

YOLO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Retreat

April 19, 2024

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

YCOE Community Room

1.0 OPENING PROCEDURES

1.1 Call to Order and Roll Call. The Yolo County Board of Education met on April 19, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at a Regular Board Retreat session in person. Board Members present were Shelton Yip, Armando Salud-Ambriz (by Zoom), Melissa Moreno and Elizabeth Esquivel. Trustee Tico Zendejas is absent. President Yip presided. Superintendent Garth Lewis was present. (Roll Call held).

1.2 Consider Approval of Virtual Participation of the Yolo County Board of Education Retreat Meeting by Vice President Armando Salud-Ambriz due to Emergency Circumstances (AB 2449)

Motion to approve Virtual Participation of the Yolo County Board of Education Retreat Meeting by Vice President Armando Salud-Ambriz due to Emergency Circumstances (AB 2449)

MOTION: Esquivel SECOND: Moreno AYES: Esquivel, Moreno, Yip **ABSTAIN:** Salud-Ambriz **ABSENT:** Zendejas

1.3 Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement. The land acknowledgement statement was conducted.

1.4 Pledge of Allegiance. The pledge of allegiance was conducted.

1.5 Approval of Agenda.

Motion to Approve agenda.

MOTION: Moreno SECOND: Esquivel AYES: Moreno, Esquivel, Salud-Ambriz, Yip **NOES:** None **ABSENT:** Zendejas

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3.0 **Board President Welcome** – *President Shelton Yip*

4.0 **Presentation on County Committee on Redistricting and Territory Transfer** (30 min) – *David Soldani, Attorney, Atkinson, et al.*

Superintendent Lewis introduced David Soldani, attorney to present PowerPoint on County Committee on Redistricting and Territory Transfer

Trustee Moreno asked if districts have been notified of AB 764 (Fair Maps Act) criteria. Mr. Soldani stated that there have been news briefs from attorneys. Vice President Salud-Ambriz asked about two incumbents in same area, and can they both use title? Mr. Soldani stated that there is no hard rule, and each county is different on how to choose the incumbent of trustee area. Usually if you are in the same area and the term ends for two (2) people at same time you must run head-to-head. Two years later that person can run again. Trustee Moreno gave an example of Yolo's geographic territory and how it could run into another territory. Superintendent Lewis discussed crossing county boundaries and how it doesn't change jurisdictional and school district boundaries.

Trustee Esquivel asked about the county committee and how there has been pushback on going further in West Sacramento regarding transferring territory. Current housing will affect the next census and whether there will be a certain portion kept in the trustee area. Discussion on law and if it is currently designed and applicable to school districts along with tracking school attendance boundaries from at-large to district is current practice. She is hoping for the opportunity to clean up language in bill and hopefully CSBA will take this issue on.

- Board went through a case study on territory transfer.
- Housing developments in district and between boundaries. President Yip stated that each community is growing but in own territory.

Trustee Moreno asked how race is defined – the attorney commented and discussed what makes a community a community regarding Criterion 4 – discrimination.

Questions asked about state board authority and appeal of territory authority is held within the state board.

Trustee Moreo asked if the attorneys would help with any issues the county committee had. Superintendent Lewis stated that there is support and education around this topic. Thank you for sharing information.

- 5.0 Review Mission and Vision Statement of YCOE (10 min) – Supt. Garth Lewis**
- Superintendent Lewis reviewed and thanked Board for support. Board voices are reflected in strategic plan goals. He reviewed the timeline but still working on guiding work with same mission and vision, core values and cultural norms. Staff will set course for next four (4) years into the future. Discussed what the words mean in classroom, offices, board room and the need for full engagement from team. For example, internship programs highlight example - first intern is now working at UC Davis as custodian. Services for students and impact is important.

Trustee Moreno thanked Superintendent Lewis for sharing mission and vision and reminding the Board what the responsibilities are including appellate body for charter, budget, etc. Superintendent Lewis also discussed operationalizing the Roadmap to the Future. Trustee Moreno asked if we are collaborating with districts on the roadmap? Staff stated that yes that this is currently being done with Equity Summit collaboration and other partnerships.

Trustee Esquivel asked if the Mission goes through 2025? Superintendent Lewis stated it is through Spring 2025 but will pick up from the Fall through 2029. President Yip stated that it is important to have one voice and continue to educate as ambassadors while expressing what our vision is to meet needs of students. He commented on the recent Davis Enterprise article on Roadmap and how important it is to have a single voice while advocating what we are doing for county.

