



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL
OCCUPATIONAL
CENTER

Board of Education - Nov 13 2023 Minutes

Monday, November 13, 2023 at 6:30 PM

2300 Crenshaw Boulevard, Torrance, CA 90501

1. Call Meeting to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Member Fenton and Member McGhee were absent.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Member Fournell led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Approval Agenda

2.1 Approve the November 13, 2023 agenda.

Moved by: Meredith Beachly

Seconded by: Linda Kurt

Carried

3. Commendations / Recognition:

None

4. Student Voices:

4.1 Kaitlyn Warren, Gene Dreveno Community Day School - B. Montoya

Cosmetology Module V

Superintendent Rodriguez introduced Kaitlyn Warren a senior from Gene Dreveno Community Day School.

Kaitlyn commented that she is currently enrolled in module V of the Cosmetology program. She shared that she has learned all aspects of the trade including hair, make-up, facial, and nails. Kaitlyn stated that the skills and techniques she learned in the class are preparing her for the State Board Exam in February 2024. Kaitlyn stated that upon completion of the Cosmetology program she plans on taking course in the medical field with an end goal of becoming a Criminal Investigator. Kaitlyn thanked the Board for the support and opportunity to pursue her passion.

President Strutzenberg presented Kaitlyn Warren with an *Award of Excellence Certificate*.

5. Program Highlight:

None

6. Public Comment

None

7. Acknowledgement of Correspondence to the Board

None

8. Superintendent's Remarks

Superintendent Rodriguez commented that over the past month SoCal ROC hosted two open houses with over 150 attendees. Community members, adult and high school students able to tour our facility and see what SoCal ROC is all about. There was representation from all JPA partner districts.

Superintendent Rodriguez thanked the Board and SoCal ROC for the support.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that in honor of Veterans Day, SoCal ROC is very thankful for their commitment.

9. Staff Reports

9.1 Course Cost Analysis Update - J. Rodriguez

Superintendent Rodriguez presented phase 1 and 2 of the course cost analysis as it relates to the Centers accountability plan. The presentation included a detailed summary on instructor salary cost, instructional supplies/materials and instructional program cost for all SoCal ROC programs.

President Strutzenberg stated that the next step he would like to see is the instructor cost divided by enrollment to see what it is

costing per student. Along with that adding a capacity column. This will give us a better feel of what is expensive to run and what is less expensive to run.

President Strutzenberg asked if the enrollment numbers used were current numbers.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that enrollment numbers were from the 2022/2023 academic year.

Member Kurt asked if it was possible to add a column that included percentage of enrollment and capacity per program

10. Consent Calendar

President Strutzenberg asked if any Members of the Board had any Items to pull from the consent portion of the agenda. President Strutzenberg pulled Item #1 and #6. Member Kurt pulled item #7.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR NUMBERS 2-5 & 8-9

Moved by: James Han

Seconded by: Meredith Beachly

Carried

- 10.1 **APPROVE BOARD MINUTES OF OCTOBER 2023**
- 10.2 **APPROVE PAYROLL A WARRANT REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2023**
- 10.3 **APPROVE B WARRANT REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2023**
- 10.4 **APPROVE B WARRANT ISSUED WITHOUT PURCHASE ORDERS OCTOBER 2023**
- 10.5 **APPROVE PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENT ORDERS**
- 10.6 **APPROVE PURCHASE ORDER REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2023**
- 10.7 **APPROVE REVOLVING CASH FUND FOR OCTOBER 2023**
- 10.8 **APPROVE SOCAL ROC RECOGNITION ACCOUNT FOR OCTOBER 2023**

10.9 **APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DATE AND TIME FOR SOCIAL ROC'S ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

ITEMS PULLED

Item # 10.1 - President Strutzenberg pointed out a several minor revision that included spelling and punctuation. All revision were noted and will be corrected.

President Strutzenberg made a motion to approve Item 10.1 as amended. Member Kurt Seconded the motion.

Carried

Item #6 - President Strutzenberg question the \$27, 000 expense for HopSkipDrive. President Strutzenberg commented that when the item was brought to the Board In February 2023 the budgetary impact was \$50, 000. At this point, we are over half of that. President Strutzenberg stated that he interpreted the budgetary of \$50,000 to be for the year and does not see this sustainable.

