



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

REGIONAL  
OCCUPATIONAL  
CENTER

## **Board of Education - Jan 22 2024 Minutes**

Monday, January 22, 2024 at 6:30 PM

2300 Crenshaw Boulevard, Torrance, CA 90501

### **1. Call Meeting to Order:**

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

#### 1.1 Roll Call

Member Fournell and Member Han were absent.

#### 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Member McGhee led the pledge of allegiance.

### **2. Approval Agenda**

*Moved by:* Linda Kurt

*Seconded by:* Carliss McGhee

**Carried**

### **3. Commendations / Recognition:**

**None**

### **4. Student Voices:**

#### 4.1 Samuel "Kai" Kupau, Adult - B. Montoya

Emergency Medical Technician

Superintendent Rodriguez introduced Samuel Kupau, adult student in the Emergency Medical Technician program.

Samuel commented that he is currently enrolled in the evening Emergency Medical Technician class. Samuel stated that he is currently working as an Environmental Engineer but decided to

switch his career path. After hearing about SoCal ROC from a relative, Samuel decided to pursue his dream of becoming a firefighter. Samuel shared that he will be able to execute the knowledge and information provide by his instructor in all aspects of his life, personal and professional.

President Strutzenberg presented Samuel "Kai" Kupau with an Award of Excellence certificate.

## **5. Program Highlight:**

### **5.1 Emergency Medical Technician - B. Montoya**

Noe Lopez, Instructor

Superintendent Rodriguez introduced Emergency Medical Technician instructor, Noe Lopez.

Mr. Lopez shared that he is in his first year of teaching here at SoCal ROC. Mr. Lopez stated that he has been a firefighter for a number of years as well as leading many explorer programs. Mr. Lopez remarked that the program offers first aid and lifesaving skills for trauma and medical conditions such as shock, respiratory and cardiovascular and other situations. Successful completion of this course prepares the student to take the computer-based National Registry Exam and complete the state certification process. In addition to the valuable skills learned in the class, students also learn the the compassion and strong attitude needed in the field.

President Strutzenberg presented Noe A. Lopez with an Award of Excellence certificate.

## **6. Public Comment**

None

## **7. Acknowledgement of Correspondence to the Board**

Superintendent Rodriguez stated the he received a letter from the Los Angeles County Office of Education concurring with SoCal ROC's positive budget certification of the First Interim Report. A copy was also forwarded to President Strutzenberg.

## **8. Superintendent's Remarks**

Superintendent Rodriguez commented that Moog Aerospace will be on campus tomorrow providing apprenticeship opportunities with the students. Torrance Today will be sending a crew to capture the event. Superintendent Rodriguez shared that February 5th is National School Counseling Week and

wanted to take a moment to acknowledge our Career Guidance Specialist for their efforts to remain visible and accessible on high school campuses and in the community. Finally, Superintendent Rodriguez commented that January is School Board Appreciation month and as a token of appreciation, each Board Member was given a heart shaped cookie.

## **9. Staff Reports**

### **9.1 Student Information System Update - D. Calvillo**

Dr. Calvillo presented the Board with a PowerPoint presentation on the Student Information System. Youm-Tzib Software Solution (YSS) has been in place since 1991. YSS is used for student demographic data, class scheduling, grades, certifications as well as attendance and surveys and tuition. Dr. Calvillo stated that YSS has reached "end of life", technical support or software updates will no longer be available.

Dr. Calvillo shared that he is currently researching a variety of vendors, including the SISes which are used by the districts in our JPA as well as regionally. Dr. Calvillo stated that he continues to research and review option, pricing and implementation timelines. Dr. Calvillo noted Summer 2024 would be optimal time to implement the new system.

President Strutzenberg asked at this point how many candidates at this stage.

Dr. Calvillo stated that there were many candidates but have narrowed it down to just a few. PowerSchool is currently the top choice.

Member Cobb asked if there would be an electronic transfer of funds option.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that he will present that to the committee. This would be a great feature, as the funds would be transferred instantaneously.

Member Beachly shared that MBUSD currently uses PowerSchool.

Member Kurt stated that PVPUSD uses Aeries.

Superintendent Rodriguez remarked that circling back to Presidents Strutzenberg's questions, its coming down to compatibility and have narrowed it down to one or two candidates on the SIS side and many different choices on the vendors side. In addition, looking for the ability to send over electronic transcripts as well as electronic information.

Currently we send PDF or paper copies, so electronic output is important.

Dr. Calvillo stated that the committee is leaning towards Vanco because of the customer service and response time.

