

YOLO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Meeting: September 15, 2020
MINUTES

1.1 OPENING PROCEDURES

1.1 Call to Order and Roll Call. The Yolo County Board of Education met on September 15, 2020 at 4:31 p.m. in Special session on a zoom conference call. Board Members present were: Carol Souza Cole, Matt Taylor, Melissa Moreno, Shelton Yip. Trustee Zendejas is absent. President Souza Cole presided. Superintendent Garth Lewis was present. (Roll Call held).

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

1.3 Approval of Agenda.

MOTION: Taylor **SECOND:** Yip **AYES:** Taylor, Yip, Moreno, Souza Cole
NOES: None **ABSENT:** Zendejas

1.4 Public Comment. None.

2.0 ACTION ITEMS

2.1 Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan

Micah Studer, Executive Director, Equity and Support Services reviewed the changes in the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan and responded to questions from the Board.

Questions from the Board on the plan included:

- Funds allocated for staff technology.
- Chromebooks for staff members.
- Access to technology - Staff need to interact with students is different.
- Continuity of services including web-based applications.
- Mental Health Services for foster youth and homeless – Staff time on foster youth and homeless issues
- Mitigate pupil learning including mental health therapist intervention for students.
- Tiered system of re-engagement.
- Social workers from CommuniCare.
- Trustee Moreno requested more detail on the funding (for paraeducator and staff) and a rationale on mental health services. There is a great need for mental health therapists for students and she feels more funds could be used in that area. Superintendent Lewis stated we do provide mental health services that are not provided in this document.
- Trustee Moreno requested the document under curriculum reflect more cultural relevance. It is important to state in the document that the Yolo County Office of Education (YCOE) is adopting and maintaining cultural relevance. For example, Native American professional development funds for supporting staff. Superintendent Lewis stated that this is more of a countywide initiative and in line

with our alternative education program but appreciates the feedback. YCOE's core values and commitment is to equity and it is a reminder of the need to align our language and commitment to racial education and cultural relevance.

President Souza Cole reviewed:

- The staffing plan and requested language in the opening statement that recognizes the work of staff members during COVID-19 who support and serve students during this time. Dr. Studer will work with Dr. Carolynne Beno, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services on this statement.
- That the plan currently reflects predominance low income from 80 to 90% on page 8. Trustee Souza Cole requested an actual number. She would like a document that is user friendly to everyone to reflect this information.
- Please change the statement on page 12 that 76% of alternative education youth fall within unduplicated student groups. Please describe what unduplicated students groups are and if they could be broken down to describe each student population.

Trustee Zendejas joined the meeting at 5:01 p.m.

Trustee Taylor had a question on page 12 regarding the increased services for foster youth that reflects 7.99 percent. Dr. Studer described the reasoning and services for adding the 7.99 percent.

Dr. Studer commented that the Learning Continuity Plan (LCP) is not something one can easily summarize or is user-friendly in terms of spending. The LCP is not a substitute for the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). This document outlines our best effort in dealing with COVID-19. The LCAP will be due in December 2020.

Trustee Moreno asked if this document is different from LCAPs from the past. Did the LCP require input from parents and community, how transparent is this document, did ELAC parents give feedback, how many ELAC parents participated in this process? Board members discussed the details in this document for the public in relation to transparency and the budgeting aspect and stated that this document is a snapshot of those items.

President Souza Cole stated that we could make a statement in the introduction that this is a fluid document and that information will change. It is also important that any document that the Board approves has user friendly language and is a document that the community and parents can understand and be digestible by all.

Motion to adopt the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan with the changes discussed:

- Inclusion of the number of chromebooks and laptops for staff devices.
- Inclusion of language on culturally relevant curriculum.
- On Page 8 defining the number/percentage of students that are socially, economically disadvantaged.
- In the opening statement to state the number of students and staff who are serving and

breaking down percentages.

- Inclusion of hot spots and technology amounts/percentage.
- Inclusion in the statement to support existing technology that students currently have.
- Inclusion in the statement to support existing therapists and the social emotional well-being of students.

MOTION: Taylor **SECOND:** Yip **AYES:** Taylor, Yip, Moreno, Souza Cole, Zendejas **NOES:** None **ABSENT:** None

ROLL CALL VOTE:

TAYLOR – AYE

YIP – AYE

MORENO – AYE

SOUZA COLE – AYE

ZENDEJAS – AYE

The plan will be updated and sent to the Board in 48 hours or by the end of the week. This document has to be submitted to the State within 5 days of adoption on September 20, 2020.

3.0 INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

3.1 Yolo County Board of Education Self-Evaluation

The Board reviewed the Yolo County Board of Education Self-evaluation in the Board packet. Superintendent Lewis was not able to participate in the survey per California School Boards Association (CSBA) rules.

Trustee Yip stated that some questions were more geared toward districts, so some questions did not pertain to the county board.

The trustees discussed the findings in the gold and red tiers (that need improvement):

The Board reviews its governance agreements regularly.

