

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 1, 2011

Agenda

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 4, 2011
- IV. Adoption of Agenda
- V. Official Correspondence
- VI. Visitor Presentations
 - A. General Public
 - B. Employee Organizations
- VII. Superintendent's Report
- VIII. New Business
 - A. Adoption of Consent Agenda
 1. Report on Personnel Transactions
 2. Award Diploma to Community School Student
 3. Approve Single Plans for Student Achievement for Juvenile Court Schools and Community Schools
 - B. Approval of Contracts
 - C. Authorization to Submit Grant Applications/Service Contracts and Accept Funding if Awarded; and Approval of Contracts, Positions, and Other Expenditures Associated with the Grants as Outlined in the Proposed Budgets
 1. \$94,175 Envisioning the Next Generation of Student Supports grant from the Lumina Foundation for the period December 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012
 2. \$22,000 CA Student Aid Commission – 2011-2012 Capital Region Cash for College Regional Coordinating Organization grant from the Federal College Access Challenge grant for the period October 5, 2011 through August 13, 2012
 - D. Adopt Resolution No. 11-20 – Establishing the 2011-2012 Appropriations Limit
 - E. Adopt Resolution No. 11-21 – Resolution to Pay Absent Board Member Scribner
 - F. Second Reading and Adoption of Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 6152 (Renumbered 6158) – Independent Study
 - G. Second Reading and Adoption of Proposed Revisions to Board Bylaw 8240 (Renumbered 9270) – Conflict of Interest
 - H. Informational Item – Administrative Rules and Regulations 6152 (Renumbered 6158) – Independent Study
 - I. Informational Item – Administrative Rules and Regulations 9270 – Conflict of Interest
 - J. Board Report – Fortune Charter School
- IX. Board Reports, Comments, and Ideas
 - A. Board Members
 - B. Board President

- C. Committees
 - X. Items for Distribution
 - A. November/December Events
 - B. November/December Visits
 - XI. Items for Future Board Meetings
 - A. November 8, 2011 – County Committee on School District Organization at Twin Rivers Unified School District
 - B. November 15, 2011 – Williams Report
 - C. November 29, 2011 – County Committee on School District Organization at Elk Grove Unified School District
 - XII. Adjournment
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I. Vice President Geeting called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the David P. Meaney Education Center, Sacramento County Office of Education, 10474 Mather Boulevard, Mather, California. Board members present were Harold Fong, Brian Rivas, Greg Geeting, Brian Cooley, Eleanor Brown, John Scribner, and Jackie Levy. Also present were David Gordon, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; Teresa Stinson, General Counsel; Robin Pierson, Joyce Wright, Tammy Sanchez, Tim Taylor, and John Fleischman, Assistant Superintendents; Judy Holsinger, SELPA Executive Director; Effie Crush, Chief Administrator-Human Resources; Tim Herrera, Director of Communications; Dan Leonard, SCOETA; Bill Mullen, CSEA; other staff and visitors; and Carla Miller, Recording Secretary. President Cooley arrived at 7:20 p.m. Also in attendance were the following students from Rio Americano High School: Chris Potts, Geoffrey Hurner, Justin Traud, and Connor Henka.

II. Trustee Fong led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. On a motion by Ms. Levy and seconded by Mr. Rivas, the minutes of the regular meeting of October 4, 2011 were approved. Motion carried 5 ayes, 1 abstention (Scribner) and 1 absent (Cooley).

IV. Mr. Scribner moved to adopt the agenda. Mr. Fong seconded the motion, which carried 6 ayes, 1 absent (Cooley).

V. There was no official correspondence.

VI.A. Derrell Roberts, Chairman of the African American Leadership Coalition, stated a coalition of community members along with members of the CSEA Chapter and the teachers association of Twin Rivers Unified School District (TRUSD) have come up with an alternative map that will be discussed at next Tuesday's County Committee meeting which will be held at TRUSD. This map addresses some of the flaws that we see in the existing Map 2, which is being proposed by TRUSD. He stated that their opposition to Map 2 primarily has to do with the process and the procedures that Twin Rivers followed, and the fact that some neighborhoods are being split while others are being kept intact. Our hope is that you will look at our map to attempt to correct a challenge in our community. That map has caused much concern among a broad array

of people. Also, our hope is that staff will allow this map to be a part of an agenda packet when you send out that agenda for the County Committee meeting.

