

Special Meeting Minutes

July 9, 2019

9:00 a.m.

Room 217, County Schools Office

1. Board President Morcott called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.
2. Members Present: Juliana Feriani
Casey Littleton
Ian Morcott
Don Rolle
Rose Wingo

Members Absent: Nick Chernoff
Cyndi Simonson
3. Trustee Littleton led the pledge of allegiance.
4. There were no public comments.
5. Board Retreat Topics
 - 5.1 FLA Closure

Foothill Leadership Academy is holding board meetings at Alison Daniels' office now. There are four members seated on the FLA Board. We have received their employee files and the students' files. TCSOS is now the custodian of records and districts will be notified that requests for FLA student cumulative files need to be sent to our office. There are quite a few student files that have not been requested yet and there are students with IEPs or 504 plans. The district of residence is still responsible for special education and Title I services. It is important that TCSOS ensures that all of these students enroll in a school and get the services that they need so that they do not come back later requesting compensatory education. Some parents have chosen to home school and they will have to file a Private School Affidavit with the California Department of Education.

FLA had some instruments on loan from Calaveras County and they accidentally sold them. They also sold their playground equipment to Resiliency Village. The owner of the property called TCSOS and said that according to the lease that FLA had with the landlord, any fixed assets belong to the landlord after the tenant vacates. The owner was directed to send a bill to FLA for the cost of replacement.

The State Board of Education can overturn an appeal to open a charter school and send it back to the county. The oversight costs for a charter school are high and it takes money away from programs. CCSESA formed a Charter School Task Force which recently released its findings. The CDE also formed

a Charter School Task Force and they have embraced a lot of what is in the CCSESA findings.

County offices do not want to overturn charter school denials by district boards and would like to be removed from the process. AB 1505 states that county offices of education will provide the oversight. Many counties take 1% for charter oversight, but provide little to no oversight. County offices want a voice, but they also want a procedure that is laid out for charter oversight and LCAP review. A standardized review process would be helpful. TCSOS utilizes the *FCMAT Charter School Annual Oversight Checklist*.

For-profit companies can no longer run charter schools. Companies have found a work-around by opening a nonprofit wing specifically for opening charters. In San Diego, there are five charter school employees who have been charged with embezzlement. Charter school start-up funds are federal funds administered by the state. A charter school must have a pretty egregious issue to have their charter revoked. Rocket Ship is a good example of a charter that has violated the Brown Act and had some of their charters revoked.

There is legislation that has been introduced to protect districts that are so small that it would be detrimental to have a charter school competing for the ADA from a small school. There are groups that are advocating for language to be added to address the fiscal impact to a small school district. Twain Harte School District is a basic aid district due to declining enrollment. Pinecrest Charter submitted their request as a countywide benefit. Once a charter has been denied by a county office of education based on a countywide benefit, there is no recourse for appeal.

Rick Hennes called TCSOS because the Pinecrest parent group is still having fundraisers for students even though there is no Pinecrest School. The funds are not given to Twain Harte School District, but they advertise that the fundraisers are to support the educational needs of the kids in Pinecrest and Strawberry. The Twain Harte Governing Board is very concerned.

5.2 Agenda Layout and Online Platform

The Board would like to see some examples of online agenda platforms and a cost comparison at the next board meeting. They also asked that Byron Smith be invited to the next board meeting so that the trustees could have some questions regarding the agenda layout and interaction with members of the public.

5.3 Best Practices

The Board would like to have an area on the TCSOS website to highlight best practices at school districts, have articles in the newspaper and highlight ways to incorporate art.

TCSOS is the lead for a STEAM Grant which incorporates art into science, technology, engineering and mathematics. There are 60 teachers in our county who are participating and have formed a community of practices in math, science, history and social science. There is also the Foothill Continuous Learning Network, LCAP community engagement, NGSS, and

instructional practices. TCSOS hosts a Principals Meeting three times a year, Superintendents Meetings monthly and CBO Meetings four times a year. The county principals and superintendents each meet on their own once a month for breakfast. Joe Aldridge, Superintendent of Columbia School District is participating in an Inclusion Grant along with TCSOS. Tessa Pelfrey, Superintendent of Jamestown School District has incorporated Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support at her district, and Jennifer Buteau from Sonora High School has implemented social emotional learning. Rob Egger is working with the district on MTSS. TCSOS collaborates a lot with Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties.

It can be difficult getting a response from the newspaper. TCSOS will continue to reach out to the newspaper and make contacts. If they do not cover an event, we try to send pictures and a write-up to the paper. TCSOS will develop a best practices resolution which includes that we send articles to the newspaper. CCBE is soliciting county offices of education for best practices that they would like to have published in the CSBA newsletter.

