

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

MINUTES
December 18, 2019

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/FLAG SALUTE

President Loretta Eckenrode called the meeting of the Humboldt County Board of Education to order at 3:01 p.m. with a quorum present.

PRESENT: Loretta Eckenrode, Marc Rowley, Mary Scott, Robert Siekmann

ABSENT: Bill Ruff

ALSO PRESENT: Chris Hartley, Superintendent of Schools; Colby Smart, Corey Weber, Tess Ives, Ryan Keller, Rosie Slentz, HCOE; Rachael Cortez, CSEA; Tina Burns, Mary Halstead, AJJC; Janine Melanson, Administrative Assistant

Mary Scott led the flag salute.

2.0 ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1 APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OFFICERS

It was moved/seconded (Rowley/Scott) to appoint Loretta Eckenrode, President; Mary Scott, Vice President and Mark Rowley as CCBE representative. **The motion carried with the following hand vote.**

Hand Vote

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

2.2 ADOPT BOARD MEETING DATES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020

It was moved/seconded (Rowley/Siekmann) to adopt the following 2020 Board Calendar.

January 8	July 8
February 12	August 12
March 11	September 9
April 8	October 14
May 20 (3rd Wed)	November 18 (3rd Wed)
June 10	December 15 (3rd TUESDAY)

The motion carried with the following hand vote.

Hand Vote

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

2.3 AUTHORIZE BOARD MEMBER REMUNERATION FOR 2019

It was suggested that the remuneration increase the same as teaching staff of 1.5%.

It was moved/seconded (Rowley/Scott) to increase the board's current monthly stipend by 1.5% from \$208.49 to \$211.62 for 2020. It was also pointed out that the board did not take an increase for 10 years, so 3% may be fair. Robert Siekmann proposed amendment to 2%. President Eckenrode would support forgoing an increase this year. **The motion carried with the following hand vote.**

Hand Vote

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

3.0 ADJUSTMENT OF THE AGENDA

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

4.0 BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS/REPORTS

President Eckenrode stated her appreciation for Trades Program photos at main entrance and encourages others view them.

5.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

6.0 PRESENTATION: Colby Smart – International Project with Taiwan

Dr. Hartley shared that he received a call from former professor, Dr. Larry Machi, regarding his relationships with a group in Taiwan building partnerships in education. Dr. Machi invited him to take part in a conference in Taiwan; Colby attended to represent HCOE. Colby shared he presented at a conference and toured schools. Taiwan is actively building towards the future but the importance of culture is evident. There is a significant investment in children. The conference was called Connecting with the Future with their goal to take the next step in international education, reframing their approach and giving children more opportunities. Colby noted that Taiwan has a rich indigenous culture with many parallels to our own. 25% of the curriculum in the schools in those areas are dictated by the tribes. Kindergarten is a three-year program with students starting at age 3 years. Their educational system is modeled after US schools. Students start learning English in the 2nd grade and it is their second language.

Going forward, Dr. Hartley's plan is to raise awareness locally by introducing the possible partnerships. On December 11, Colby held a ZOOM meeting with educators from Humboldt and Taiwan with the intent of making district to district connections. Already, Redwood Preparatory is linked with a school and Scotia is in the process of making the connection. Colby also created a website where teachers can connect between the two countries.

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved/seconded (Rowley/Siekmann) to approve the consent agenda. **The motion carried with the following hand vote.**

Hand Vote

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

Action was taken on the following consent items:

7.1 Approve Minutes—November 13, 2019

7.2 Approve Travel Claims

7.3 Approve 2020-21 Budget Development Timeline

8.0 ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Receive First Interim Financial Report

Corey Weber was present to report on the first interim of 2019-20. HCOE ended 2018-19 with 1.7 million in carry over, most in restricted or grant related funds. Reserve went from 13.4 to 13.7%. Reserves give us flexibility to assist districts with fiscal difficulties. Reserves decrease over the multi-years due to maintaining services with unrestricted funds that were covered by grants and restricted funds which are being spent down." Departments will be creating projected budgets in January that will show more of how those funds will be used.

Dr. Hartley shared speculation from the Legislative Analyst's Office regarding the Proposed Governor's Budget that will come out in January. Economists predict a recession by end of 2020. The state has a \$7 billion surplus in the general fund. Lobbying will continue for special education funding equalization. Additional funding in Special Education effectively puts money back in districts' general funds because of special education encroachment. The state passed a law to bring all counties to the 50th percentile in Special Education funding. The goal is to be in the 90th percentile. Dr. Hartley stated that COLA was projected to be 2.8 but now they are saying it will drop to 1.8 which will not cover staff step and column increased, STRS and PERS rates, etc.

