

North County Joint Union School District



Special Board Meeting Library

Tuesday, July 28, 2020
Open Session
5:30 PM

Trustees

Reneé Faught
Cindy King
Frank O'Connell
Stan Pura
Ted Zanella

Administration

Jennifer Bernosky
Superintendent/Principal
Gabriella Armenta
Director of Student Services, Curriculum & Instruction
Kristi Vieyra
Administrative District Psychologist/Special Education Coordinator

NORTH COUNTY JOINT UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

500 Spring Grove Rd.

Hollister, CA 95023

Board of Trustees

SPECIAL MEETING

AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

Tuesday, July 28, 2020

Open Session – 5:30PM

Speaking at board meetings: The public is encouraged to speak to the Board on issues of concern whether or not the issue(s) are on the agenda. To address the Board, please complete a speaker card and give it to the Administrative Assistant sitting next to the Superintendent. (Speaker cards are available on the entrance table.) If you want to speak to the Board on a subject listed on the agenda, you will be called to the podium at the time your item of interest is being considered by the Board. If the item is not on the agenda, you will be called to the podium during Public Comments (Item B). Public comments are limited to 3 minutes per person per topic, unless otherwise noted.

Electronic devices: Please turn the sound off all cell phones, pagers, PDAs, and other electronic devices, to avoid disrupting these proceedings.

AGENDA ITEM	
A.	CALL TO ORDER 5:30 PM (DISTRICT BOARD ROOM) 1) Pledge of Allegiance 2) Approval of Agenda 3) Recognition of Visitors
B.	PUBLIC COMMENTS Public Comment cards must be completed prior to the start of the meeting of the Board. Speakers will be addressed in the order in which cards are received. In accordance with Board Policy 9323, procedures for the public to address the Board concerning any item on the agenda or to address the board during public comment shall be as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Three (3) minutes may be allotted to each speaker with a maximum of 15 minutes per item.• No boisterous conduct shall be permitted at any Board of Trustee meeting Personnel matters and pending litigation may not be discussed during public comments
C.	REPORTS / INFORMATION 1. Plan and Safety Protocols for Re-Opening Spring Grove School for the 2020-2021 School Year. – Jennifer Bernosky, Superintendent/Principal
D.	DISCUSSION / ACTION 1. Approve Emergency Resolution Delegating Authority to Take Necessary Action to Protect Students and Staff from the Spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19)
E.	PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes with a maximum of 15 minutes per item.
F.	CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION The Board of Trustees will meet in closed session to consider and/or discuss the following, pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.5 <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Existing/Anticipated Litigation/Significant Exposure to Litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9.2. Public Employee Employment, Appointment, Performance Evaluation pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 and 54957.1.
G.	ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5 all documents related to this meeting are available for public viewing at North County Joint Union School District, 500 Spring Grove Road, Hollister, California.

*Individuals who require disability-related accommodations or modifications, including auxiliary aids and services, to participate in the Board meeting should contact the Superintendent in writing in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the Board meeting.

“Every Spring Grove Student will receive an engaging, enriching, and rigorous educational experience using state and standards-based curriculum and consistent measures of growth and support to ensure student success.”

REPORTS AND INFORMATION

NORTH COUNTY JOINT UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD REPORT

DATE: July 28, 2020

REPORT BY: Jennifer Bernosky – Superintendent/Principal

TOPIC: Plan and Safety Protocols for Re-Opening Spring Grove School for the 2020-2021 School Year

ACTION TO BE TAKEN: None - Informational

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On July 17, 2020 Governor Newsom issued the statement that all schools will open with Distance Learning if their County is on the Watch List. San Benito County was placed on the watch list on July 10, 2020. Therefore, schools in San Benito County are required to open with Distance Learning. Spring Grove will open on August 13th with Distance Learning in lieu of the AM/PM Hybrid, as well as the ROAR program.

The District may apply for a waiver with approval from the San Benito County Health Department and the State of California. To apply for a waiver, the District must have the following: a solid reopen plan including disinfecting, social distancing, face covering, etc. The District must also have support from staff and the parent community. On July 21st, the District sent out a survey to all current families with the following options:

1. Start online until San Benito County is off the watch list and able to open schools.
2. Attend school on campus with social distancing, disinfecting, and face coverings.
3. Already signed up for the ROAR program.

