UNADOPTED

Minutes of
Madera County Board of Education
April 10, 2018

Present: Cathie Bustos, Nancy Prosperi, Alfred Soares, Jr., Grant Sturm, Bobby Thatcher, Joe Vived, Sara Wilkins

Also Present: Steve Carney, Kirk Delmas, Mary Donovan, Jessica Drake, Dennis Lingo, Dianna Marsh, Cecilia Massetti, Cheryl Mohr, Jennifer Pascale, Tricia Protzman, Jim Sargent

1.0 Call to Order

1.1 Flag Salute

President Sara Wilkins called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m., followed by the flag salute.

2.0 Consideration of Minutes

2.1 Regular Meeting March 13, 2018

Nancy Prosperi moved to approve the minutes of March 13, 2018, as presented, seconded by Joe Vived and carried by unanimous vote.

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

3.0 Adoption of Board Agenda

Alfred Soares, Jr., moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Grant Sturm and carried by unanimous vote.

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

4.0 Information

4.1 Public Comment

President Wilkins stated that this time is offered to members of the public wishing to address the Board on matters not listed on the agenda. Board members may listen to, but not discuss matters not on the agenda (G.C. 54954.2). No one came forward to address the Board.

4.2 Letters and Communications

Dr. Massetti explained that the Madera County Committee on School District Organization was scheduled to meet today. However, the agenda was not posted 72 hours prior and Steve Carney will be attending a state meeting at the end of the week. Therefore, the meeting will be pushed to next month.

Dr. Massetti provided copies of the CSBA Education Legal Alliance report to board members. An Academic Pentathlon program was also provided. The event was held on March 9th at the Madera Center and March 17th at Ranchos Middle School. North Fork won the 7th and 8th grade competitions.

Dr. Massetti read a portion of a letter from CDE regarding MCSOS' first interim report. It stated, "The First Interim Report and the accompanying positive certification of financial solvency to determine whether it complies with the criteria and standards of fiscal stability adopted by the State Board of Education allows your office to meet its financial obligations during the fiscal year and is consistent with the financial plan that will enable your office to satisfy its multi-year financial commitments." Dr. Massetti thanked the Business office for their hard work.

Dr. Massetti read a statement from a letter sent by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. It read, "Dear Superintendent Massetti, I am writing to inform you that on March 22, 2018, the committee on accreditation on behalf of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing assigned the status of accreditation to the Madera County Superintendent of Schools and its credential programs. On the basis of this decision, the institution is authorized to offer the following programs: preliminary administrative services credential, early childhood special education added authorization, orthopedic impairments added authorization, and traumatic brain injury added authorizations." Dr. Massetti congratulated the Bridges to Leadership team, Dianne Gischel-Lingo and Donna Waddell.

Dr. Massetti reported and provided copies on the following:

- The Raven's Report from the STEM Academy at Sherman Thomas.
- A news clipping regarding the purchase of property in Oakhurst for a new State Center Community College campus.
- A flyer regarding Parent Appreciation Day. Nancy Prosperi and Joe Vived attended. Joe said he enjoyed the games, students, and staff.
- The science fair was held at Apollo.
- Camarena Health Center held a ribbon cutting ceremony last Friday. Nancy Prosperi attended and commented that the facility is amazing. It is available to students and their families. It is the 269th health facility for students in the state.
- The office received a letter from a parent. While the parent's two older children were attending the Early Education Center, she complained a great deal about the services. Now that her children are in a traditional public school setting, the parent is grateful for the services her children received at the Center. Her children are reading above grade level and she feels it is because the EEC program set them up for success.
- Kirk Delmas was introduced by Dianna Marsh. He is a new employee for the Ed Services division who will be working with the ELA and ELD programs. He is the former principal at Liberty High School. Before that he was the vice principal and a math teacher at Chowchilla. Mr. Delmas' first goal is to work with MCIA and PTC. He would like to see our own students meeting State standards.

4.3 Non-School Sources None

4.4 Madera County School Boards Association Executive Committee Meeting Report

Grant Sturm reported the next Executive Committee and Budget meeting will be held May 9th at 9 a.m. at MCSOS. An Executive Committee and General Membership meeting is scheduled for August 29th.

4.5 Communications Committee Report

Nancy Prosperi stated the Spring Fling is scheduled for May 3rd. The theme is MCSOS: Shaping the Superheroes of Tomorrow! Board members planning to attend, should let Jennifer Pascale know.

4.6 Madera County Foundation Board Report

None

4.7 Member Report(s)

Joe Vived toured the Student Program and Services classrooms. He learned about the Unique curriculum. He stated he appreciates the skill and dedication of the leaders and teachers working for MCSOS.

Alfred Soares, Jr. attended Legislative Action Day. He met with elected representatives to let them know CSBA priorities. There was talk of a resolution calling for full and fair funding of California's public schools. This resolution will be presented to the Board in May. Mr. Soares, Jr., met with Canella and Bigelow's staff. He talked with them about PRS/STRS financial issue. Mr. Soares, Jr., announced the Chowchilla High Schools Girl's Basketball Team won the Valley Championship. He would like them to be recognized by the Board of Education. Jennifer Pascale has already contact Superintendent Seals to see when they can attend an MCSOS Board meeting. Mr. Soares, Jr., offered to attend one of their meetings if they could not make it here.

