

# Humboldt County Board of Education

901 Myrtle Avenue – Eureka, CA 95501

Sequoia B

December 14, 2021

3:00 PM

## Minutes

### 1.0 **CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/FLAG SALUTE**

President McMahon called the meeting of the Humboldt County Board of Education to order at 2:35 PM with a quorum present.

**PRESENT:** Loretta Eckenrode, Thom McMahon, Sheila Rocker Heppe, Mary Scott

**ABSENT:** Robert Siekmann (joined at 3:27 PM)

**STAFF PRESENT:** Michael Davies-Hughes, Colby Smart, Corey Weber, Katie Cavanagh, Rosie Slentz, Carly Wallace, Natalie Carrigan, Melissa Hodgson

### 2.0 **PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

No public comment made on Closed Session Items.

### 3.0 **CLOSED SESSION**

(3.1) Conference with Legal Counsel-Litigation (§ 54956.9)  
Name of Claim: Jackson and Wheeler v. HCOE, et al.

### 4.0 **OPEN SESSION**

(4.1) Report Out on Action Taken on Closed Session Items  
No reportable action taken in closed session.

### 5.0 **RECONVENING OF OPEN SESSION**

Open Session was reconvened at 3:01 PM.

### 6.0 **ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING BUSINESS**

(6.1) Appointment of Board Officers  
It was moved/seconded by Scott/Rocker Heppe to nominate Thom McMahon as the Board President and Loretta Eckenrode as the Board Vice President. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Eckenrode, McMahon, Rocker Heppe, Scott  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Siekmann

(6.2) Adopt Board Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2022

It was moved/seconded by Rocker Heppe/Eckenrode to adopt the board meeting dates for calendar year 2022 with the addition of June 6, 2022. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Eckenrode, McMahon, Rocker Heppe, Scott  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Siekmann

(6.3) Annually Authorize Board Member Remuneration for 2022  
See item 7.0

**7.0 ADJUSTMENT OF THE AGENDA**

The Board requested to move the discussion and possible action on CCBE representation (continuation of 6.1) and item (6.3) until Siekmann joined the meeting.

**8.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comment.

**9.0 PRESENTATION REGARDING CHARTER SCHOOL APPEAL PROCESS**

Jennifer Nix – School and College Legal Services of California

**10.0 PUBLIC HEARING – SAMOA BEACH ACADEMY PETITION**

(10.1) Samoa Beach Academy Petition Presentation (Samoa Beach Academy was allowed a total of 15 minutes to address the Board).

Board Member Siekmann joined the meeting via Zoom at 3:27 PM.

Samoa Beach Academy representatives provided a presentation to the Board regarding the petition. Members of the community and local school district leaders provided public comment for the public hearing.

Board Recess 4:11 – 4:16 PM

**CONTINUATION OF ITEM 6.0 ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**BUSINESS**

(6.1) CCBE Representative

Siekmann declined to serve in calendar year 2022. It was moved/seconded by Scott/Eckenrode to nominate Rocker Heppe as the CCBE Representative for the 2022 calendar year. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Eckenrode, McMahon, Rocker Heppe, Scott, Siekmann  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

(6.3) Annually Authorize Board Member Remuneration

Classified and Certificated staff have a two-year agreement with a 3% increase each year.

It was moved/seconded by Scott/Eckenrode to increase Board Member remuneration for the 2022 calendar year by 3%, following the Classified and Certificated staff increases. The increase resulted in a revised amount of \$224.41 per month. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Eckenrode, McMahon, Rocker Heppe, Scott, Siekmann  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

**11.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

The Board is asked to receive/approve routine items.

It was moved/seconded by Scott/Eckenrode to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Eckenrode, McMahon, Rocker Heppe, Scott, Siekmann  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

Action was taken on the following consent items:

(11.1) Approve Minutes – November 10, 2021 – Special and Regular Meeting

- (11.2) Approve Travel Claims
- (11.3) Approve 2022-2023 Budget Development Timeline
- (11.4) Adopt Resolution #2021-44: A Resolution of the Humboldt County Board of Education Proclaiming a Local Emergency, Ratifying the Proclamation of a State Emergency by Governor Newsom, dated March 4, 2020, and Authorizing Remote Teleconference
- (11.5) Approve Educator Effectiveness Funds
- (11.6) Receive and File Updated Safe Return to In-Person Instruction – ESSER III

**12.0 ACTION ITEMS**

(12.1) Receive 2021-2022 First Interim Financial Report  
 Carly Wallace and Corey Weber provided an overview of the first interim report. The goal being to keep the reserves healthy in order to provide financial support to districts if necessary. Governor Newsom will release the budget in January with a mix of on-going and one-time funds.

It was moved/seconded by Scott/Rocker Heppe to receive the 2021-2022 First interim Financial Report. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Eckenrode, McMahon, Rocker Heppe, Scott, Siekmann  
 NOES: None  
 ABSTAIN: None  
 ABSENT: None

(12.2) Accept Submission of the Native American Studies Model Curriculum Grant Proposal  
 Colby Smart explained the grant is a unique opportunity to partner with many local tribes to create and supplement existing curriculum to support Native American history.

It was moved/seconded by Rocker Heppe/Eckenrode to accept submission of the Native American Studies Model Curriculum Grant Proposal. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Eckenrode, McMahon, Rocker Heppe, Scott, Siekmann  
 NOES: None  
 ABSTAIN: None  
 ABSENT: None

**13.0 INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS**

(13.1) Update on Agnes J. Johnson (AJJ) Charter School

Colby Smart shared an update with the Board on AJJ Charter School. The update included a presentation, some background information, and a letter of concern to AJJ Charter School from HCOE staff. AJJ Charter School staff provided all requested documents by the deadline given, and HCOE will compile and create a report on the responses to the letter of concern.

There were no questions from the Board.

Gabrielle Colon, Director and Caroline Wesley were given opportunity for public comment.

(13.2) Superintendent Report and COVID-19 Report

Superintendent Davies-Hughes welcomed Natalie Carrigan to the Administration Office. Natalie joined the team as the Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent.

It was announced that HCOE has received the Strong Workforce Grant.

Superintendent Davies-Hughes thanked the HCOE Leadership team for providing more than 800 holiday meals to HCOE employees and families.

Board training will be offered in Sacramento on March 11 and 12, 2022. Additional information to be brought to a future meeting.

It was announced that HCOE will increase COVID-19 testing availability with an addition of a Fortuna testing site. HCOE continues to meet weekly with Public Health.

(13.3) Discussion on Returning to In-Person Board Meetings

President McMahon asked to wait until the January Board meeting to discuss.

**14.0 BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS/REPORTS**

The Board asked for clarification on the graduation rates in Humboldt County.

The Board thanked staff for the work that has been done this year and expressed pride for all the school districts and appreciation for everything done for students and staff in the county.

**15.0 ADJOURNMENT**

President McMahon adjourned the meeting at 5:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MDH', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Davies-Hughes  
Humboldt County Superintendent of Schools

MDH:mh