VI.B. There were no requests for presentations from employee organizations.

VII. Superintendent Gordon reported on the following:

- The SCOE Employee Events Team did a wonderful job hosting the popular “Goblin-Fest” dessert event yesterday here at the Meaney Center. Proceeds from the event will go toward SCOE’s Special Education Student Body Fund. Yesterday’s event raised \$436. Congratulations to everyone involved in the planning. Your work continues to help our students and our programs. Thanks to Trustee Geeting for attending.
- Thanked everyone who attended Back to School Night at Gerber Jr/Sr High School on October 12. It was a great opportunity to meet staff, students and parents. Our thanks to Principal Carol Johnston and the staff at Gerber for hosting a great event. Thanks also to Trustee Rivas for attending.
- Thanked everyone involved with the very successful grand opening of the Culinary Café at the Leo A. Palmiter campus on October 11. New culinary instructor Jeff Zahniser and his team of students served a capacity crowd. Thanks to Principal Lauren Roth for hosting. Also thanked Trustees Levy, Geeting and Fong for joining us for lunch. He encourages everyone to visit the café for lunch on Thursdays. Three trustees from other districts also attended. For reservations call 566-2039.
- This is a reminder that we will have two meetings this month of the County Committee on School District Organization. The first meeting will be Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at the Twin Rivers District Board Room and the second meeting will be Tuesday, November 29, 2011 at the administration building in the Elk Grove Unified School District. Both meetings begin at 6:00 p.m.
- If you are planning some fall gardening, please join us Thursday, November 10, 2011 when students from our Landscaping/Sustainability Program hold our second annual Fall Plant Sale in the parking lot of the Meaney Center. From 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., you will be able to purchase perennials, fresh cut herbs and vegetables. Also on that day, the Leo's Links Hot Dog Cart, operated by Palmiter Jr/Sr High School students, will be selling lunch. All sale proceeds go to Palmiter student programs.
- This is a reminder that SCOE offices will be closed on Friday, November 11, 2011 in observance of the Veterans Day holiday.

- On Thursday, November 17, 2011, he will have a meeting with Sacramento County Executive Brad Hudson to discuss the status of the former Boys Ranch property and the National Guard.
- Proudly announced that SCOE's Project MOVE will receive a Golden Bell Award from CSBA. MOVE stands for Mobility Opportunities Via Education. It is a research-based program that improves functional mobility skills and empowers children and adults with severe physical disabilities to better direct their own lives. SCOE is the first MOVE Model Site to be established in Northern California. Congratulations to Assistant Superintendent Robin Pierson and the entire Special Education Program team on this honor. The award will be presented at the CSBA conference in San Diego on December 3, 2011.

VIII.A. Mr. Rivas moved and Mr. Scribner seconded adoption of the consent agenda. Motion carried 6 ayes, 1 absent (Cooley). By such action, the Board:

1. Accepted report on Personnel Transactions
2. Awarded diploma to Community School Student
3. Approved Single Plans for Student Achievement for Juvenile Court Schools and Community Schools, as revised

VIII.B. Mr. Rivas moved and Ms. Levy seconded approval of contracts as listed. Motion to approve the contracts carried 6 ayes, 1 absent (Cooley).

VIII.C. On a motion by Mr. Scribner, seconded by Mr. Fong and carried 6 ayes, 1 absent (Cooley), the Board authorized staff to submit grant applications/service contracts and accept funding if awarded; and approved contracts, positions, and other expenditures associated with the grants as outlined in the proposed budgets as follows:

1. \$94,175 Envisioning the Next Generation of Student Supports grant from the Lumina Foundation for the period December 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012
2. \$22,000 CA Student Aid Commission – 2011-2012 Capital Region Cash for College Regional Coordinating Organization grant from the Federal College Access Challenge grant for the period October 5, 2011 through August 13, 2012

VIII.D. Vice President Geeting opened the Public Hearing on Resolution No. 11-20 – Establishing the 2011-2012 Appropriations Limit at 6:44 p.m. No one came forward. Vice President Geeting closed the Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m.

