

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

MINUTES
February 14, 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 2:59 pm with a quorum present.

PRESENT: Loretta Eckenrode, Bill Ruff, Mary Scott, Marc Rowley, and Robert Siekmann

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Chris Hartley, Superintendent of Schools; Heidi Moore-Guynup, Assistant Superintendent; Stacy Young, Jennifer Fairbanks, Colby Smart, Lori Breyer, Susi Huschle, Beth Chaton, Damara Moore, Tanya Trump, Tess Ives, HCOE; Marueen Yost, Monica Dekat, CSEA; Rosemary Kunkler, Shari Lovett, Stephanie Jackson, Peggy Scarborough, Carole Cox, Kara Martin, Julie Smith, Glenda Speck, Rebekah Davis, Amie Beard, Mattole; Brenda Lilly, EHS; Janine Melanson, Administrative Assistant

Marc Rowley led the flag salute.

2.0 ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

3.0 BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS/REPORTS

President Ruff acknowledged today's tragedy in Florida (school shooting).

Mary Scott shared that she attended the Retired Teacher's Association (CaRTA) luncheon last week where Dr. Hartley was the guest speaker. She stated that he was very well received by those in attendance.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS

Maureen Yost stated that she has stepped down as CSEA Chapter 566 president after 10 years and introduced Monica Dekat, the new president.

5.0 PRESENTATION : January STEAM Conference – Stacy Young

Stacy Young, Visual and Performing Arts Program Manager, presented regarding the recent STEAM conference. Data was presented showing which sessions were most well attended. Beth Chaton shared about the PORTS breakout session. Dr. Hartley honored Anne Bown-Crawford as the new Director of the California Arts Council. Dr. AnnMarie Thomas from the University of St. Thomas presented a music visualization performance with two local students who had worked with graduate students remotely. The video of the students' performance was shown. Stacy shared the satisfaction survey results – the event was well received.

Upcoming arts events were announced including the Arts Symposium on April 9 (Stacy announced that all but one venue has donated their space), and the Youth Arts Festival on May 5 that will take place at the Morris Graves Museum this year instead of at Redwood Acres.

6.0 PUBLIC REPORTS AND HEARINGS – 3:30 p.m.

6.1 Humboldt Charter School Petition

There were no public reports or comments.

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

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

Hand Vote

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

The following items were acted upon under the consent agenda:

- 7.1 Approve Minutes—January 10, 2018
- 7.2 Approve Travel Claims
- 7.3 Adopt Proclamation in Support of Youth Art Month - March 2018
- 7.4 Annual Review of Comprehensive Safety Plans
- 7.5 Accept Donations for Rising Stars Foundation
- 7.6 Accept Funding for the CalEd Grant

8.0 ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Authorize the Petition Submitted by the Northern United – Humboldt Charter School

Jennifer Fairbanks stated that, since the last board meeting, work has been done with the charter administration to refine the petition. The petition meets all of the requirements. It was also reviewed by legal counsel who confirmed requirements have been met. Jennifer stated that Corey Weber, HCOE Director of Fiscal Services, has looked carefully through the budget and approved as well.

Marc Rowley asked if there is a community board for the charter. Shari Lovett stated there is a 5 member governing board, members of which are appointed according to the bylaws and represent different regions. They meet once a month and Jennifer Fairbanks will attend the meetings as she does for the Northcoast Preparatory Academy.

It was moved/seconded (Eckenrode/Scott) to authorize the petition submitted by the Northern United – Humboldt Charter School conditional on having an operational Memorandum of Understanding between HCOE and the Humboldt Charter School prior to July 1, 2018.

President Ruff acknowledge the work that has been done on the petition. The process taken in bringing the petition to the board has made the importance of the charter to the community and students served clear to him. He stated his appreciation on their commitment and thanked them for listening to and addressing the board's questions and concerns throughout the process

The motion carried with the following hand vote.

Hand Vote

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

8.2 Adopt 2018 Summer School Dates

It was moved/seconded (Eckenrode/Rowley) to adopt the 2018 Summer School dates. **The motion carried with the following hand vote.**

Hand Vote

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

8.3 Approve Submission of ASES Universal Grant Application and ASES Frontier Transportation Grant

Beth Chaton was present and shared information about application.