Trustee Moreno commented that it is clear Cesar Chavez Community School and Greengate are well served. She is concerned about how many teachers will be cut or let go from the district with all the upcoming budget cuts. Superintendent Lewis stated that it is helpful to understand that county authority is limited. The local control governance body makes decisions and county does not have that authority. We have a relationship in terms of partnership, consultation, or technical assistance in which President Yip commented that it is important for county board members to relay that message.

6.0 Yolo COE Reserves (20 min) - Veronica Coronado, Assoc. Supt. Administrative Services reviewed PowerPoint. She discussed:

- Impact of increasing reserve level
- Comparison to other COEs
 - Trustee Moreno asked what is calculated 3% reserve.
 - Staff stated 1.1 million.
 - Trustee Esquivel asked about the LCAP DA and if unrestricted.
 - Ms. Coronado commented on the local resource contribution for DA. Contribute to resource funds not used in reserve.
 - President Yip asked if our 3% is sufficient?
 - Ms. Coronado stated that we have not had to dip into reserve so based on that she would maintain minimum. Staff would utilize other fund balance before we consider reserve. The combined total reserves are adequate to support needs to continue and staff can easily pivot in challenging times.
 - President Yip commented that it is important to set aside funds for STRS/PERS.
 - Trustee Moreno asked if this reserve is just for YCOE or districts also?
 - Ms. Coronado stated this is for YCOE only since districts have their own reserves.

- Ms. Coronado also clarified the multi-year projection account for increases and built in budget expenditures.

Trustee Moreno and President Yip suggested that we maintain status quo on reserves.

7.0 Facilities Update (20 min) – Matt Juchniewicz, Director, Support Operations Services

- Reviewed PowerPoint.
- Reviewed all construction at Greengate.
- Trustee Esquivel asked about the move to Lee Middle School and if there are concerns from parents. Mr. Juchniewicz stated that there have been meetings with transportation and the parents are aware along with the food service department. YCOE met with all programs to make them aware and finalize details for next month with parent feedback by end of this week.
- School districts provide transportation to Greengate and just needs to be rerouted. There was parent concern on proper sensory tools and equipment working on with program. The Director and educational staff are working on this request. Hoping for an August 7 completion date. Weekly construction meetings will be ongoing.
- Trustee Moreno asked about equipment used here and if it will be taken to Lee Middle School. Staff stated that yes it will be transferred based on IEP. Communication to employees and updates to staff have been given through town halls and the intranet. There is also extensive FAQ and a form they can submit questions and comments. Ms. Coronado thanked Woodland for partnership in using facilities.
- Discussed entrance and parking.
- Graduations here at YCOE. Trustee Esquivel commented that modernization trigger requirements to abide by. Indoor locks, full suite. Unfunded mandates code or by Ed. Codes.
- Kickoff meeting on micro grid.
 - Communication on twelve (12) projects on six (6) locations. Hopefully complete June 30.
 - Trustee Esquivel commented on the resiliency and sustainability project. It would be wonderful to provide guidance to other county offices, etc. Trustee Salud-Ambriz congratulated staff and wanted more information on this great project. Sounds like a presentation for CSBA per President Yip. He thanked staff for their work and including student voices in planning these projects.

8.0 Roadmap to the Future Update (15 min) – Superintendent Garth Lewis & Deputy Superintendent Maria Arvizu-Espinoza

- Discussed partnership and collaboration.
- President Yip appreciates staff and moving project forward.

- Sustainability and plans.
- Board of supervisors meeting update and funds.
 - What other opportunities are needed to ensure it keeps going?
 - Looking for partners.
 - Phase 3 helping to fund online tool.
- President Yip stated that the roadmap information should be shared at CSBA conference and have staff thought about the Golden Bell awards and applying?
 - Also presenting a workshop at CSBA/CCBE.
 - The more we present the more possibility for partnership.
- Vice President Salud-Ambriz stated that he is proud of where we come from and YCOE is doing phenomenal.