5.0 Information from the Superintendent and Staff

5.1 Financial Report

Steve Carney reported that as of the end of March, the MCSOS deficit spending is only $298,544. In years past it has been close to $1 million. MCSOS is in a strong position financially. Districts will be billed back for services the year after their costs are incurred. So, next year, they will be billed for this year's expenses. Dr. Massetti commented that at a recent District Superintendent meeting, superintendents requested an increase in programs and services. Marisol Verduzco has been asked to put together a synopsis of what those costs will be for the next 3 years. Superintendents will have an opportunity to review the data to make an educated decision on whether they should move forward with the additional programs. If they select to add programs, billbacks will be higher than anticipated.

5.2 MCSOS Williams Quarterly Report

Cheryl Mohr reported no complaints were received.

5.3 AB 1200 Presentation

Mr. Carney reviewed the County responsibilities of AB 1200. He commented this discussion has been brought about because of the YUSD financial crisis. He anticipates that more districts will be facing similar situations because of the STRS/PRS issue.

Mr. Carney stated AB 1200 has an impact on the entire organization. All divisions were involved in trying to assist YUSD in rectifying their situation. He explained AB 1200 is not a takeover or a seizure. It is a partnership. The responsibility of fiscal solvency rests with the district's governance team. The preparation, approval, monitoring and reporting of the budgetary and actual financial data is the responsibility of the district.

The County Superintendent is responsible for the following:

- Providing staff when necessary (if they are available)
- Providing training
    - Business
    - Human Resources
    - Curriculum
    - LCAP
- Providing support to district and governance board
- Running payroll, W-2, 1095, audits, warrants, running checks
- LCFF calculations
- STRS/PRS reporting and collecting
- Special Education Services
- Programs maintained at in Juvenile Hall and Boot Camp
- Preschool Programs
- Student Events

Cash and cash flow are very important, especially to a struggling district. What is relevant is whether a district has cash and the ability to borrow money. Negative cash flow can be mitigated by borrowing. When cash is insolvent, the district does not have the ability to pay bills or borrow funds.

AB 1200 came about in 1991 due to Richmond Unified, which is now known as Contra Costa Unified. Richmond Unified went upside down by about $42 million. Richmond was the first district in the state of California to go bankrupt. It was not until recently that Richmond paid off their state loans. They ended up borrowing about $150 million.

Delaine Eastin was the author of AB 1200. She was trying to get consistency on how county offices review information. Today, County offices have tools to help in the reviewing process. MCSOS reviews district budgets, first interim reports, second interim reports, third interim reports (if districts are "negative"), and an annual audit.

MCSOS uses the criteria and standards set forth by the State. The name of the program used is called Standard Account Code Structure (SACS). What MCSOS considers when reviewing district budgets is whether they will be able to meet the financial commitments in the current and subsequent two fiscal years. The multi-year projection is usually 3 years out, but if a district is negative, MCSOS can review them 5 years out.

The County Superintendent can approve, conditionally approve, or disapprove district budgets by September 15th. In the case of YUSD, they submitted their budget as approved. If MCSOS had just reviewed the numbers presented without the criteria of standards analysis, they would have met the criteria for being approved. Meaning they met their reserve balance for this year and the

next 2 years. However, YUSD had built in nearly a million dollars in salary cuts and $300,000 in expenditure cuts. If those cuts where not completed, YUSD would have been negative within the next school year. Those cuts had not been approved by the YUSD board. At that stage, Dr. Massetti changed their status from approved to conditional. She wrote a letter to YUSD explaining the change in status with suggestions and some demands including that YUSD would need to decrease their expenditures as they indicated in their budget (layoff certificated staff equating to the $680,000 and reduce their expenditures by $300,000, one-time funds of $250,000 would be added to the ending balance). When a district is under conditional approval, the County office does not have stay and rescind authority.

A district's budget cannot be approved until their LCAP has been approved. When YUSD submitted their Board approved LCAP, it didn't make it through Ed Service's review. YUSD had to rewrite their LCAP. At that point, MCSOS could not approve or disapprove their budget.

If a district fails to submit a budget, the County Superintendent has the authority to have County staff complete the budget. It is deemed approved once the County Superintendent approves it. At that point, the district must live with the budget created by the County Superintendent's staff. The district is charged for those services. Mr. Carney believes that has never happened in Madera County.

An interim report is a revised budget. The first interim report is for the period ending October 31 (submitted to the County office by Dec. 15). The second interim report is for the period ending Jan 31 (submitted to the County office in mid-March). The County Superintendent can change the LEA's self-certification.