It was moved/seconded (Scott/Siekmann) to approve submission of ASES Universal Grant Application and ASES Frontier Transportation Grant. **The motion carried with the following hand vote.**

Hand Vote

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

8.4 Approve Submission of Rural Equity in Learning Grant

Dr. Hartley stated that the funding for this grant is only available to county offices. Colby Smart stated that the substance of the grant application is based directly on input from the smallest school districts that he meets with regularly. The number one need identified is access to speech therapy, psychology and occupational therapy services, including the fact that often time a large portion of their allotted service time is taken up with the service providers' travel time. The proposal is to use a blended model of face-to-face and online services intended to supplement current service and build capacity. The biggest barrier to adopting technology is operational consistency, so the funding will ensure that participating districts have the highest quality technology in order to avoid these issues. The second focus would be on the highest impact services: Speech, Occupational Therapy, English Learners and professional development.

It was moved/seconded (Eckenrode/Siekmann) to approve submission of Rural Equity in Learning Grant.

President Ruff questioned how the funds would be used over the 2 year period of the grant as the Financial Impact Summary only indicates a Speech Therapist and not the other service providers mentioned, and what the sustainability plan is after the 2 years of funding. Colby stated that for the most part the funding would be for the technology and professional development to enhance the time of people already employed. Ultimately, the infrastructure could be extended to other agencies (social services, medical, etc.) Colby stated the technology will create an environment that can be built on into the future and sustainability has been considered in the proposal.

The motion carried with the following hand vote.

Hand Vote

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

8.5 Receive and File Revised Board Policy, New Exhibit and Remove Administrative Regulation 5117– Interdistrict Attendance Appeals as a First Reading

Lori Breyer gave an update on the Interdistrict Agreement process to date. Southern Humboldt did not adopt the agreement. A few other districts still have the matter pending with February board meetings.

Lori stated her appreciation for the work of the subcommittee (Loretta Eckenrode and Marc Rowley) to revise the appeal process and policy based on the new agreement.

Lori stated that an additional change needs to be made on Page 8 of the Handbook, item #2, to be consistent with #7 (changing Superintendent to Board President).

Discussion was held around the changes made at the bottom of page 6 regarding open or closed session. Daramara Moore, legal counsel, stated that Education Code around this topic does not apply to COE boards. The choices are to either to hear the appeals in closed session, with the option for a parent to request open session, or operate in open session with no option to move to closed session. The practice across the state is for COEs to follow the Education Code. The language in the Handbook prior to the edits complies with the law.

President Ruff feels the parent should have the right to hear the board’s deliberation. Loretta suggested the hearing could be closed to the public so that just the parent, districts and board would be present. Robert Siekmann suggested that the issue may be the distinction between the hearing and the decision making process.

At the request of the President, Damara will submit a legal opinion. President Ruff requests clarity so that the board can be clear to districts and parents about the process.

Marc Rowley suggested that the parents/guardians could have the choice of open or closed and leave the deliberation in open.

Robert suggested a list of critical timeframes for the appeal process, clearly outlined, as a useful tool for families going through the process.

President Ruff tabled the first reading until the March meeting when the legal opinion will be available.

9.0 INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Hartley congratulated the Northern Unified - Humboldt Charter and stated his appreciation to staff and the board for engaging in a thorough process of review and dialogue.

February 26 is a Legislative Action day in Sacramento. Dr. Hartley and a group of 15 district superintendents will travel to Sacramento to participate. They will highlight mental health and social service needs, LCFF and the higher price of construction/facility costs as related to rural communities.

8.2 Draft 2018-2019 Calendar

The draft calendar that was distributed to districts was shared with the board. The area that calendars are differing is around Spring Break. The Eel River group is going with the draft calendar. Eureka and Northern Humboldt are adopting a calendar with Spring Break during the 4th week. Dr. Hartley chose not to ask the Board to adopt the calendar until more district input was received. Since HCOE staff is out in the districts, having our and the district calendars align is desirable.

8.3 Future Agenda Planning

Dr. Hartley will review the HCOE vision and goals.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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

CH:jm