President Souza Cole discussed adopting governance agreements. She reviewed CSBA's summary of professional governance standards which includes items for an individual trustee and the Board as a whole. The Board discussed including this item at the annual board retreat in February. Trustee Yip stated that at the Board annual retreat we look at our vision and mission statement which reflects this item.

Trustee Moreno stated that while reviewing board governance that the Board could discuss and clarify who reviews the board budget, voting on the budget and major policies.

Trustee Yip stated that there is a budget workshop at the California County Board of Education (CCBE) that helps to answer this question and a Budget Committee who is able to have input on this issue.

Superintendent Lewis stated that there are two considerations to the definition of governance including the budget calendar to clearly define cycle and adoption and which includes part of the governance structure for the Board. President Souza Cole also recently requested to include monthly budget reports to the Board, so he feels it's important to define items to approve for governance and then have a schedule for these items to occur. Vice President Taylor stated that some of those items have been addressed at the Executive committee and we can make sure it is placed on the calendar, as needed on the schedule. This can also be discussed at the annual retreat for 2021 where there is a portion of time spent on governance agreements.

Trustee Yip also stated that at the December organizational meeting the Board chooses a president and vice president. The Board has been having a discussion on how the Board of Supervisors chooses their president and vice president. Trustee Yip would like to finish this discussion and he would like to have an action on this item soon. President Souza Cole discussed placing this item as an information/action item at the October/November meeting which would include an addition to the bylaws. Vice President Taylor would like to have a conversation at the meeting on this issue and is not sure about voting on this issue yet. He has some concerns on the rotation. Trustee Yip also stated that it would be helpful to get the Board of Supervisors calendar on this issue. We will move forward with scheduling a discussion on this item soon and include it as an action item this fall on electing board officers.

The Board adopts clear and measurable indicators to assess the county office of education performance.

Trustee Yip stated that there are monthly updates from the Superintendent and the Superintendent's Advisory Team (SAT) on this issue. It is giving an indicator on movement but not as formal.

Trustee Moreno would appreciate more measurement data with the narratives that have been shared with the Board on the County's work. The Board has also heard assessment surveys but she would like to hear more from students and parents on the programs. Trustee Moreno would also like to hear from staff, teachers and faculty on effective policies and programs. She would like more data reports and the actual numbers of how effective the County Office has been on delivering technology/curriculum to students for the last six (6) months which would help with data driven decisions.

Superintendent Lewis stated that the Board currently receives attendance reports along with the traditional LCAP success indicators which is measurable. Superintendent Lewis stated that in addition to the LCAP we can identify as part of the annual adoption of YCOE's Mission and Vision a set target for goals and share alternative education attendance updates along with the graduation rates. More specific information that can be included is regular course credit completion rates

measurement and the number of students that participate in alternative education in the area of literacy or mathematics.

President Souza Cole stated there is a need for a more static metric course and credit completion rate as measurement data that could be provided to the Board. She asked if this can also include Greengate and Head Start and would there be similar indicators that would be appropriate for the Board to be looking at. Superintendent Lewis said this is a challenge because of IEPs and medically fragile students which would first need to be discussed with staff to see if we have the ability to measure these items. Currently we can provide attendance and kindergarten readiness as an indicator on these programs. We will continue to provide updates and hear feedback on these programs at the Board meetings.

Superintendent Lewis plans to schedule a strategic planning session soon and has begun conversations with SAT on this issue. Feedback from staff was unanimous to continue this conversation and begin the process.

Trustee Moreno shared an example on how YCOE can adopt a clear and measurable indicator for success in the foster youth program, for example wanting to see why there is currently a need for increasing the position in that department. The questions she asked include - Why does foster youth need more coordination? Did it grow? Are there more students? Trustee Moreno feels it would help to have more indicators on YCOE programs. Superintendent Lewis stated that presentations have been made to the Board but understands that we can be clear on updates in terms of language to describe data. We currently do provide the narrative but we need to be more explicit when dealing with quantitative data and program success and progress.

President Souza Cole stated that the Board will address this item and the area of growth during the annual board retreat during the mission and vision discussion.

Superintendent Lewis and staff will provide the Board with data in various categories for example:

Alternative Education – Graduation rate for students
Greengate - Enrollment and attendance descriptors
Head Start – Attendance descriptors

Establishing priorities for collective bargaining
Governing Board is not involved in this issue.

The Board evaluates performance of Board.

President Souza Cole thanked Trustee Yip's persistence that we get the survey done this year. It is important to evaluate board performance annually. This item will be added to the calendar in July for a Board evaluation to then be reviewed/discussed at the August Board meeting.

The Board evaluates the Superintendent

President Taylor stated that the public evaluates the superintendent on whether he is elected or not.

The Board appreciated that they reviewed and discussed the survey and questions. The Board survey will also be included in the Board retreat materials.

4.0 **ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m.

MOTION: Moreno **SECOND:** Yip **AYES:** Moreno, Yip, Souza Cole, Taylor, Zendejas **NOES:** None **ABSENT:** None



Garth Lewis, Superintendent

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