Mr. Scribner moved and Ms. Levy seconded adoption of Resolution No. 11-20 – Establishing the 2011-2012 Appropriations Limit. Motion carried 6 ayes, 1 absent (Cooley).

VIII.E. Ms. Levy moved and Mr. Fong seconded the motion to adopt the revised Resolution No. 11-21 – Resolution to Pay Absent Board Member Scribner. Trustee Scribner provided an amendment to the motion as follows: if this Board adopts the resolution he requested that the funds be distributed to the Gerber Jr/Sr High School for their school fund. Makers of the motion agreed to the amendment. Motion carried 5 ayes, 1 abstention (Scribner), 1 absent (Cooley).

VIII.F. Vice President Geeting announced that this was the second reading and adoption of proposed revisions to Board Policy 6152 (Renumbered 6158) – Independent Study.

Ms. Levy moved, Mr. Rivas seconded the motion to adopt the proposed revisions to Board Policy 6152 (Renumbered 6158) – Independent Study. Motion carried 6 ayes, 1 absent (Cooley).

VIII.G. Vice President Geeting announced that this was the second reading and adoption of proposed revisions to Board Bylaw 8240 (Renumbered 9270) – Conflict of Interest.

Teresa Stinson, General Counsel, stated that since this went to first reading and before it came to second reading, we've discovered that the code should actually be filed with the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC). Apparently for more than 30 years, we filed it with the County Board of Supervisors, however, we've received clarification from the FPPC that it actually should be filed with them because of the fact that the jurisdiction of the County Board goes into other counties and if you are a local agency that crosses into other counties, then you are supposed to file it with the FPPC. So as a technical matter, if the Board approves this amendment, then we would make any conforming changes and take all the steps necessary to get this filed with the appropriate code reviewing body.

Mr. Rivas moved, Ms. Brown seconded the motion to adopt the proposed revisions to Board Bylaw 8240 (Renumbered 9270) – Conflict of Interest, subject to conforming technical changes. Motion carried 5 ayes, 1 no (Scribner), 1 absent (Cooley).

VIII.H. Ms. Stinson provided information on the Administrative Rules and Regulations 6152 (Renumbered 6158) – Independent Study.

VIII.I. Ms. Stinson provided information on the Administrative Rules and Regulations 9270 – Conflict of Interest.

Mr. Fong requested clarification on ARR 9270. He asked if this policy applies to just the Board or staff or both.

Ms. Stinson replied the bylaw applies to the Board, Superintendent and to the General Counsel and that the ARRs are applied to SCOE staff. The bylaws and ARRs are consistent in that they both follow the law and regulations, the Political Reform Act as well as Government Code 1090. The requirements of these laws are applied to all persons involved.

Mr. Fong questioned whether the Board should have authority to approve the ARR on Conflict of Interest for staff and not just the Board, Superintendent and General Counsel. If there is going to be a conflict of interest policy, shouldn't the Board of Education approve it for the Board and all of its employees? He has concerns about the process and asked for guidance from counsel.

Ms. Stinson explained that typically ARRs come to the Board as an informational item. Board members comment on them and we take those comments into account. In terms of the employees versus the Board members, since the Board is not the employing entity, the conflict of interest code that applies to the employees is being done in an ARR. The laws that apply to elected officials are slightly different than the laws that apply to employees. The ARRs that apply to employees and the conflict of interest code for the Board each track the law and the requirements for each. It is less confusing to have them in separate items because there are certain standards that apply to employees and there are certain standards that apply to elected officials. We have tried to make those differences apparent, and they are consistent in that the ARRs and the Board bylaws each have the same categories: Political Reform Act, Conflict of Interest under the Government Code as well as incompatible activities and employment.

Mr. Fong thanked counsel but stated that he cannot support this if the Board doesn't vote on the ARRs produced for staff.