Superintendent Rodriguez remarked that when the September invoice was received, it was reviewed to make sure the rates that where part of the agreement where adhered too, only being charged what was part of the exhibit A of the MOU and all that was accurate. There is a dashboard to confirm metrics in terms of which rides are being taken and canceled. Superintendent Rodriguez stated that there was a concern as to the amount beibg charged for canceled rides. It was stated in the agreement that there would be a rate for cancellation but the fact that its over \$5,000 of the \$27,000. Several steps will be taking place to ensure that cancelations are done within a certain time frame to try and eliminated the cancelation fee. Superintendent Rodriguez commented that compared to Cardinol it is still significantly less.

President Strutzenberg stated that this was very concerning and asked if students where sharing rides or if they were individual rides.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that some of the rides are shared.

Member Cobb asked if there was a plan to notify the districts about the cancelations.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated the agreement is set up with the individual riders. A discussion is taking place with

management that someone needs to be held accountable for the cancelation fee. Steps are in place to mediate the cancelations.

President Strutzenberg pointed out that when Cardinal was approved in August 2022, the budgetary impact was \$300,000 and that panned out to be \$669,000. President Strutzenberg stated that he now reads these budget impacts with a leery eye and does not trust them anymore with what has happened.

President Strutzenberg stated that this is a huge expense and asked if it was viable.

Member Han asked if we knew the number of students participating in the rideshare program.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that he was not sure and hated to give incorrect numbers. He stated that he would get those numbers and email it to the Board Members.

President Strutzenberg suggested adding an application fee for transportation.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that he would gather some information and present it to the Board.

Member Fournell shared that across the entire state, bus cost has doubled and tripled in the last couple of years and the supply has diminished.

Member Han asked if this was an annual contract and was it negotiable.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that he would get back to him with the terms of the contract.

President Strutzenberg asked if this was viable and that this agreement needed to be monitored and asked that this be an agenda item for further discussion.

President Strutzenberg made a motion to approve item #10.6. Member Han Seconded the motion.

Carried

Item #10.7 - Member Kurt asked which programs had been canceled and asked Superintendent Rodriguez if a list could be emailed. It will be useful to know the reasoning and how to prevent it going forward

Member Kurt made a motion to approve item #10.7. Member Beachly Seconded the motion.

Carried

11. Business Services

11.1 Approve Vector USA Contract - D. Calvillo

Superintendent Rodriguez stated the for the past few years the network has been managed off site which is typical. Over the course of the last few years the price with SoftChoice has increased significantly. Superintendent Rodriguez commented that Dr. Calvillo, the new Technology Director, has been doing an assessment of our network . Dr. Calvillo has also been stream lining devices, some devices are outdated, many duplications. Dr. Calvillo tried working with SoftChoice to try and lower the rate but was unsuccessful. Superintendent Rodriguez stated that Vector seems to be more in line for SoCal ROC with time and material rate rather than a yearly subscription.

President Strutzenberg asked if the prior contract had ended.

Superintendent Rodriguez commented that it had but that one additional month was purchased to get through the hand off.

President Strutzenberg stated this agreement needs to be monitored so that it does not become a HopSkipDrive situation.

Moved by: James Han

Seconded by: Meredith Beachly

Carried

12. General Services

12.1 Review and Adopt SoCal ROC's Strategic Plan

Superintendent Rodriguez provided the Board with the most recent revisions to the strategic plan. Board Members provided additional feedback and minor revisions were suggested.

President Stutzenberg made a motion to approve the strategic plan as amended by adding 3.8 (ongoing communication with JPA Superintendents) and to revisit the plan May.

Moved by: Rolf Strutzenberg

Seconded by: Linda Kurt

Carried

12.2 Approve Agreement with The Howard Group (THG) - J. Rodriguez

Superintendent Rodriguez stated the Dr. Howard is a world renowned professor of education at UCLA also an author of many books. His research addresses issues tied to race, culture and educational opportunity for minoritized student populations. Superintendent Rodriguez commented that Dr. Howard will conduct a 90 minute professional staff development on implicit bias for all staff. Superintendent Rodriguez stated that this will not be the only professional development, there are a few more planned throughout the year.

