

**WEST SONOMA COUNTY
SPECIAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES CONSORTIUM**
Office: 6950 Analy Ave.
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Meeting Location: 7611 Huntley Avenue Sebastopol, CA 95472

As authorized by the Governor's Emergency Executive Order issued on March 12, 2020, the West Sonoma County Special Education Consortium will conduct Board of Education meetings by video conference until further notice.

MEETING VIA Google Meets PLATFORM

Switched from Zoom due to issues with email access for all members.

September 9, 2020
8:39-9:11 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER at 8:39am by Barbara

II. ROLL CALL

Barbara Bickford, Twin Hills Union SD (Chair)
Renee Semik, Forestville Union SD
Dana Pedersen, Guerneville SD
Amber Stringfellow, Oak Grove Union SD
Jennifer Dudley, Fort Ross SD

Toni Beal, WSCUHSD
Laurie Mason, Montgomery SD
Linda Irving, Sebastopol Union SD (Vice-Chair)
Nate Myers, Monte Rio Union SD
Matthew Morgan, Harmony Union SD

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Agenda for September 9, 2020

Attachment

Board Motion: Motion: Nate Myers Second: Linda Irving

Action: All Nays: 0 Abstentions: 0

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sarah Garrison, parent of a student at Twin Hills, had concerns, lack of communication from Consortium and the District. Not receiving robocalls from the district, she felt left in the dark. Was wondering why they have not received IXL, concerned about families due to fires and if Consortium is reaching out to make sure they have devices and are safe. Everything is in chaos in the world, "how do we show up" She expressed concern around mental health and asked about resources. She expressed that teachers are doing an amazing job. She indicated that parent engagement is critical. She stated, "we can do better so all parents feel supported."

V. CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION ITEM

1. Approval of Minutes for August 19th, 2020

Attachment

Board Motion: Motion: Matthew Morgan Second: Laurie Mason

Action: All Nays: 0 Abstentions: 1

VI. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

A. DIRECTOR GOALS

DISCUSSION ITEM

- Have a clear understanding of and promotes curriculum standards, best instructional practices, and effective assessment methods.
- Appropriately advises and works with colleagues to anticipate and solve problems related to the Consortium and its various programs.
- Makes wise use of resources to meet the educational and instructional priorities for various special needs programs managed by the Consortium

*Goals were shared with Council members, Superintendent Irving asked if the second goal could include colleagues **and parents**. Goals were agreed to by the Council as amended.*

B. SMALL COHORTS

DISCUSSION ITEM

- In-person targeted, specialized support and services in stable cohorts is permissible when the school is able to satisfy all of the conditions detailed in the Cohorting Guidance, including:
 - Limiting cohort size
 - Restricting cohort mixing
 - Maintaining proper physical distancing, masking, cleaning and other safety measures
- Results of the Family Survey taken over the summer
 - Consider returning for in-person learning full day 2 to 4 days a week
 - 30.4%- No
 - 47.8%- Yes
 - 21.7%- Maybe
 - Consider returning for in-person learning if other children did not wear masks
 - 39.1%- No
 - 39.1%- Yes
 - 21.7%- Maybe

Superintendent Meyers asked how many parents responded to the survey, the director indicated less than half. The Council discussed this item. Superintendent Beal indicated that the MOU signed with the teachers' union allowed for in-person assessment. She thought it doubtful if the union would agree to small cohort in-person learning. Superintendent Irving referred to a comment in the chat box about resurveying parents. Superintendent Bickford indicated that she could support one or two students with special needs coming for specialized services, such as an OT specialist modeling for a parent. Larger cohorts would magnify the risk of the spread of COVID. She indicated a need to balance the obligation to support with the health of all. Superintendent Pedersen and Semik concurred with this statement indicating moving with caution. Superintendent Stringfellow asked superintendent Beal to clarify. Superintendent Pedersen asked if this item is discussed with the union periodically. The response was that superintendent Beal communicated daily with the union president. She also stated that she felt the union was following the guidelines set by CTA strictly. Superintendent Morgan suggests that the criteria for choosing which students would return be clearly and objectively defined. The director was asked to explore all options.

VII. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Consortium Director Report: Rose Velasquez will update the Council on items of interest from the Consortium Programs and the SELPA Steering Committee:

1. In-person Assessment is moving forward

Superintendent Bickford informed the Consortium that their District consulted with Corey? that students with triannual due will be having paper screening and once safe will move forward with in person.

2. Consortium Teachers will utilize this [Attendance/Engagement Tracker](#)
This form was presented by SCOE and Consortium teachers will be using this form to track engagement.

~~3. Document on Overview of the Consortium~~

4. Staffing hired by the Consortium Counts
Nurses-4 - FTE: 2.38
Speech Therapists- 4 plus 1 SLPA- FTE: 5
Psychologists- 3- FTE: 1.98
APE-1 FTE:1
Teachers- 5
Behavior Assistants- 12

One Psychologist submitted her letter of resignation due to a desire to be near family

5. Reminder of referral process to the Consortium

The director reminded the Council of the agreement that preschoolers were enrolled by the Consortium but that students K-12 were enrolled by their districts of residence and then transferred to the Consortium.

- LEA/SELPA Superintendent Council Report: *Superintendent Beal and Myers reported that there was no meeting.*
- Announcements: Consortium Council Members *Superintendent Morgan let the Consortium members know that if a student is in need of tech supplies they have extra and could lend them out. Superintendent Bickford mentioned that SCOE has hot spots that they are renting out for \$12 a month. Superintendent Bickford also mentioned that the Vice Chair position will be coming up and to please consider stepping into this position. Superintendent Irving is very concerned about attendance and looks forward to hearing from Brenda Hoff at the next meeting.*

VIII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Next meeting:

- **Brenda Hoff to discuss attendance**
- **Anne Barron with a budget update**

IX. ADJOURNMENT: by Barbara Bickford at 9:11am

ADA Compliance: In compliance with Government Code §54954.2 (a), the West Sonoma County Consortium, will, on request, make this agenda available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disability, as required by Section 202 of the American with Disabilities Acts of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individual who need this agenda in an alternative format or who need a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact Consortium Administrative Assistant Melissa Norris at (707)824-7911 or mnorris.con@wscuhdsd.k12.ca.us.

The mission of the Special Education Consortium program is to use best practice strategies and a positive environment to honor the individual needs of the students we serve. We work collaboratively with families and

districts to help children meet the highest level of independence and achievement possible