Ms. Brown said after our discussion last week, she tried to look back at the law on different situations and groups. The fact is the Board doesn't actually hire the employees in the same manner that we hire the Superintendent. For her the distinction is that it becomes a personnel issue which is in the area of responsibility for the Superintendent just as any other issues dealing with the employees would be. She thinks the whole purpose of having an informational item is for the Board to look at it, read it, and if we have questions or disagreements then we could bring it up at the Board meeting. She thinks there exists a pathway to follow if there is something in the ARRs that bothers us.

Mr. Fong said there is no pathway for what he is asking; which is a vote by the Board of Education on those policies that are produced by the Superintendent.

Mr. Scribner said that if you have a problem with an ARR you could ask for the Policy Committee to review them, tighten them up regarding requiring certain positions or requiring a broader application or interpretation of the applicability of the reporting requirements.

Mr. Fong said if there is a conflict of interest and it becomes known to the public and it becomes a big issue, the Board gets the flack, not the Superintendent; yet we didn't vote on these ARRs. We could be perceived by the public as passing the buck. That is why he wanted to raise this. We can proceed to vote, but he will not be voting for it.

Mr. Geeting said there are no votes being called for and asked if there were any other comments. This is an informational item. We have had discussion; we are free as individual members to provide input to the Superintendent who then produces the rules

and regulations. And he, for example, provided input on the independent study rules and he provided input on this item also. He doesn't expect the Superintendent to take everything he suggested, but to consider them and he imagines that others of you will do the same. It's an informational item. We've had discussion. We do have guests waiting, so seeing no further discussion on this we will move forward to the next item.

VIII.J. Consultant Francie Heim presented a report on the Fortune Charter School.

Ms. Levy said she is very pleased to see this report. It's all very positive and she is thrilled about it. She visited the school early on and was very impressed. She noticed that there is a waiting list of five students and asked why they are being kept on a waiting list since it's such a small number?

Ms. Heim said she will have to defer that question to staff from the charter school but assumes it has to do with staffing guidelines.

Mr. Scribner said in terms of looking ahead, have you had discussions about the what ifs, should the state execute the Tier 1 and or Tier 2 budget cuts?

Ms. Heim replied that will definitely need to be addressed in the first interim budget. She will be working with staff from Fortune and Tammy Sanchez and her team, to make sure we are all on the same page. Our expectation would be that there needs to be a contingency plan for the worst case, also making sure that all of the cash flow issues are addressed adequately as well.

Ms. Brown said she was happy to see that the conflict of interest item was specifically addressed and that you're comfortable with the changes they've made.

Ms. Heim replied they have restructured the corporation specifically to meet the requirements.

Ms. Brown asked whether the demographic enrollment data would look similar to other schools from the areas from which they are drawing.

Ms. Heim replied she doesn't know the answer to that. She did try to look in sort of a general geographic area and saw so many diverse populations in all of the schools that she had trouble drawing some clear conclusions herself.

Ms. Brown said she's impressed with the additional minutes especially for kindergarten. The last question she had was about the observation of classroom instruction, could you talk a little about your reaction to that, or the atmosphere in the classroom, or what you see when you visit.

Ms. Heim replied she would be happy to. One of the things that impressed her the most was her visit one week after school opened, knowing that the day before school opened they were down to the wire on making all the modifications and getting things ready. The classrooms were absolutely totally functioning, they had all the required furniture, they were wonderfully decorated, there were all of those pieces that you see in a

classroom that say to you that there is a significant investment in making that classroom ready for students. And probably the thing that she was most impressed with on the site visit was the amount of time that went into insuring students knew their expectations, students lining up in the morning arriving for school, students going into classrooms, students going among classrooms, going to PE, walking into a classroom. How quickly, when you walk into a classroom, a kindergartener will walk up to you, shake your hand and introduce him or herself, and looks you in the eye and begins to tell you what they're doing in the classroom that day. And as you walk into each classroom, you will see that kind of behavior that occurs in each classroom and that was an observation when school had only been in place for about a week. It was all of those things that she saw that told her that there was a great deal of thought and structure and training that went into that process.