Member Kurt shared that she had the pleasure of hearing Dr. Howard at PVPUSD right before retiring.

Member Han asked when the staff development would be.

Superintendent Rodriguez remarked that it is scheduled for Monday, December 4th at 6:00 pm in the Boardroom

President Strutzenberg asked if Board Members would be able to attend.

Superintendent Rodriguez said yes and extended the invitation to all Board Members.

Carried

12.3 **Receive for Information the Proposed MOU between SoCal ROC and Options for Youth - J. Rodriguez**

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that he has been approached by several charter schools. Options for Youth (OFY) is a non profit charter organization in Northern and Southern California serving students grades 7-12 who have fallen behind in school, are looking to get ahead and graduate early, or simply desire a non-traditional learning environment. Superintendent Rodriguez stated that OFY approached SoCal ROC as a possibility for students who were interested in CTE course, OFY only offers core courses. Superintendent Rodriguez shared that OFY has attended SoCal ROC's open house. This agreement would allow their student to enroll only if space permits. They will not take enrollment from JPA partner districts and will be paying the \$1530 per student enrollment fee.

President Strutzenberg asked for clarification on whether transportation would be provided.

Superintendent Rodriguez confirmed that no transportation would be provided.

President Strutzenberg asked of the agreement was year to year.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that is agreement would be in effect until August 2024 and then continue on a year-to-year basis.

Member Han asked if there were any safety issue to be concerned about.

Superintendent Rodriguez remarked that this agreement was reviewed by legal counsel, indemnity and liability are built into the agreement. They also follow the same hiring guidelines as SoCal ROC for hiring staff.

President Strutzenberg asked if we knew how many students would participate, maybe 1 or 2.

Superintendent Rodriguez shared that at his previous district they had an agreement with OFY and they had a handful the entire year.

President Strutzenberg asked if expenses for material were treated the same as a JPA students with expenses being covered with the \$1530.

Superintendent Rodriguez replied that that was correct.

12.4 **Receive for Information the Proposed MOU between SoCal ROC and Los Angeles Harbor College - J. Rodriguez**

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that the proposed partnership with Los Angeles Harbor College, SoCal ROC would offer to eligible students, courses aligned with Career Technical Education pathways at LAHC. The memorandum of understanding (MOU) outlines the conditions of students taking: Courses for Credit (tuition-based courses eligible for college credit and SoCal ROC credit); Noncredit courses (free courses, no college credit available but eligible for SoCal ROC credit), and Not-for-Credit courses (tuition-based courses, no college credit but eligible for certificates and SoCal ROC credit).

Superintendent Rodriguez presented a detailed presentation on the opportunities for college credits with Los Angeles Harbor College that included definition of terms and SoCal ROC's credit only courses.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that there are two ways for students to receive college credits, either by dual enrollment or articulated coursework. Dual enrollment enables high school students to take college courses, taught by college professors at their high school campus. These courses can also count toward your high school diploma. Students earn credit by simply

completing the course. Articulated coursework is a process whereby curriculum, and instruction are aligned between high school and the community college. Students have the opportunity to earn college credit by taking an end of course examination.

President Strutzenberg asked what is the cost for enrollment.

Superintendent Rodriguez commented that it would be \$46 for the enrollment fee plus the health service fee.

12.5 **Discuss PVNet MOU - J. Rodriguez**

Superintendent Rodriguez gave a detailed update on the MOU with PVNet.

Partnership Timeline:

January 2020: MOU with PVNet was approved. SoCal ROC was to receive a 25% of registration fees for students enrolling in a SoCal ROC course at PVnet. Courses were to be taught by a credentialed instructor and all courses offered at PVNet were to be approved by SoCal ROC Board.

April 2021: four (4) courses were added and approved

May 2021: three (3) courses were added and approved

September 2023: an audit of the PVNet course offerings revealed the non-credentialed teachers were teaching courses not approved by SoCal ROC Board, courses had different names than the ones originally approved and an AP course was being offered when it should not be offered.