Every school in the county has career exploration. TCSOS has found a 5000 square foot site to lease. It has to be a 15-year lease to amortize costs and keep it \$1.25 per square foot. CTE courses require a facility that can make it work. The new facility will allow the expansion of the TLC program to 25-30 students. A principal has been hired from the Stockton area. The program will have to have a full-time counselor on site, two teachers and one half time special education teacher. Brandon Price, Dean of Student Services, is the CTE contact at Columbia College and we are working closely with him. The county office could have an at-risk dependent charter and limit the size. It would be drawing from students currently at Gold Rush who are not getting CTE. Mike Merrill has concerns that Gold Rush students are not getting what they need and have a high drop-out rate. There is an issue with Gold Rush leasing buildings for high schools that are not in the Summerville High School District.

5.4 Interdistrict Transfer Request and Appeal Process

The Board reviewed the Interdistrict appeal process contained in BP 5117. The education code lists reasons that an IDT may be appealed; such as, a program offered that the district of residence does not have. Dual emersion is a good example. Some of the school district boards have an appeal process in their board policy and some give their superintendent the final decision. Our board policy states that the IDT must have been appealed to the local board first. If it is an IDT that has been revoked, they cannot appeal to the county board. In the past, our county had a lot of Interdistrict appeals because the districts did not want to lose the ADA.

5.5 Sandy Hook Promise

The Sandy Hook Promise was founded by parents at Sandy Hook Elementary School. Rob Egger and Nena Bauman are going to train teacher-leaders from each school site on the "Start With Hello" program. The focus will be on students in 2nd-5th grade. In the fall, there will be a push to get every teacher in grades 2-5 trained. There is a short PSA on You Tube, "Evan | Sandy Hook Promise," that is very informative.

Another Sandy Hook Promise program is the “SAVE Promise Club” for students grades 6 and above. SAVE stands for “Students Against Violence Everywhere.” “Say Something” is an anonymous call line that students can call, text or go to the website and report safety concerns. All districts will have to be onboarded. An MOU with districts will be completed. There will be a representative from every district, the Mental Health Coalition and law enforcement.

We will train adults first and then train the kids in the spring. Each site will have a safety assessment and intervention protocol. Suicide prevention programs are being revamped using the model from Sonora High School and with Bob White. Sandy Hook Promise has teams to help implement the program and web training. We want to have a slow implementation and do it right. TCSOS is writing an innovation grant to try to get mental health embedded at schools. The test sites are Columbia Elementary, Jamestown Elementary and Sonora High School.

5.6 District Board Members’ Survey Results

The majority of the responses stated that they were unable to attend board workshops due to schedules. Some stated that they would like several shorter workshops with specific topics. If it is going to be a day-long workshop, they prefer a Saturday. Some of the topics that board members would like to learn more about are: budget, fiscal best practices, avoiding encroachment, special education costs, suspension/expulsion and discipline.

TCSOS could record short trainings for the website and host webinars. Cathy and Blaine are going to go to district board meetings and give a presentation on “Special Education 101.”

TCSOS is offering support to new superintendents and providing one-on-one meetings to learn more about budget, special education, alternative programs and IT. Cathy and Tracy are going to Seattle to “Fierce Communication” and will be able to train the trainers. We are also offering TOPS, “Teaching Opportunities in Physical Science,” and the “Six Cups to Success” mentor program for the districts.

5.7 Board Self-Evaluation

Tabled for the next board meeting.

5.8 Review Mission and Vision Statement

The Board’s Mission and Vision Statement were set about three years ago. There is no need to revise it.

5.9 Board Goals

The Board Goals for 2018-2019 can have number four and five removed. Those two goals have been achieved.

Trustee Feriani requested that the Board do “Strengths Finder.”

The Board would like to have a new brochure and post cards that could be handed out. Add “post card” to goal three after “brochure.”

Highlight points in the TCSOS Annual Report and our top priorities.

Finalize Board Goals at the August board meeting.

5.10 Board Workshop Topics for 2019-2020

The topics for the 2019-20 Board Workshops:

- Brown Act training with Lozano Smith
- Refresher School Board Training
- Discipline/Alternatives to Suspension/Expulsion
- Best Practices Round Table
 - Networking

Blaine and Cathy will be going to board meetings for a 15-minute presentation on special education.

5.11 Board Bylaws – 9000 Series

The following Board Bylaws have been revised by CSBA and will reviewed by the Policy Committee:

- BB/E 9000 – Role of the Board
- BB 9012 – Board Member Electronic Communication
- BB 9100 – Organization
- BB 9121 – President
- BB 9222 – Resignation
- BB 9230 – Orientation
- BB 9240 – Board Training
- BB 9322 – Agenda/Meeting Materials
- BB 9324 – Minutes and Recordings
- BB 9400 – Board Self-Evaluation

5.12 Student Participation in County Events

The Board talked about the following student events and would like to find new ways to promote attendance:

- 3rd-8th Grade Math Bowl
- Jr. High Spelling Bee
- STEM Expo
- History Day
- Mock Trial

There were no action items.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:13 p.m.