As of July 24th (210 families responded)

110 families-159 students would like on campus school.

77 families would like to stay with online learning until SBC schools are able to reopen.

73 students are enrolled in the ROAR program with 3 teachers.

Mr. Belscher TK-1st grade

Mrs. Horne 2nd-4th grade

Mrs. Berlanga 5th-8th grade

As of July 24th, 32 teachers responded to the survey.

16 teachers would like to return on campus with students.

13 teachers would like to stay at home with online learning until school is open for on campus learning, and 3 teachers will be teaching the ROAR program.

The District will use the survey from parents and staff, as well as letters of support from NCTA and the Superintendent of San Benito County with our waiver.

Attached is the Distance Learning Standards for School which is tied to the 2020-2021 state budget. These standards provide direction for school and staffs. It also requires 180 days of instruction with minimum number of minutes at each grade level. Spring Grove School will have set daily schedules beginning at 8:15 a.m. with morning announcements and ending at 2:15 or 3:00 p.m. The schedules will include synchronous (online instruction in ELA and Math), small group class, student led discussions, direct instruction, one-hour live

office hours, PE lessons, etc. as well as asynchronous work in the Google classroom, assignments, videos, assessments, etc.

Daily attendance will be taken in ELA and math. Students who miss 3 periods will be contacted by the teacher and information will be logged. Administration will follow up with families on the attendance watch list. Assessments and grade will also be given.

CONCLUSION: If the waiver is approved, the District will work with parents and teachers on a return to campus plan. At that time, the District would have 3 programs:

ROAR

On campus learning

Distance learning

The District is also working with NCTA on a new MOU which will follow the Distance Learning Standards for schools.



San Benito County Office of Education

Krystal Lomanto, County Superintendent of Schools

460 Fifth Street | Hollister | California 95023 | 831. 637.5393 | FAX 831. 637.0140

Distance learning standards for schools

Following a spring of uneven distance learning expectations for schools across California, the new state budget sets standards for fall instruction.



'Daily live interaction' required

Teachers will have to connect with their students each school day through online instruction and/or phone check-ups.



Taking student attendance

Schools must take students' attendance and participation under distance learning, or risk losing state funding. Students who don't participate will factor into schools' chronic absenteeism figures.



Minimum instruction

Students must receive a minimum amount of daily instruction that can be met by a combination of teacher instruction and "time value" of work assigned.

- **3 hours per day** for kindergartners.
- **3 hours, 50 minutes** for grades 1-3.
- **4 hours** for grades 4-12.



Serving students in need

Schools have to provide the "accommodations necessary" to serve students with special needs.



No set requirements for live instruction

The state does not mandate a minimum daily amount of synchronous, or live, instruction, though experts strongly suggest it be a part of students' distance learning.



Preventing disengagement

Schools must form a plan for re-engaging students who are absent from distance learning for more than three schooldays a week.



Checking families' connectivity

Schools will have to ensure that students and families have the devices and connectivity necessary to participate in distance learning, or make accommodations if they do not.



Weekly engagement records

An additional data requirement, schools must keep "weekly engagement records" noting how much synchronous or asynchronous instruction a student has received.



Replacing accountability plans

Schools will team up with parents and teachers to create a "learning continuity and attendance plan" by Sept. 30, replacing schools' usual annual planning documents.

Source: California 2020-21 state budget.



DISCUSSION / ACTION

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
NORTH COUNTY JOINT UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**EMERGENCY RESOLUTION
RESOLUTION DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO TAKE NECESSARY ACTION TO
PROTECT STUDENTS AND STAFF FROM THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS
(COVID-19)**

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a statewide emergency arising from the coronavirus (COVID-19).

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Governor Newsom issued an executive order directing Californians to cancel large public gatherings (over 250 people) and to enforce social distancing.

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared a national emergency arising from the coronavirus (COVID-19).

