



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL
OCCUPATIONAL
CENTER

Board of Education - Feb 29 2024 Minutes

Thursday, February 29, 2024 at 6:30 PM

2300 Crenshaw Boulevard, Torrance, CA 90501

1. Call Meeting to Order:

Meeting called to order at 6:36 pm.

1.1. Roll Call

Member Cobb and Member McGhee were absent. Member Han arrived at 7:10 p.m.

1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Calvillo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval Agenda

2.1. Approve the February 29, 2024 agenda.

Moved by: Meredith Beachly

Seconded by: Linda Kurt

Carried

3. Commendations / Recognition:

3.1. Reflections Video Presentation - President Strutzenberg

Kathleen Balaban, Redondo Union High School

President Strutzenberg introduced Kathleen from Redondo Union High School

Kathleen shared that she is a former Emergency First Responder student and Reel Competition contestant from SoCal ROC and a current junior at Redondo Union High School. Kathleen shared that she has been recognized for her Reflections video by the

National PTA. Her Video has now reached state level.
Notification of winners will be in May 2024.

President Strutzenberg asked Kathleen to explain why she made the video and the purpose behind it.

Kathleen commented that she originally made the video for the Reel Competition at SoCal ROC to reflect her experience at the Center. SoCal ROC provides real life work experience and opens doors for previously closed ones to so many students.

Member Beachly asked if she plans to pursue the medical field.

Kathleen stated that she plans to take the Emergency Medical Technician next semester.

President Strutzenberg presented Kathleen Balaban with an Award of Excellence certificate.

4. Student Voices:

4.1. Emily Martinez, Adult - B. Montoya

Registered Dental Assisting

Superintendent Rodriguez introduced Emily Martinez, adult student in the Registered Dental Assisting (RDA).

Superintendent Rodriguez shared that Emily is the recipient of The Western Los Angeles Dental Society Foundation Scholarship. Emily submitted a winning application along with her resume and essay on her beliefs in community dentistry .

Emily commented that she is currently enrolled in the Registered Dental Assisting program and works as a dental assistant in a pediatric dental office. She learned about SoCal ROC from co-workers and decided to further her career by attending SoCal ROC. Emily remarked that the coursework and hands-on-training in the RDA program have increased her skills and expanded her interest in the dental field. Emily's future plans are to become a Periodontist.

President Strutzenberg presented Emily Martinez with an Award of Excellence certificate.

5. Program Highlight:

5.1. Registered Dental Assisting - B. Montoya

Martha Arredondo

Superintendent Rodriguez introduced Martha Arredondo, Registered Dental Assisting (RDA) instructor.

Ms. Arredondo commented that she has been teaching the Registered Dental Assisting program for the past thirty-seven years and also works in a pediatric dental office. Ms. Arredondo stated that the program runs two semesters: 720 hours of intensive classroom training and 160 hours of on-the-job training. This course provides advanced-level training designed to teach students the knowledge and entry-level skills necessary to work as dental health care professionals. Students are taught to assist in all phases of general dentistry and dental specialty areas. Upon completion of the program students are eligible to take the California State Board Examination.

President Strutzenberg presented Martha Arredondo with an Award of Excellence certificate.

6. Public Comment

None

7. Acknowledgement of Correspondence to the Board

None

8. Superintendent's Remarks

Superintendent Rodriguez shared that he has wrapped up SoCal Roc Superintendent's Roadshow. He presented at every JPA district and will present to the Board in March. Superintendent Rodriguez commented that as a way to celebrate CTE month, SoCal ROC hosted a Visitor's Day. Over the course of two days, February 26th and 27th, SoCal ROC students were able to invite up to guest to shadow them during their class time and get an ideas of what SoCal ROC offers. Superintendent Rodriguez stated that it was a success and hopes that next year it will be bigger.

9. Staff Reports

President Strutzenberg asked for a motion to receive and file the following two items: Course Cost Analysis and Grants Update .

Moved by: Linda Kurt

Seconded by: Meredith Beachly

- 9.1. Presentation of SoCal ROC Audit for 2022/2023 - A. Helaire/Wilkinson Hadley King & Co. LLP

Superintendent Rodriguez asked to have this item tabled for March as revisions needed to be done to the 2022/2023 Audit report.

9.2. Course Cost Analysis Update - J. Rodriguez

Superintendent Rodriguez presented the course cost analysis as it relates to the Center's accountability plan. The presentation included a detailed summary on instructor salary and benefit cost, instructional supplies/materials and instructional program cost and enrollment numbers for all SoCal ROC programs. In addition, Superintendent Rodriguez built in the cost per student/per program enrollment for both high school and adults. Superintendent Rodriguez explained his process for arriving at the cost per program figure and indicated that the figures do not include satellite instructors; satellite is not billed per student.

Next step will include separating high school and adults expenses and revenues and exploring the option of raising the adult fees.

President Strutzenberg made a motion for a five-minute break at 8:17 p.m.

Moved by: Bill Fournell

Seconded by: James Han

Meeting reconvened at 8:24 p.m.