The consequences for a qualified or negative certification include a third interim report due to the County office by June 1st. A negative status is filed with the State. A report is sent from the state so that rating agencies can see the negative status. This impacts a district's ability to buy COPs or refinance COPs. Collective bargaining must be reviewed by the County Superintendent who has 10 days to respond. Under qualified status, the board retains authority, but may have compensation withheld for failure to provide information. Under negative status, the county superintendent or an appointed fiscal advisor has stay and rescind authority over board actions.

For YUSD, their second interim showed funding for the current year, $35,000 for next year, and $1.2 million negative the following year. This was one of the reasons their status was changed to negative.

"Going concern" monitoring is an important topic. There are a lot of reasons you can have a risk of insolvency. For example, expenses are more than the revenue or the individual in charge of making decisions is not making decision or is not making the right decisions. Regarding charter schools, YUSD has two and reports have not yet been submitted for them. YUSD is not fulfilling their responsibility in overseeing the charter schools, which is another insolvency issue.

A district can appeal a county office decision within 10 days with the department of finance.

AB 1200 created Financial Crisis Management Assistance Team (FCMAT). FCMAT has been a tremendous help during the YUSD process.

Mr. Carney concluded by informing the group that the county office has stay and rescind authority, but the YUSD Board is still in control.

5.4 Madera County Expelled Youth Plan

Jim Sargent reviewed the Expelled Youth Triennial Update. He provided an overview of the laws and a summary of what has taken place over the last 3 years to close the GAPS. He also talked about strategies being provided to meet the needs of students and a summary of the plan to prevent expulsions. A decrease in suspensions and expulsions was noted. District superintendents approved the plan on March 14th.

Bobby Thatcher asked how suspensions were decreased. Mr. Sargent said new strategies are being implemented and staff have been trained and are more equipped to deal with behavioral students.

Mr. Soares, Jr. asked if this was a statewide movement. Mr. Sargent said that is was. Dr. Massetti explained there is more legislation preventing expulsions now.

Mr. Vived asked if data has been collected on the reactions of teachers to the reduction in suspensions/expulsions. Mr. Sargent commented that teachers care about the safety of their classrooms. What they are asking for is training and support to deal with the behavioral issues of students.

Ms. Prosperi asked if training is available to secretarial and transportation staff? Ms. Marsh responded that the PBIS system has expectations for every level. Those are taught to staff and students.

6.0 Old Business

None

7.0 Closed Session

None

8.0 New Business

8.1 Consideration Issuance of Temporary County Certificates

Tricia Protzman asked the Board to ratify the issuance of Temporary County Certificates (TCCs) from March 1-30, 2018. 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.

Alfred Soares, Jr., moved to ratify the TCCs, seconded by Cathie Bustos and carried by unanimous vote.

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

8.2 Consideration Disposition of Surplus/Obsolete Equipment
Mr. Carney provided the Board with a list of equipment declared obsolete. Items included: computers, a printer, a projector, and monitors.

Alfred Soares, Jr., moved to approve the list of surplus/obsolete equipment as submitted, seconded by Joe Vived and approved by unanimous vote.

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

8.3 Consideration Adoption of 2018-2019 School Calendars
8.3.1 Endeavor Secondary (Juvenile Hall) & Voyager Secondary
8.3.2 Pioneer Technical Center/Madera County Independent Academy
8.3.3 Pioneer Technical Center – Chowchilla
8.3.4 Madera County Office of Education Special Education (Gould)

Grant Sturm moved to adopt all four calendars as presented, seconded by Cathie Bustos and approved by unanimous vote.

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

8.4 Consideration Apportionment of Forest Reserve
Mr. Carney stated approximately $111,000 were received from the Forest Reserve. $17,000 of that will stay with MCSOS.

Alfred Soares, Jr., moved to approve the apportionments to districts, seconded by Nancy Prosperi and carried by unanimous vote.

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

8.5 Consideration Madera County Independent Academy (MCIA) Charter Renewal Petition Revision
Mr. Sargent informed the group that based on consultation with CDE, it was determined that the start date for the term of the MCIA charter renewal should be May 8th. The date has been updated in the petition. Copies of the changes were provided to the Board.

Alfred Soares, Jr., moved to approve the revisions to the Madera County Independent Academy Charter renewal petition with the effective start date of May 8, 2018, and approved for 5 years, ending June 30, 2023, seconded by Nancy Prosperi and approved by unanimous vote.

UNADOPTED

Ayes:	Bustos, Prosperi, Soares, Jr., Sturm, Thatcher, Vived, Wilkins
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)

All Board of Education members were present.

9.2 Board Attendance Spring Fling, May 3, 2018

All Board of Education members stated they would attend Spring Fling.

9.3 Central Valley Educational Coalition (CVEC) April 19, 2018

Cathie Bustos may attend.

9.4 Determination of Special Board Meeting in June

The Board of Education agreed to meet June 27, 2018, at 4 p.m. for the Special Board meeting.

10.0 Adjournment

Bobby Thatcher moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alfred Soares, Jr., and carried by unanimous vote.

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m. .
Respectfully submitted,

Cecilia A. Massetti, Ed.D. Executive Secretary

CAM/jep