Ms. Brown said she was there the day school opened and she would have never known they had struggled the day before to put that room in shape. Her impressions were similar to yours and she was anxious and believed that it's still happening even to a greater degree and she thinks that instruction in the classroom and the atmosphere of the students are really high points in the school and she is happy to see that has continued and thrived.

Ms. Heim said she came back in October just a few weeks ago to confirm that those were still the same observations and they absolutely were.

Mr. Rivas asked Ms. Heim if she had any data regarding the students' family incomes.

Ms. Heim replied she will have to report back with that data; it's not an element that she specifically measured.

Mr. Rivas suggested that Ms. Fortune may be able to answer that for us. He's expecting the school to be successful in the way that PS7 has been. He is also expecting people to come before us in five years when they're up for renewal and say the only reason that they're successful is because they're taking kids who are already likely to succeed. He stated that he thought we agreed to record the level of student achievement as a part of the MOU, and asked whether we are doing that at the time of enrollment.

Ms. Heim replied she knows there is a level of assessment that occurs, but will have to report back with more detail.

Mr. Rivas said he thinks it would be useful and would be interested to know if you agree. He would like to talk about how to duplicate the successful strategies or practices at this school as well as PS7. What do we have to do to identify and duplicate the reasons for success at the Fortune School?

Ms. Heim said her current oversight role is defined in the MOU and it's primarily about compliance. Mr. Rivas' comments could certainly be expanded to a further conversation.

Superintendent Gordon commented that if he were running a school district, he would be keenly observing this school and the PS7 site to see if there were things that could be transferred. The Board discussed, when you voted on approving the charter school, that one of the original purposes in the charter law when it was enacted in the early 90's was that these would be laboratories to learn from and adopt and refine successful practices. He thinks Mr. Rivas raised an absolutely great point.

Mr. Rivas thanked Ms. Heim for what she is doing for us.

President Cooley arrived at 7:20 p.m.

Mr. Fong said thank you for doing the oversight for us. He congratulated the Fortune Charter School for a successful opening. His comments have to do with the future and on the recruitment plan. He asked Ms. Heim, when Fortune opens their second school, will she be involved in the oversight of the recruitment plan.

Ms. Heim replied at the moment her contract is for this school year and the oversight of this charter school.

Mr. Fong asked if he could have more detail on the recruitment that was done. He is very happy with the composition of the school site. It's closer to a reflection of a school opening in this county. He would like to get more details of the locations of the SETA preschools, such as what communities they were involved in, what zip codes, in what neighborhoods did they canvas for the 3,000 enrollment packages that went door to door. What were the ten churches to which they did the outreach? He wants to feel comfortable that the outreach was adequate. When they do open a second school can we refine this outreach plan to ensure they've done their best in reaching out to a student population that reflects the composition of Sacramento County, which is one of the requirements for the charter schools.

Ms. Heim replied that the charter has been very responsive to these kinds of requests from her. They keep very good records and she is sure we will be able to provide you with even more detail.

Mr. Fong said he is very happy with the opening and it wasn't what he expected.

Ms. Heim said she hopes he gets a chance to visit the school someday. He would enjoy the visit.

Speaker cards:

Margaret Fortune expressed thanks to Ms. Heim, the Board, and all who have visited the school. She responded to the question from Trustees Levy and Brown about the five students on the waiting list: those students are on waiting lists in grade levels where the class is full. She asked Bonnie Benson to answer Trustee Rivas' question about students' family incomes.

Ms. Benson said about 84% of our students qualify for free and reduced lunch.

Ms. Fortune asked Herinder Pegany and Co-principal Kiyomi Meeker to speak about assessing student achievement.

Mr. Pegany said every student and their family met with their teacher prior to instruction to establish a relationship, and to assess English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics readiness for the incoming grade level. We used that information to develop a personalized learning plan for each student. What that showed us was that approximately 75% of our incoming students were not prepared for the grade level that they were coming into. Ten weeks later, we have already seen some tremendous growth.