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Krystal Lomanto, the San Benito County Superintendent of Schools, issued a written directive advising all school districts to prepare for school closures resulting from the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, North County Joint Union School District (“District”) notified staff, parents, students, and the community that effective Monday, March 16, school will be closed for one week, through Friday, March 20, 2020 to slow the spread of the Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Newsom issued an executive order addressing LEAs and school closures; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, District Board of Trustees (“Board”) approved extension of the school closure through, April 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued an executive order directing Californians to stay at home or at their place of residence to protect the public health of Californians and to establish consistency across the state in order to mitigate the impact of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020, California State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond, announced schools may not reopen this school year and districts should put all efforts into strengthening the deliverance of education through distance learning; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2020, Governor Newsom announced as a safety measure and to stop the spread of the Coronavirus, schools will be physically closed for the remainder of the 2019-20 academic school year and Distance Learning Instruction will be provided; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2020, the San Benito County Office of Education communicated new information and out of an abundance of caution the San Benito County Office of Education and District Superintendents are taking a safety-first approach and are recommending extending the school facility closures through the end of the school year; and

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2020, the Superintendent informed the District Board of the closure of school through June 4, 2020. The 2019-20 school year is not over, and we will continue to utilize distance learning to provide educational continuity; and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2020, North County Joint Union School District presented two (2) instructional models including a blended hybrid option and an independent study / homeschool option (ROAR) for safely reopening school in the fall, to the Board and the community; and

WHEREAS, on July 7, 2020, San Benito County was placed on the state’s monitoring list due to increasing positive COVID-19 cases; and

WHEREAS, on July 13, 2020, Governor Newsom ordered the closure of designated indoor business operations until further notice; and

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2020, districts across the state began announcing their intent to resume distance learning for the 2020-21 school year; and

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2020, State Superintendent Thurmond commended school districts for keeping student, staff, and teacher health and safety as the foremost priority and encouraged districts to continue to design plans for in-person instruction this fall but urged educators to prepare for the possibility of resuming distance learning based on current health and safety concerns; and

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2020 Governor Newsom announced the metrics schools must meet to open in-person instruction, as well as metrics to remain open include the following:

- Schools and school districts can reopen only when their county has been off the monitoring list for 14 days.
- When at least five percent of the total number of teachers/students/staff are cases within a 14-day period; OR when the Local Health Officer determines school closure is warranted for other reasons, including local factors and public health investigation.
- Criteria for Closing a District: “A superintendent should close a school district if 25 percent or more of schools in a district have closed due to COVID-19 within 14 days, in consultation with the local public health department.”

As San Benito County has been placed on the California County Monitoring list and remains on the list as of today, July 28, 2020.

WHEREAS, on July 28, 2020, the District approves utilizing distance learning to provide educational continuity and revisiting this instructional model as local COVID-19 metrics fluctuate. The 2020-21 school year will commence on August 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 28, of the California Constitution declares that “all students and staff of public, primary, elementary, junior high, and senior high school... have the inalienable right to attend campuses which are safe, secure and peaceful.”

WHEREAS, Education Code section 35161 permits the Board to delegate to an officer or employee of the District any of the Board’s powers and duties, and the Board desires to delegate

to the District Superintendent certain powers and duties to address the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Board hereby declares the existence of an ongoing public health emergency within the District arising from the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED the Superintendent is delegated authority to take all appropriate action to respond to the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, including, but not limited to, any action:

- A. To ensure and protect the welfare, safety and educational wellbeing of all students;
- B. To ensure and protect the welfare and safety of persons working for the District which shall include its agents, employees, representatives and all others acting for or on behalf of the District;
- C. To provide necessary staffing and instruction;
- D. To modify school and work schedules;
- E. To declare an emergency pursuant to Government Code § 3100 et seq., and to assign District employees (in their capacity as disaster service workers) to perform such disaster service activities as may be assigned to them;
- F. To cancel or modify any activities, programs, or courses, up to and including the temporary closure of the District.
- G. To protect District property.
- H. To make further declarations of emergency and to take emergency action as permitted by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that should any portion of this Resolution be held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this Resolution are declared to be severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that this Resolution is an emergency measure within the mandate and jurisdiction of the Board and is necessary for the immediate welfare of the schools and pupils thereof. Therefore, this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption and shall remain in effect until repealed by formal Board action.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the following vote of the Board of Education of the North County Joint Union School District, County of San Benito, State of California on July 28, 2020.

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSENT: _____

Ted Zanella
President, Board of Trustees
North County Joint Union School District