HUMBOLDT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
901 Myrtle Avenue, Eureka, CA 95501

MINUTES
December 12, 2018

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/FLAG SALUTE
President Bill Ruff called the meeting of the Humboldt County Board of Education to order at 3:00 pm with a quorum present.

PRESENT: Loretta Eckenrode, Bill Ruff, Mary Scott, Robert Siekmann
ABSENT: Marc Rowley
ALSO PRESENT: Chris Hartley, Superintendent of Schools; Brian Graves, HCSTA; Monica Dekat, CSEA Chapter 566; Susi Huschle, Rosie Slentz, Stacy Young, Felicia Doherty, Linda Wilson, Carol Ingram, HCOE; Shari Lovett, NU-Humboldt Charter; Janine Melanson, Administrative Assistant

Loretta Eckenrode led the flag salute.

2.0 ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS
2.1 ADMINISTER OATHS OF OFFICE – LORETTA ECKENRODE, BILL RUFF, MARY SCOTT
Superintendent Hartley administered the oath of office to Loretta Eckenrode, Bill Ruff and Mary Scott.

2.2 APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OFFICERS
It was moved/seconded (Siekmann/Eckenrode) to appoint Loretta Eckenrode, President; Mary Scott, Vice President and CCBE representative. The motion carried with the following hand vote.

Hand Vote
AYES: Eckenrode, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Rowley

2.3 ADOPT BOARD MEETING DATES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2019
It was moved/seconded (Eckenrode/Scott) to adopt the following 2019 Board Calendar.

January 9
February 13
March 13
April 10
May 15 (3rd Wed)
June 12
July 10
August 14
September 11
October 9
November 13
December 18 (3rd Wed)
2.4 AUTHORIZE BOARD MEMBER REMUNERATION FOR 2019
It was moved/seconded (Siekmann/Ruff) to increase the board’s current monthly stipend by 5% from $204.40 to $214.62 for 2019. Robert Siekmann stated that the increases received over the past 20 years of approximately 20% is not keeping up with costs and other increases. The gap of years that there were no increases was due to a misunderstanding of how the increases may be applied. Loretta Eckenrode stated she feels the increase is generous and states that perhaps the increase should be commensurate with the increase bargaining units received. Mary Scott agreed.

The motion failed with the following hand vote.

Hand Vote
AYES: Eckenrode, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Rowley

It was moved/seconded (Eckenrode/Scott) to increase the board’s current monthly stipend by 2% from $204.40 to $208.49 for 2019. The motion carried with the following hand vote.

Hand Vote
AYES: Eckenrode, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Rowley

3.0 ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA
There were no adjustments to the agenda.

4.0 BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS/REPORTS
Loretta Eckenrode shared that Dr. Hartley, Mindy Fattig and she attended and presented at the CSBA conference. She realized that there is considerable misinformation about special education, and that their session was the most lively of those she attended. She stated that Mindy and Dr. Hartley both did a great job presenting. Dr. Hartley shared that Mindy’s colleague from Merced co-resented with her. Dr. Hartley also commended Loretta on fielding questions from the group and for representing and modeling the importance of board member involvement in important initiatives like SELPA and special education.
5.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS
Monica Deket, CSEA Chapter 566 President, stated that the chapter donates to charities and that one of their favorites is Hospice of Humboldt. They recently donated $65 and were given a crystal ornament in memory of family and friends of CSEA Chapter 566. Monica asked if one of the board members would hang the ornament on the HCOE tree. Loretta agreed to do so.

6.0 PRESENTATION: Shari Lovett – Northern United Charter School
Shari Lovett was present to update the board on the NU-Humboldt Charter. As of December 7, they had 427 students enrolled, 61% of which qualify for Free & Reduced Meals and 14% are special education. Shari shared a slide of the ethnic breakdown of the student population. Their attendance has been 95-98% and their target is 95%. Seventy-three (73) staff are employed (38 certificated and 35 classified). Shari also shared the locations of their school sites, and data on staff and students at each.

Shari stated that the SELPA approved the charter to be their own LEA for next year (this year HCOE has been the LEA). They are AVUD certified for elementary and high school, they are WASC certified through 2022, and all staff have been trained in PBIS. They recently had a staff member trained as a trainer in ALICE and became a certified ALICE school – this is a safety training. All staff have now also been trained. Renaissance Learning is used for assessments and program monitoring is scheduled for those students that do not meet benchmarks. The also administer the CAASSP interim assessments twice per year in preparation for the CAASSP test.

