs.

We are still in deficit spending – ending balances in some accounts offset, but deficit spending is still at approximately 10% of total budget. Reserves are up from the estimate due to savings experienced in court/community schools expenditures as well as lower than expected costs in the Rising Stars program. Some nominal increases in LCFF, interest and community redevelopment were also realized. As of June 30, 2017, reserves were at 3.2 million, or 9.5%. Reserves from 2007/08 to 2013/14 declined steadily due to deficit spending to sustain programs during the economic downturn. Starting in 2013/14 with the economic recovery, we have slowly rebuilt reserves to the 9.5% level. Marc Rowley asked how our reserves compare with other counties. Carol indicated that we are likely in good company with other COEs in trying to maintain, and would not be surprised if a few had significantly lower reserves.

Dr. Hartley commented that the downturn of 2007/08 was not just economic but also cash. The state was deferring cash payments and forcing many districts to have to use furlough days to deal with the cash flow problems. County offices are the first line of defense for districts with cash needs before they have to go to the state for solutions. Carol added that we need to cover our own cash needs but also have the ability to help districts.

Marc asked how the reserve is held –Carol stated that it is with the county treasurer which does not provide a significant return, but is safe and readily available as needed.

Routine budget revisions will be presented at the next board meeting which will include updates due to the close of 2016/17 as well as adjustments resulting from bargaining

agreements. New funding sources since budget adoption include AB99 funding that compensates for COEs work in relation to district LCAP support.

It was moved/seconded (Eckenrode/Siekmann) to receive and file the Annual Financial Report
The motion carried with the following hand vote.

Hand Vote

AYES: Eckenrode, Rowley, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

8.3 Adopt New Board Policy 5141.52 – Suicide Prevention as a second reading

It was moved/seconded (Eckenrode/Scott) to adopt New Board Policy 5141.52 – Suicide Prevention as a second reading. **The motion carried with the following hand vote.**

Hand Vote

AYES: Eckenrode, Rowley, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

9.0 INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS *(The Board is asked to receive/discuss; however, the board may decide to take action at their discretion)*

9.1 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Hartley reported on first week enrollment for the county. Enrollment appears to be holding steady across the county with charters growing county-wide (primarily in the Mattole charters.) County office programs show a decrease in court schools and a comparable increase in community school programs. Felicia Doherty stated that the decrease in enrollment in court schools is largely due to a shift in the Probation Department matrix regarding who they keep in custody or release. Dr. Hartley stated that the philosophical shift at Probation is positive in that they are looking for other interventions, but will need to see the data on recidivism to determine if the shift is successful. Another measure of success is student attendance. Felicia also shared that districts are trying alternatives and options for keeping their students rather than using community school referrals as an initial option. This has resulted in the overall decrease in enrollment over the past three years. President Ruff asked if the success of these alternatives is being measured. Dr. Hartley stated that graduations rates are one indicator. Glen Paul enrollment is up 33 students, showing these programs are meeting needs.

Dr. Hartley announced the new HCOE Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/HumboldtCOE/> and invited the board to “Like” and “follow” the page as it will be updated frequently with both HCOE news and district successes.

10.2 Future Agenda Planning

The Board agreed to continue the study session regarding interdistrict attendance appeals that was not completed at the retreat to the October 11 meeting, 2-3pm.

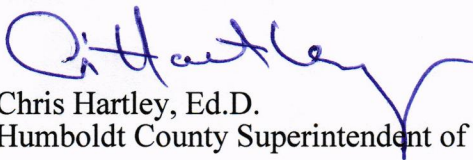
10.0 HUMBOLDT COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION

President Ruff handed the meeting over to Dr. Hartley who introduced Molly Alles, Humboldt County Teacher of the Year. Dr. Hartley commented on the difficult task of selecting the Teacher of the Year out of all the Excellence in Teaching recipients, but that Molly stood out from the rest, particularly for her commitment to project-based learning. The state is now reviewing the county Teacher of the Year recipients to determine who will be the State Teacher of the Year. Dr. Hartley presented Ms. Alles with a plaque. Karla Darnall, Superintendent of the Pacific Union School District, spoke of Ms. Alles high expectations for her students, the support she gives them and that she allows failure in the context of learning. She also acknowledged Ms. Alles passion, humor, the community spirit she models, and that she teaches to the student. Ms. Alles stated she was honored to receive the recognition. She stated the process for the state application was an opportunity for self-reflection, including on her Heart Mission of Engagement and Inspiration. She acknowledged her aunt who was present and has been an inspiration to her, her second cousin for her support, her parents, George & Larry, for the opportunities they gave her, and to her Pacific Union Family, a number of whom were present.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chris Hartley, Ed.D.
Humboldt County Superintendent of Schools

CH:jm