Principal Meeker said we are compiling data from our first trimester, which just ended Friday, to identify which students need extra instruction during intersession and also to make our action plan for next trimester. Our students have made tremendous growth in kindergarten alone.

Ms. Fortune said what we typically do after the first trimester is a data analysis to see growth from August to the end of the first trimester, which we will be happy to share. Regarding replicating best practices, that was part of the reason that we came to the county office because of its role in disseminating best practices to school districts countywide. We've actually started that work in collaboration with Sue Stickel and her department. We had a series of free workshops on closing the achievement gap and invited all educators in the county, and intend to continue offering these workshops. We operate with an open door policy and welcome staff from other districts and superintendents to visit.

President Cooley asked where the workshops were held.

Ms. Fortune replied that the workshops were held at SCOE. They took place before the school opened as part of our outreach effort to educators.

Mr. Geeting asked what the approximate breakdown by residence of the students is between Elk Grove and Sacramento City. He found out himself that the school is so close to the boundary, it is in the Elk Grove Unified School District (EGUSD), but an NFL quarterback could throw a football into the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) standing on that facility.

Ms. Benson reported that the ADA at 20 days was 171. 91.55 of that ADA came from EGUSD, 1.55 came from Folsom Cordova Unified School District, 69.25 came from SCUSD, 5.7 came from Natomas Unified, and 2.95 came from Twin Rivers.

Public comment:

Monica Jones, Parent Liaison of Fortune School, stated they have established a Parent Action Committee, some of whom are standing behind her. She stated they do field trips. They will be visiting the Board meetings on a regular basis, and are trying to educate ourselves on the process of how the Board operates. She thanked the Board on behalf of the committee for all they have done to make our school a success. We

want to thank those of you who have come by to visit the school. She commutes to the school from Natomas and stated there is a large group of Natomas parents going to the school. She invited the Board to attend their November 16, 2011 meeting, starting at 5:00 p.m., at which they will provide a Thanksgiving Meal. She introduced some of the parents and their children, as well as her own children.

Inez Adams shared that her son had been transferred back and forth between Sacramento and Elk Grove school districts. When she met Fortune, they had what she needed for her son. He was a preemie and was lacking in some areas. SCOE was part of the team that helped him out, but when he got to age 3, they changed him to SCUSD. By the time he finished kindergarten, he didn't know his alphabet or anything. Since enrolling him in kindergarten at the Fortune School, after ten weeks, he increased his alphabet from 6 letters to 24 out of 26 letters. He didn't have to go to intersession because he is doing so well in school. She is very, very pleased with Fortune School and wanted to say thank you.

President Cooley thanked our consultant, Ms. Heim, for the report and the Fortunes for offering information. He wanted to especially thank the parents for coming.

IX.A. Mr. Fong reported he attended the Culinary Arts Café opening at Palmiter. The food was great. He was reading in the papers today that Governor Brown put in an application for Race to the Top. He presented a proposal for preschool, a data driven program. Mr. Fong is hoping that this proposal will be accepted by the federal government. He thinks that preschool offers the best way for us to close the achievement gap at the very beginning when students are prepared to go to school.

Mr. Rivas reported he enjoyed Back to School at Gerber Jr/Sr High. He enjoyed the barbecue prepared by Assistant Superintendent Tim Taylor, and enjoyed the visit. He looks forward to welcoming you all to his trustee area next Tuesday. He has the TRUSD annual report to share. In addition to the business that we have to take care of, he hopes you will take a minute to learn about some of the good stuff that is going on in Twin Rivers.

Ms. Brown reported she would just like to add to the discussion on the Fortune School. She really commends Sue Stickel for helping make that inservice opportunity available for the districts so that we could take advantage of the school's willingness to share what they are doing. It would be helpful if this could be a part of the Administrative Training Program that is going on now. Again, she commends them for their good work.