As a new school, they had to create a new board. Through an application process, 5 members were seated, 2 with previous school experience and others with business experience. Four board members and Shari went to a charter school governance training together. The board then adopted curriculum, policies, school safety plan, LCAP and budget, as well as annual goals aligned with their LCAP. They meet the third Thursday of the month. Jennifer Fairbanks is the HCOE liaison and she attends the board meetings. She has also visited all the school sites. Before school started, HCOE’s Maintenance & Operations and the Risk Manager inspected all sites. Shari answered the board’s questions about the operations of the charter board as compared to a school district board. Shari stated that, instead of elected members, charter boards are a non-profit corporation. The NU Charter has chosen to follow many of the regulations (such as following the Brown Act) as a district board, although not required to do so.

Shari shared that the students on the CR satellite campus who took college courses all received B’s or better in those classes. She also reported that students have been pre-admitted to Humboldt State University through the “I’ve Been Admitted to College” program.

President Ruff asked how parents and staff have adjusted to the change. Shari stated she feels it has gone well. Their enrollment is above projections, indicating student and parent satisfaction. They did have some turnover which appeared to be for personal reasons but not related to the transition.

Dr. Hartley thanked Shari for being so diligent in getting through the necessary steps taken for the start up and for her presentation.
7.0 CONSENT AGENDA
It was moved/seconded (Scott/Siekmann) to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried with the following hand vote.

Hand Vote
AYES: Eckenrode, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Rowley

The following items were acted upon under the consent agenda:
7.1 Approve Minutes—November 14, 2018
7.2 Approve Travel Claims
7.3 Approve 2019-2020 Budget Development Timeline
7.4 Accept Donation of Pool Table and Accessories Valued at $400.00 from Bill Bitner to the Eel River Community School

8.0 ACTION ITEMS
8.1 RECEIVE FIRST INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT
Carol Ingram reported that the First Interim Report is a snapshot as of October 31, 2018, incorporating changes since budget adoption. The report is submitted to the state no later than December 15. Carol showed the board a comparison of the adopted budget and the current working budget as of October 31st. Expenditure increases reflect salary settlements and health and welfare cost changes that occurred after adoption, as well as other statutory benefit rate changes. Revenues increased by 2.7 million due to differentiated assistance funding and grants. Expenditures increased by 2.5 million due to services related to differentiated assistance and grants. Reserves at the end of fiscal year are projected to be $4.8 million, but in multi-year projections, reserves decline due to salary and benefit increases and PERS/STRS increases outpacing revenues.

It was moved/seconded (Eckenrode/Siekmann) to receive the first interim report as presented. The motion carried with the following hand vote.

Hand Vote
AYES: Eckenrode, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Rowley

8.2 APPROVE LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY/SINGLE PLAN FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT-COURT/COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Felicia Doherty shared that this is a 5 year plan in its final year. The only revision this year was to ensure alignment between projected and actual expenditures.
It was moved/seconded (Eckenrode/Scott) to approve the 2018-19 LEA Single School District Plan for Court/Community Schools. *The motion carried with the following hand vote.*

**Hand Vote**

AYES: Eckenrode, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Rowley

8.3 REVIEW AND ACCEPT COURT/COMMUNITY SCHOOLS - RECLASSIFICATION PROCEDURE AND FORM

Felicia Doherty shared that it is a requirement that the board approve changes to this form. She is pleased with the changes as it allows them to use multiple measures for evaluation. It also is the tool they will use to track the students over the required four years.

It was moved/seconded (Scott/Siekmann) to review and Accept Court/Community Schools - Reclassification Procedure and Form. *The motion carried with the following hand vote.*

**Hand Vote**

AYES: Eckenrode, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Rowley

8.4 APPROVE REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY 5123 PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION

Dr. Hartley stated that the changes in this policy reflect the new assessment measure the 1-year graduation rate. Felicia Doherty stated that the 1 year graduation rate instead of the 4 year rate is a better reflection of the real graduation rate for court/community school students. Robert Siekmann stated that the revision date needs to be corrected on the policy before posting.