October 2023: a site visit was conducted. The MOU was sent to BBK for consultation. Between January 2020 and October 2023, SoCal ROC's profit was \$400.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that there were also a number of concerns such as: liability requirements, safety assurances, resource allocation, partner districts do not partner with PVNet and pathways are not aligned with SoCal ROC's pathways.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that he was made aware of this agreement this September. He stated that he has been in communication with legal counsel and they suggested that should we decide to continue with the agreement to have it rewritten with appropriate language.

12.6 **Discuss CSBA Conference Attendance/Reimbursement - J. Rodriguez**

Superintendent Rodriguez commented at the September 11, 2023 Board of Education meeting it was requested to discuss the cost of reimbursement to Board members for attending the CSBA annual conference. The proposed amount of reimbursement includes: regular conference registration, travel, lodging, and daily meal allowance not to exceed \$2500.00.

President Strutzenberg shared that he believes we cannot cap the amount, he is not sure if Ed Code states may or shall provide for actual and necessary expenses.

Member Kurt asked if this was for Members that districts will not pay.

President Strutzenberg stated that this was primarily for at large Board Members and possibly Member McGhee.

President Strutzenberg asked Member Cobb and Member Fournell for their feedback.

Both Member Cobb and Member Fournell stated that they were unable to attend this years' conference.

Member Kurt asked if a decision was being made for this year or going forward.

President Strutzenberg remarked that it could be for either.

Superintendent Rodriguez indicated that it was not late to register of a Board Member expressed interest.

Member Kurt suggested that at large Members could alternate years.

Member Han suggested allowing all three Members to attend.

Member Cobb stated that it is very beneficial to attend the CSBA conference especially with the turnover of the Board.

President Strutzenberg stated that Board Policy 3350 stated; The the Governing Board shall authorize payment for actual and necessary expense, including travel, incurred by any employee performing authorized services for the ROC. Expenses shall be reimbursed within limits approved by the Board.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that it was a moot point for this year but would bring this item for Board approval for future conferences.

12.7 **Idea Parking Lot - President**

The following items were suggested by Board members for future Board discussion.

1. Update on HopSkipDrive
2. JPA enrollment fee (January 2024)

13. **Board Members' Remarks**

Member Han shared that TUSD will be holding their reorganizational meeting and is not sure if he will continue to be on the SoCal ROC Board.

President Strutzenberg apologized to the Board and Superintendent Rodriguez for forgetting the Superintendent's evaluation in October. It was written in the contract that the Superintendent would be evaluated in October 2023 and annually thereafter. Superintendent Rodriguez has agreed to have the evaluation moved to December if the Board agreed to it.

Member Fournell asked if this was a full review or just a checkpoint.

President Strutzenberg remarked that it would be a full review.

President Strutzenberg stated that he several Board Members had indicated that they did not like the current method of evaluation.

Member Kurt suggested that a closed session be on the agenda in December on the process of how it would be done and then in January the Superintendent evaluation can be done.

President Strutzenberg said he was ok with that but would prefer to dive into the evaluation.

Member Fournell stated that the next step would be to get a copy of what is spelled out in the contract so they can prepare for the evaluation.

President Strutzenberg commented that he would prefer to get this done as soon as possible.

Member Kurt asked if Superintendent was aware of what was spelled out in the contract.

President Strutzenberg remarked that he did.

After discussion it was agreed to conduct the Superintendent evaluation in December. President Strutzenberg will send out the evaluation form to all Board Member's for input.

14. Closed Session

14.1 Anticipated Litigation (Government Code 54956.9)

Any action taken in Closed Session will be reported out in Open Session

15. Adjourn to Closed Session

Adjourn to closed session at 9:54 p.m.

Moved by: James Han

Seconded by: Meredith Beachly

Carried

16. Adjourn to Open Session

Adjourn to open session at 10:16 p.m.

Moved by: Bill Fournell

Seconded by: James Han

Carried

17. Report on Closed Session Item

Board received information and gave direction to staff.

Carried

18. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:17 p.m.

18.1 Adjourn Meeting

Moved by: Bill Fournell

Seconded by: James Han

Carried



President



Date