Mr. Scribner said he wanted to comment on the last study session we had on entrepreneurialism and how impressed he was with the presentations and the concepts that were being presented and discussed by the Board and staff. And he wanted to comment today the Board of Supervisors acted on the realignment plan for the county and the money as you might have figured is pretty much lock up money as we figured it would be. There is not yet funding coming down from the state because of their budgetary situation relative to rehabilitation or how we address recidivism because probation lost out totally in that budget debate. He thinks we really should look at this as an opportunity to move in the direction that we've talked about in examining the

entrepreneurial approach for unmet needs in the community. These county lockups have nothing to give these prisoners any expectation that they're going to turn themselves around when they do their time. The county further finds itself jammed because the anticipated prisoner populations on the transfer were works of fiction. They are finding much lower than what they anticipated and they are discovering that now. That money is going to the expansion of the physical infrastructure and staffing just to be able to keep them locked up securely. He was very impressed with all the entrepreneurial concepts, but he hopes that we look at addressing adult education where we can draw that ADA and bring in dollars that this county isn't receiving. And we can address a population that desperately needs to be served. By the way, his youngest daughter turns 18 tomorrow.

Ms. Levy reported she did a few visitations in the last few weeks. She wanted to publicly thank Carmen Walker, SH Principal in the South Area. Ms. Walker took her on a whirlwind tour of about six programs this morning and Robin Pierson joined us for part of it. It was really great to see the kids. She saw every age from 3-22. We could really see those MOVE devices in action. The employees are wonderful. It takes a special kind of person whose comfortable working with severely handicapped kids. She thinks that's what we have at SCOE. She thanked Superintendent Gordon for driving up to Sly Park with her. We had a great time. She had never seen Sly Park before and she was so impressed with that facility. She hopes every kid has an opportunity to spend some time there. She thanked Tim Taylor for reminding her about Career GPS. That was a great event. She'd been planning to go to that event for four years since she first heard about it. It's a wonderful way for middle and high school kids to find out about careers in the Sacramento area. She thinks everybody had a great time and learned a lot. She hopes they do it again. It was wonderful.

Mr. Geeting asked Ms. Fortune to pass along his thanks to Mr. Pegany, who had already left the meeting. Mr. Geeting was able to visit the school about two weeks ago, and Mr. Pegany was very nice and took time from his schedule to show Mr. Geeting around. The teachers were very generous with their time and in responding to his questions. One hesitates in an experience like that to pick out one thing, but he did talk at some length to the third grade teacher; he was particularly worried about the incoming third graders because they're the ones who had kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade somewhere else. They're now coming at this very critical stage where being independent readers by the end of 3rd grade is so important. That is a big marker. He asked what her experience was like with the incoming students and she said it was a large range. She had a couple of students right on target as outgoing 2nd graders, incoming 3rd graders. She had one who she rated as reading 4 words per minute – almost immeasurable. He asked if everyone will be an independent reader by the end of this year. She looked him right in the eye and gave him the right answer to that question, which was, this is just too important; we are not going to let them fail. The Culinary Café opening was a marvelous thing. He was very pleased to be there. On October 17, he had the opportunity to hear Steve Perry, host of Perry's Principles on CNN. Dr. Perry, Principal of Capital Preparatory Magnet School in Hartford, Connecticut. He's a very tough love, high expectations, and great attention to detail kind of leader for the school. He's college oriented; Dr. Perry tells kids "if you really don't want to go to college, well then don't come here to Capital Prep. This isn't the

school for you. Go somewhere else.” He’s demanding. The school is composed of 80% African American and Latino students, virtually no dropouts; virtually every student is accepted into a 4 year university. Dr. Perry developed the school for the specific purpose of serving students with backgrounds similar to his own. He was born to a teenage mother. He grew up in the housing project outside of Hartford. The way he humorously phrased it was, “I had to be a principal at some point or a prisoner because I spent more time in the principal’s office than the principal himself.” He personifies the type of person that Mr. Geeting thinks if you look at public administration literature would be characterizes an agent of disruptive change because he is very challenging and he is very pointed in his comments. Mr. Geeting said he doesn’t subscribe to everything Dr. Perry had said. Mr. Geeting will give you a little example, one of the things he did in his lecture was to note that our public schools here in Sacramento are turning out fewer than 40% of 3rd graders reading at the proficient level and that our high school dropouts exceed 30%. Numbers like these are not okay. As you look around the nation we don’t find many urban areas with numbers that are any worse than that. This is pretty much the worst of the worst right here in Sacramento. Dr. Perry goes on to say that those of you who drive around in your comfortable cars every day – and who drive past the schools that are turning out students with such poor academic achievement – well, you are part of the problem. He’s very pointed that way. Things don’t have to be that way. Students do not have to fail. It was a striking lecture. Mr. Geeting mentioned he thought we all got the letter from Senator Simitian asking for a resolution in support of SCA 5. We already did a resolution like that. He was hoping to ask Superintendent Gordon to respond for all of us.