It was moved/seconded (Eckenrode/Scott) to approve revisions to Board Policy 5123 – Promotion/Acceleration/Retention, with revision date changed to December 12, 2018. *The motion carried with the following hand vote.*

**Hand Vote**

AYES: Eckenrode, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Rowley
8.5 REVIEW REVISIONS TO BB 9310 – POLICY MANUAL, AS A SECOND READING
It was moved/seconded (Scott/Eckenrode) to table this item until the January board meeting. The motion carried with the following hand vote.

   **Hand Vote**
   AYES: Eckenrode, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann
   NOES: None
   ABSTAIN: None
   ABSENT: Rowley

8.6 AWARD SURPLUS VEHICLE BID
Dr. Hartley acknowledged Linda Wilson, Transportation Supervisor, on accomplishing this process. Linda stated there were 20 bids for the three vehicles.

It was moved/seconded (Eckenrode/Scott) to award surplus vehicle bid. The motion carried with the following hand vote.

   **Hand Vote**
   AYES: Eckenrode, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann
   NOES: None
   ABSTAIN: None
   ABSENT: Rowley

8.7 ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TEMPORARY BORROWING BETWEEN FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT(S) TO OCCUR WITHIN THE COUNTY
Dr. Hartley stated that the resolution authorizes the use of HCOE funds with reimbursement from the state. Otherwise, there is a three year wait for the state funding. The funding would be used to hire an architect and investigate upgrades to the Glen Paul campus. This would be reported back to the board, as would the approval of going forward with a RFQ (Request for Quote).

It was moved/seconded (Scott/Siekmann) to adopt Resolution Authorizing the Temporary Borrowing Between Funds for the Construction Project(s) to Occur Within the County. The motion carried with the following hand vote.

   **Hand Vote**
   AYES: Eckenrode, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann
   NOES: None
   ABSTAIN: None
   ABSENT: Rowley
8.8 APPROVE SUBMISSION OF CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY PROJECT GRANT TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Rosie Slentz was present and spoke about the grant application. California adopted an environment literacy framework. Funds from CDE are available to increase environmental literacy. The grant is for 3 years ($72,000/year) and involves 24 classrooms. A team will co-teach with staff. Each year builds on the prior; year 2 adds guest speakers and year three adds some transportation.

It was moved/seconded (Eckenrode/Scott) to Approve Submission of California Environmental Literacy Project Grant to the California Department of Education. **The motion carried with the following hand vote.**

*Hand Vote*

AYES: Eckenrode, Ruff, Scott, Siekmann
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Rowley

9.0 INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS

9.1 SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Hartley thanked President Ruff for his leadership on the board as the president.

Dr. Hartley stated that, as Loretta Eckenrode mentioned under Item 4.0, they co-presented at the CSBA conference and he was honored to do so.

Dr. Hartley shared that the state identified new districts for Differentiated Assistance. Five additional districts in Humboldt were identified: Northern Humboldt, Klamath-Trinity, Fortuna Elementary, Fortuna High, McKinleyville and HCOE’s Court/Community school program. Suspension, special education and homelessness are consistently identifiers. Dr. Hartley pointed out that our districts being identified demonstrates that students in our county have needs.

Dr. Hartley shared that CSEA did a great job fundraising for the Camp Fire victims.

Dr. Hartley stated that he recently attended a CCEE Advisory Committee Meeting. Important conversations were held and he appreciates being able to add the rural context.

Dr. Hartley reported that the staff holiday party was successful. He mentioned the generosity of local business who donated raffle prizes.
10.0 RECOGNITION OF RACHEL WATSON, RECIPIENT OF THE CATE AWARD FOR CLASSROOM EXCELLENCE AND NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER OF EXCELLENCE AWARD (4:00 p.m.)

Dr. Hartley welcomed Rachel Watson. He stated he worked with Ms. Watson at Northern Humboldt and recognized her as a great leader and teacher. She was nominated from among 11 throughout the state to receive the national award. Dr. Hartley noted her passion and connection with students, as well as her support of colleagues. Ms. Watson was presented with a certificate of recognition from Dr. Hartley and the board. Ms. Watson stated the awards she received represent her mentors, family and fellow teachers. Her message to the board is to continue programs that allow teachers to collaborate and learn from one another.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hartley, Ed.D.
Humboldt County Superintendent of Schools

CH:jm