Member Fenton shared that as a parent and Board Member of MBUSD, she is familiar with Aeries. The Charter school she works at uses PowerSchool. Member Fenton commented that PowerSchool is entirely more user friendly, more choices, more connect ability.

President Strutzenberg asked if there was internal compatibility for budgeting reports.

Superintendent Rodriguez remarked that the SIS and LACOE are two separate systems.

President Strutzenberg also inquired on the payroll system.

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that payroll is separate from the SIS and will not be connected to the SIS.

President Strutzenberg asked on the data migration with the current YSS system.

Dr. Calvillo stated that a CSV file will be turned over to PowerSchool with the Center's historical records.

## **10. Consent Calendar**

President Strutzenberg asked if any Members of the Board had any items to be pulled from the consent portion of the agenda. Member Kurt pulled item 10.1.

### **MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR NUMBERS 2 THROUGH 9**

*Moved by:* Meredith Beachly

*Seconded by:* Jen Fenton

**Carried**

- 10.1 APPROVE BOARD MINUTES OF DECEMBER 2023
- 10.2 APPROVE PAYROLL A WARRANT REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2023
- 10.3 APPROVE B WARRANT REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2023
- 10.4 APPROVE B WARRANT ISSUED WITHOUT PURCHASE ORDERS DECEMBER 2023

- 10.5 APPROVE PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENT ORDERS
- 10.6 APPROVE PURCHASE ORDER REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2023
- 10.7 APPROVE REVOLVING CASH FUND FOR DECEMBER 2023
- 10.8 APPROVE SOCAL ROC RECOGNITION ACCOUNT FOR DECEMBER 2023
- 10.9 APPROVE INCREASE TO MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE

Member Kurt pointed out that in section 11.1, staff report on course cost analysis, there is a statement about summer school data being accounted separate. Member Kurt stated that she does not recall making that statement and believes it was either President Strutzenberg or Member Cobb. The board audio will be reviews and minutes will be revised.

A motion was made by Member Kurt to approve item 10.1. Member Cobb seconded the motion.

**Carried**

## **11. Personnel**

- 11.1 Discuss and approve salary increase for all Instructional Aide Positions - J. Rodriguez

Superintendent Rodriguez stated that at of all the classified positions, this one fell short of the new federal rate of \$16.00 per hour. Superintendent Rodriguez noted that currently there are no instructional assistants; however, we want to be in compliance.

*Moved by:* Jen Fenton

*Seconded by:* Meredith Beachly

**Carried**

## **12. Business Services**

- 12.1 Discuss JPA enrollment fee - J. Rodriguez

Superintendent Rodriguez commented that per Board Policy and the JPA agreement, it is required that the enrollment fee be

discussed on an annual bases to determine that the needs are being met.

President Strutzenberg stated that it is an annual requirement and the last action was in March 2023. President Strutzenberg noted that Superintendent Rodriguez will report next month on the course cost analysis from the bottom up structure.

President Strutzenberg stated that he did a cost analysis from top down, taking the annual spent and dividing it by the number of students, is how much is spent per student to operate the center.

President Strutzenberg stated that he did some fine tuning. Using numbers from last year, allocated the \$667,00 in transportation and an estimate of course materials. There were 495 JPA students last year, that is a student per course. Average roughly \$200.00 per class. Average cost for an adult student is \$3,305 and JPA student \$4854. Last year we were taking in \$1,234 operating at a deficit of \$3,620 per student, per course. We know that that is not sustainable.

For next year, transportation will be going down, saving approximately \$427, 000. JPA enrollment fee for this current year is \$1530 reducing the deficit. Total estimated expense per JPA student for this year \$3991, a 38% recovery. President Strutzenberg stated that this is how he looks at it and asked if it was appropriate to raise the JPA fee now and become effective for the 2024/2025 school year. President Strutzenberg suggested that the increase be incremental and asked Board Members for their feedback.

Member Cobb stated that it is always easier for consumers to accept if it is done incrementally. Presented it in a timely manner. Member Cobb believes that it costs the districts more to add a CTE class then send students here to the Center.

President Strutzenberg stated that the Instructor on site would also need to be adjusted as well as the adult fees. Last year adult fees were bumped up by \$100 across the board. President Stutzenberg agreed with Member Cobb that an incremental increase is easier than waiting 5 or 6 years.

Member Beachly stated that she recalls a conversation last year about increasing fees and possibly increasing the enrollment fee to \$1750 but ultimately came to \$1530. It was discussed that this be done incrementally.

Member Kurt stated that it was discussed and decided that this be done yearly with the intent to of having smaller jumps being more powerful.