Superintendent Gordon replied you did a resolution in April so we were going to propose to send him a letter reminding him that he has that on file.

Mr. Geeting continued with his report. He attended the 2011 Volunteer Spirit Awards Luncheon that’s sponsored by the Volunteer Center of Sacramento. He congratulated Jack Ross Williams of Make a Wish Foundation who was named the Volunteer of the Year for our Sacramento region. Last, he is sure that everyone has been sitting here anxiously awaiting his report on the number of trick or treaters who visited his house this year. We had 329 visitors two years ago, last year it was 464; those last two years we closed up at 9:00 p.m. This year we closed up at 8:32 p.m. We did that for two reasons: 1) you get the social pressure from the neighborhood, and 2) we ran out of supplies. His wife was desperately looking for the light switches around house and he was dipping into some reserves of granola bars. We ended up with a count of 519. Even with all the lights off we still had some brazen ones who would come to the door and knock even with no outdoor lights on.

IX.B. President Cooley apologized for being late. He had to acquire a Memorandum of Understanding from the city council of Stockton on some parking for a hotel project he is working on. He wanted to commend the Board and staff for the terrific study session on October 18. We are going to schedule an Executive Committee Meeting next month to talk about when to bring that back and what the next steps are so we can continue. He thought it was time well spent. He congratulated Project MOVE for their Golden Bell Award. If the Board members haven’t been out there to see that program, he thinks you should. Maybe we could have them do another Board

report. It's a terrific program. He is glad to hear that it is recognized. He wants to focus back on the workshops that the Fortunes are doing. He thinks it's important because his support for the charter wasn't just based on the charter and the students that they would educate over time, but the benefits of what they can provide to the education community as a whole in the county about their successful practices; he thinks it gets lost in the whole charter discussion. He thinks a lot of people want to focus on helping on a segment of students in the county, what about all the other students. He thinks we heard that argument on the 1st of February. He thinks the workshops are the direct answer to the question- what about the rest of the students? He hopes that our districts would really take to heart what they see and what they hear and what they learn. He still thinks that getting some Board members to those workshops to hear and understand what you do to kind of dispel the myths out there. He thinks it will be beneficial. He didn't get a chance to hear the whole presentation. He did read it earlier, but he really wanted to focus on that. His daughter's soccer team is on a 2-0 march now that they have been receded from the BC to the EC. They beat another east Sac team 7-0 on Saturday. His daughter had the first opening salvo with the second goal of the season. His daughter just finished their first quarter at her school. She's off to a great start. The teacher had to tell him that she's never had a child in the class that is a teacher's aide. He asked the teacher what she meant. The teacher said she goes around the class to help other students with their math and reading homework. So he asked his daughter the other day what she wanted to be when she grew up. She said she wanted to be a teacher just like her teacher. He thinks that's a great testament to a teacher his daughter has had only for five weeks.

IX.C. There were no committee reports.

X.A. There was no distribution of the November/December Events item.

X.B. There was no distribution of the November/December Site Visits item.

XI. Items for Future Board Meetings

A. November 8, 2011 – County Committee on School District Organization at Twin Rivers Unified School District

B. November 15, 2011 – Williams Report

C. November 29, 2011 – County Committee on School District Organization at Elk Grove Unified School District

XII. Mr. Geeting moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Levy seconded the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Gordon
Secretary to the Board

Date approved: December 6, 2011