9.0 Effective Governance Conversation and Agreements (1 hour)

**Please bring your CCBE handbook to meeting*

- Review California County Board of Education (CCBE) Handbook – *President Shelton Yip*
 - *No discussion*
- Board Meetings & Communication – *Superintendent Garth Lewis*
- Reviewed roles between Trustees and Superintendent (BB 9000) (SP 9323)
 - Shelton communicated that shared governance is strong. Some COEs in the state do not have a connection to superintendent. The Yolo County Board hears from all departments, has 1:1s with the superintendent.
 - Reminder to review policy SP 9323.
 - Reminder to let Board president, Superintendent and Executive Assistant aware of non-attendance at Board meetings
- Governance Mindset
 - Process for supporting/sponsoring bills/staff & community – *Trustee Elizabeth Esquivel*
 - She reviewed eleven (11) bills that should be priority for the Board to pass resolution or take a position on. List will be included as attachment to meeting.
 - AB 2627 – Trustee Moreno would like to support/review testifying on Wednesday. Vice President Salud-Ambriz and staff from YCOE plan to testify.
- Potential special projects supported/sponsored by Board – *Trustee Elizabeth Esquivel and Trustee Melissa Moreno*
 - Superintendent Lewis commented on work that we do collectively for grants.

Trustee Melissa Moreno left meeting at 12:00 pm

- Establish ad hoc committee/advisory committees (explore student board member) – *Vice President Armando Salud-Ambriz*
 - Still working and reviewing this issue with various COEs on their practices and the best way to provide student pay. Some items to review include:
 - Whether students should be from a program through YCOE or district Conversation assignment and whether student advisory should have a vote.
 - Drafting resolution and will share to gather feedback.
 - More to come on this topic.

10.0 Conducting a Board Self-Evaluation (5 min) – *President Shelton Yip*

- Sample materials
- Discuss timeline for future self-evaluation
 - President Yip asked trustees if we need a self-evaluation. Are we communicating, do we have common ground? Do we want it to be more county specific?
 - Trustee Esquivel stated that she didn't think they needed a survey.
 - Vice President Salud-Ambriz asked if the survey was beneficial. He feels he has a great relationship with the Board and Superintendent.

The trustees would like to wait for new products and have it more specific with county boards. Trustee Esquivel asked to wait on the evaluation and President Yip stated that hopefully one should come out by next retreat.

11.0 Trainings, Travel and Supply Budget (10 mins) – *Superintendent Garth Lewis*

- Actuals for 2022-23
- Year to date actuals for 2023-24
- How to submit requests for travel (SP 4133) – *Yvette Seibert, Executive Assistant*
 - Superintendent Lewis reviewed the actuals for 2022-23 and 2023-24.
 - Should the trustees consider any changes in total and the way monies are being allocated to supporting travel.
 - President Yip commented that it is important to attend some of these conferences to make sure voices are heard and to discuss current events.
- Trustees commented on:
 - Attendance equity for conferences.

- Vice President Salud-Ambriz stated that it is important to attend and advocate for students. Conferences have been very helpful regarding what is happening.
- Board bylaw documentation.
 - Maintain status quo.

12.0 Future Agenda Items (5 min) *President Shelton Yip*

- Other Items to Address
 - Update on CCBE transition committee
 - About CCBE
 - Letters from COEs to CSBA
 - Letter from CSBA to COE
 - County Board Governance Meeting 3-8-24

Update on CCBE transition.

Transition committee addressed these issues:

- Fifteen (15) member transition committee
 - Met twice a week in January and February.
 - Issues concern lack of transparency, communication, funds, separate dues structure.
 - Survey went out to trustees.
 - Letters submitted to CSBA President and to Vernon Billy Executive Director on concerns were reviewed.
 - Letter and injunction from San Diego coming out soon.
 - Do we want to file a letter of concern to CSBA, thoughts?
 - Trustee Esquivel has no preference and will let the rest of the group decide. She requested that the tone be professional. Vice President Salud Ambriz stated that the decision from CSBA was huge, and they are not going to undue their decision. Vice President Salud-Ambriz stated that he understands that there are concerns but is indifferent to writing a letter.
 - President Shelton Yip shared concerns with the Director of Region 6 Jackie Wong.
 - The transition committee is gathering feedback. Concerns include separate dues and the structure of billing, Gamut focusing on county centric policies are the top two concerns. Vice President Salud-Ambriz does support a strategic plan of action and they will have a conversation at Executive Committee regarding submitting a letter to CSBA.

President Yip commented that the handbook needs to be updated. Please read it and send him items that need to be addressed and changed for future conversation.

Superintendent Lewis recognized President Yip as the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) regional representative chosen for statewide recognition.

- Questions
None

Adjournment 12:45 pm

MOTION: Salud-Ambriz SECOND: Esquivel AYES: Salud-Ambriz, Esquivel, Yip NOES: None ABSENT: Moreno, Zendejas