9.3. Grants Update - J. Rodriguez

Superintendent Rodriguez gave a detailed and brief presentation on the three grants that SoCal ROC is currently working with: 1) CTEIG, 2) Perkins and 3) Community Funding Project.

10. Consent Calendar

President Strutzenberg noted that a few minor revisions were made to the minutes after checking board audio.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR NUMBERS 1 THROUGH 12

Moved by: Bill Fournell

Seconded by: Jen Fenton

Carried

10.1. APPROVE BOARD MINUTES OF JANUARY 2024

10.2. APPROVE PAYROLL A WARRANT REPORT FOR JANUARY 2024

- 10.3. APPROVE B WARRANT REPORT FOR JANUARY 2024
- 10.4 APPROVE B WARRANT ISSUED WITHOUT PURCHASE ORDERS JANUARY 2024
- 10.5. APPROVE PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENT ORDERS
- 10.6. APPROVE PURCHASE ORDER REPORT FOR JANUARY 2024
- 10.7. APPROVE REVOLVING CASH FUND FOR JANUARY 2024
- 10.8. APPROVE SOCAL ROC RECOGNITION ACCOUNT FOR JANUARY 2024
- 10.9. APPROVE AFFILIATION AGREEMENTS
- 10.10. APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH ADRIANA ORTIZ (WELDING)
- 10.11. APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH GREGORY JOHNSON (HVAC)
- 10.12. NOTIFICATION OF E-WASTE AND SCRAP DISPOSAL

11. Personnel

None

12. Business Services

- 12.1. Acceptance and Approval of SoCal ROC Audit Report - June 30, 2023 - J. Rodriguez
Superintendent Rodriguez noted that this item is connected with the previous request to have this item tabled for next month.
Moved by: Meredith Beachly
Seconded by: Linda Kurt

Carried

12.2. Approve the Second Interim Budget Report Fiscal Year 2023/2024 - J. Rodriguez

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that he prepared a cover sheet to help better understand the second interim. The cover page does not get submitted to LACOE. Superintendent Rodriguez wanted the Board to be aware that the cover sheet is merely a summary of the overall interim and warned that the summary is also partly based on some assumptions. It is also not within the same time frame of when the 2nd interim was completed so some figures are not the same as they will find in the interim report. For example, the certificated salary indicated on the summary sheet was not aligned with what was on the interim.

President Strutzenberg stated that the interim should reflect changes and tell a story of the decisions that are being made as a result of where the budget is as the year progresses.

Moved by: James Han

Seconded by: Meredith Beachly

Carried

12.3. Discuss JPA enrollment fee - J. Rodriguez

President Strutzenberg stated that last month the Board had considerable discussion on this item. It is an annual event and the last action was in March 2023. Discussion began in January, continued last month and will be brought to the Board next month as an action item should there be a change.

President Strutzenberg stated that a potential increase to the JPA fee to be \$1650, an 8% increase. It is not a huge impact to the districts; it would be an increase of approximately \$6,000 for some districts for the year.

Member Fenton stated she just authorized pink slips for several employees at MBUSD so \$6,000 may not be much to others but it is for MBUSD.

Member Fournell commented that \$1234 has been in place for sometime now. Last March the Board approved an increase the enrollment fee to \$1530 and that fee has not been fully implemented. The districts have not even been invoiced for the \$1530 and the thought of increasing again doesn't make sense until they have seen the impact of the previous increase.

Member Beachly stated that she was at a budget meeting over the weekend and shared that the COLA increase this year will be zero so this is not the time to increase the fee.

Member Han shared that TUSD will also be looking into layoffs as well so asking for an enrollment increase will be a huge factor for TUSD. In addition, Member Han stated that SoCal ROC's anticipated expenses are \$5.1 million and \$7.5 million in reserves, that 125% in reserves.

President Strutzenberg stated that if you consider the fact that SoCal ROC is spending at 20-25% in deficit annually, that puts it into a different perspective. TUSD has not been spending at a 20-25% deficit.

Member Han shared that TUSD's concern is that you are asking to increase to enrollment fee at a time that you are sitting on reserves.

Member Han commented that that is fine, obviously he doesn't like it but the point is you have reserves to cover the deficit spending but yet you are going to try and raise the enrollment fee. You can deficit spend for some time because of the large reserve. Perception is reality, especially at a time districts are trying to cut cost. It will be awkward to ask his Board to approve an increase at this time.

Member Kurt stated that she is hearing three Members strongly say they do not believe we should have an increase. This is the same conversation that was held last month, do we increase a small amount each year or do we do nothing for a while and then do a big increase. Member Kurt remarked that at the last meeting she recalls discussing that making smaller step along the way were better. Member Kurt stated that PVUSD's Superintendent and CBOS have authorized the \$1650. Listening to the arguments, Member Kurt stated that she could vote either way.

Member Fournell shared that he would rather see the adult fees be increased accordingly before increasing the fees to the JPA's.

President Strutzenberg commented that this is where it can difficult to separate a truly integrated dual role where we are Board members here looking out for this entity but are also Board members outside of this.