Dr. Hartley complimented Corey Weber and Carol Ingram and their team for the diligent work they do in providing him accurate information on which to base decisions.

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

Hand Vote

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

8.2 Authorize Submission of Grants

8.2.1 Strong Workforce Program – K12 (SWPK12) Grant – Trades Academy

8.2.2 Strong Workforce Program – K12 (SWPK12) Grant – Education @ Work

8.2.3 Career Technical Education Incentive Grant (CTEIG)

It was moved/seconded (Scott/Rowley) to authorize Submission of Grants. **The motion carried with the following hand vote.**

Hand Vote

AYES: Eckenrode, Rowley, Scott, Siekmann

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Ruff

8.3 Adopt Resolution to Increase Revolving Cash Fund Balance

Corey Weber explained that revolving cash is “checking account” out of HCOE financials (appear in ending balance) that is used for petty cash at school sites and for small checks that are needed quickly. The fund is reconciled monthly. Amounts have not been adjusted since 1981.

It was moved/seconded (Rowley/Scott) to adopt Resolution to Increase Revolving Cash Fund Balance. **The motion carried with the following hand vote.**

Hand Vote

AYES: Eckenrode, Rowley, Scott, Siekmann

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Ruff

9.0 INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS

9.1 Review HCOE Library Plan

Ryan Keller present to review the past year and speak about the 2019-2024 Library Plan. She explained that the plan guides the decisions for the library. She updated the board on the four areas addressed in the plan: Facilities, resources, Technology and Staffing. She was pleased to announce the HERC is fully staffed.

Much of the same items carry forward in the new Library plan. Ryan stated she added the Future Ready Framework, moving some of self-evaluation work into this framework. The goals and objectives in this plan are aligned with the same areas: Facilities, resources, Technology and Staffing.

9.2 Superintendent’s Report

- Dr. Hartley thanked Colby Smart and Jen Fairbanks for the extensive work they have been doing in regards to the **Agnes J. Johnson Charter** MOU and acknowledged the large endeavor this has been for staff. Dr. Hartley stated an ambitious timeline was agreed upon to have the MOU complete.

Colby acknowledged HCOE staff including the commitment of the HCOE business staff. Colby also commended AJJ's Charter Team for being focused and committed to the process. 60 items were identified in the MOU as areas to address and most have been addressed. The most significant issue remaining is facilities. AJJC Team has received 90 intent to enroll forms, but at the time of the deadline to make the request from the district (Nov. 1), they had 45. Due to this failure to meet the deadline, the district rejected the request. Discussion is now proceeding between the attorneys for the district and charter regarding this issue.

Colby reported that, according to the California Department of Education, AJJC will need to request a new CDS code and as such is not considered a conversion but rather a startup charter.

Corey Weber stated that he and Angela West have created a 5-year budget projection with emollient of 90. The first year has cash flow issues with nearly no reserve. The out years look better and AJJC team has been amenable to making changes in the budget. HCOE will continue to work with the AJJC team to help them develop contingencies for the first year. 10% reserve is required in 2nd year and they meet that projection.

Colby went through several other areas including SELPA, recruitment and fingerprinting that are all being taken care of.

- Dr. Hartley reported he was invited by Judge Hinrichs to **Beyond the Bench** conference to work with probation, the courts, and education to get ahead of incarceration. He came away from the full day of conversations with action minded feelings. A follow up meeting is set. AB2083 requires joint MOUs with public agencies. Sharing information between agencies is very difficult due to privacy laws, but this new legislation may address this – protect the parties while allowing the share of information.
- Dr. Hartley stated that the **School Law Enforcement Network (SLEN)** committee is being revived. This group was active in the 1990s. Their first discussion will be about FOCUS – a phone application that law enforcement can use to send information to the school of a child to let them know that an incident occurred in the home. This will allow school personnel to check in with the student the next day. Any agency that works with families should use this.
- Hosted ACEs (**Adverse Childhood Experiences**) town hall with Keynote Speaker Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, California's Surgeon General. 500 people attended with overflow to Annex.
- Dr. Hartley shared that the **HCOE staff holiday party** was a great success. This event is an Always Action for HCOE and a way to show appreciation and gratitude to HCOE employees.

December 18, 2019

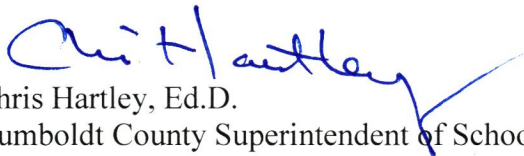
Page 6 of 6

- Dr. Hartley thanked the **Mad River Rotary** who designated their Fall Fundraiser to benefit the HCOE Trades Program, donating \$32,000. This points out how the program resonates within our community and the importance of career education for students.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Chris Hartley", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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

CH:jm