Member McGhee stated that she is opposed to an increase, IUSD certainly cannot afford it. In addition, SoCal ROC does not offer courses that IUSD are interested in. IUSD pays for a SoCal ROC instructor to teach at IUSD campuses. Member McGhee also noted that when IUSD and TUSD were the only districts sending students, there was no balance. Member McGhee stated that IUSD had a bill of 1 million dollars and stated that that would never happen again. Member McGhee stated that she believes IUSD students were tricked in taking classes because after a certain time, students were not able to drop and they were not aware and ended up paying for classes that students were not taking. Member McGhee shared that for that reason she is hesitant for the increase. In addition, classes are geared more towards adults and not high school students. There was a time that programs were geared towards high school interest.

Member Cobb asked Member McGhee if there was a particular class that she wished we could provided.

Member McGhee stated that cosmetology was very popular with IUSD students but that IUSD also offers it on their campus, It would be much easier for students to take it on IUSD campus. Member McGhee stated that IUSD would prefer that their students attended SoCal ROC as 18 year old because funding can then be provided by one of the work source programs.

Member Fenton remarked that Board Members wear two different hats. As a SoCal ROC Board Member, Member Fenton stated that she understands that fees need to be increased, cut expenditures and some belt tightening. As a MBUSD Board Member, you are trying to attract more MBUSD students to the center. An increase, as small as it is, may not be viable.

Member Cobb commented that the districts need to understand the rationale when presenting the fee increase.

Member Fenton stated that it is also difficult to get students involved in SoCal ROC's programs when they are already capped with until late at night with curriculum and sports. Maybe it is having Saturday course or winter break offering. In

order to attract more students, SoCal ROC need to come up with an attractive model.

Member McGhee shared that maybe IUSD should pull out of the JPA because we cannot afford to be here or do we continue to find creative ways to that will meet the needs of the students and at the same time make it palpable to our budget. Increments are fine but it may not be sustainable. Member McGhee commented that as an organization, SoCal ROC has not brought in any money and have lost the money from many of the funding sources.

Member Kurt stated that many of the courses have room for more students. The goal is to get more students; if we did, we would make more money at the same rate. Member Kurt suggested to table the fee increase for another year and work on what it would take to get students here.

Member McGhee proposed to discuss the fee increase more and not make any decision tonight.

President Strutzenberg stated that this is just discussion and not decision will be made tonight. The center cannot continue to operate on a deficit.

Member Fenton asked what fee is being proposed.

President Strutzenberg is proposing a small increment.

Member Kurt stated that an 8% cola is \$1650.00

Member Kurt suggested offering programs with no transportation it will greatly reduce our cost but at the same time decrease our numbers.

Superintendent Rodriguez that 1/3 of students that have responded have indicated that they would not come if transportation is not available.

Member McGhee suggested to keep the \$1650 on the table, it's an 8% increase from the \$1530.

President Strutzenberg stated that \$120 increase per students should not be a problem, this should not be much of an impact to the districts' budget. The increments have to be done. This item will be put on the agenda for next month to continue with the discussions.

- 12.2 Approve acceptance of gifts donated to the Center - J. Rodriguez



Superintendent Rodriguez acknowledged the donated gifts to the Center from Wardour Heating & Air Conditioning Contractors Inc. The donated items will be used for curriculum instruction in the HVAC program.

*Moved by:* Meredith Beachly

*Seconded by:* Carliss McGhee

**Carried**

### **13. General Services**

#### 13.1 Idea Parking Lot – President Strutzenberg

The following item were suggested by Board members for future Board discussion:

1. 503c status
2. Facilities Master Plan

### **14. Board Members' Remarks**

Member Beachly had no comment.

Member Cobb had no comment.

Member Kurt had no comment.

Member Fenton had no comment.

Member McGhee thanked Dr. Rodriguez for keeping her updated with constant email and quick responses.

President Strutzenberg had no comment.

### **15. Closed Session**

#### 15.1 Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release -Government Code 54957

*Any action taken in Closed Session will be reported out in Open Session*

### **16. Adjourn to Closed Session**

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 8:11 p.m.

*Moved by:* Linda Kurt

*Seconded by:* Carliss McGhee

**Carried**

**17. Adjourn to Open Session**

Meeting adjourned to open session at 8:34 p.m.

*Moved by:* Linda Kurt

*Seconded by:* Meredith Beachly

**Carried**

**18. Report on Closed Session**

In closed session the Board voted unanimously and gave direction to the Superintendent of dismissal/release of an administrator.

**19. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

19.1 Adjourn Meeting


*Moved by:* Jen Fenton

*Seconded by:* Carliss McGhee

**Carried**

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President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
2/29/24