Member Fournell stated that he is not on another Board but as an organization, it does not feel right to raise the enrollment fee when you just raised the fee by 24%.

Member Fenton remarked that she has heard four members say they will vote no and she is one of them.

President Strutzenberg stated that is just a discussion tonight but will be brought back next month as an action item per the JPA.

12.4. Approve the Southern California Regional Occupational Center 2024/2025 Calendar - B. Montoya

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that the JPA districts' 2024-2025 calendars were considered in creating the Center's calendar. Consideration is given to the starting and ending dates of the districts. Superintendent Rodriguez noted that for the 2024-2025 school year, SoCal ROC will be starting the week after Labor Day and ending the school year on June 12, 2025.

Superintendent Rodriguez commented that, although the Center tries its best to align with the school districts, it is not always possible and instructors will allow for makeup time in such cases.

Moved by: James Han

Seconded by: Bill Fournell

Carried

13. General Services

13.1. Approve SoCal ROC's Land Use Committee - J. Rodriguez

Superintendent Rodriguez thank the Board for all of the referrals. All names have been submitted and every criteria has been met. A tentative meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2024. Superintendent Rodriguez stated that he anticipates having 2-3 meetings . This meeting will follow the Brown Act.

Moved by: Meredith Beachly

Seconded by: Bill Fournell

Carried

13.2. Approve MOU between SoCal ROC, Big Picture Learning and Harbor Freight Fellows Initiative - J. Rodriguez

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that Harbor Freight have many arms; Harbor Freight Fellows and Harbor Freight Tools for Schools. SoCal ROC was ale to secure Harbor Freight Fellows which they finance the paid apprenticeship in the trades specifically: HVAC, welding, plumbing, electric and automotive. They will provide up to \$1000.00 for students who complete 125 hours of an apprenticeship. This requires SoCal ROC to develop partnership. Scott Robinson has agreed to take all the automotive students at two of their facilities. In addition

to the students receiving \$1000, instructor and internship site will also receive \$250 for every student that participates. Superintendent Rodriguez shared that currently there is one student from PVPUSD participating.

Member Fournell stated that the term on the MOU was not filled out. What is the expected term?

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that it was left open but recommends a three-year agreement.

President Strutzenberg noted that the termination of agreement is 30 days.

Moved by: Bill Fournell

Seconded by: James Han

Carried

13.3. Approve MOU between SoCal ROC and Redondo Beach Education Foundation - J. Rodriguez

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that in the strategic planning one of the ideas shared was the ability to reach out and recruit younger students. We have had this idea for "A splash of CTE" to get students exposed to CTE. Superintendent Rodriguez commented that the Redondo Beach Education Foundation heard of this and approached him with opportunity to offer CTE to middle school students during the summer. Superintendent Rodriguez shared he and some instructors came up with some really neat and inventive courses: "Skin is In", "Nailed It", and "Get Wired" are just a few. These are not full classes, these are experiences full of enrichments. Classes will be three weeks long, 2.5 hours per day. Classes will be held at Redondo Beach with the final day here at the Center, calling it "Explore the ROC". This is a pilot with the intent to expand it and be able to offer to other districts.

Member Fournell asked if these classes were during or after school.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that we will be using the three weeks between the end of the spring semester and beginning of summer school.

Member Han commented that would like to have program for TUSD students.

Member Beachly stated that ESUSD Education Foundation also offers summer programs and if this is offered to other districts, ESUSD might be interested.

President Strutzenberg noted that this is for incoming sixth and eighth graders.

Superintendent Rodriguez remarked that it is what we call rising sixth, seventh and eighth.

Member Beachly stated that this is a great way to get students here for weekend classes and build on income.

Superintendent stated that student would get a certificate of completion at the end. It is very exciting time and if approved, advertisement will begin right away.

Moved by: Meredith Beachly

Seconded by: Linda Kurt

Carried

13.4. Idea Parking Lot - President Strutzenberg

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

1. Adult Fee Increase
2. Road Show Update
3. Ambassador Lease

14. Board Members' Remarks

Member Fenton had no comment.

Member Han had no comment.

Member Fournell had no comment.

Member Kurt had no comment.

Member Beachly had no comment.

President Strutzenberg had no comment.

15. Adjourn to Closed Session

Adjourned to closed session at 9:33 p.m.

Moved by: Linda Kurt

Seconded by: James Han

Carried

16. Closed Session

Adjourn to closed session at 9:33 p.m.

Moved by: Linda Kurt

Seconded by: James Han

16.1. Public Employee Appointment; Director of Fiscal Services - Government Code 54957

16.2. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release -Government Code 54957

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

17. Adjourn to Open Session

Adjourn to open session at 9:51 p.m.

Moved by: Meredith Beachly

Seconded by: Bill Fournell

Carried

18. Report on Closed Session

Board received information.

19. Adjournment

19.1. Adjourn Meeting
Meeting was adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

Moved by: Meredith Beachly

Seconded by: Linda Kurt

Carried

President

Date



3/21/24