

Nicasio School District

Since 1862

Board of Trustees

Elaine Doss, *Board President* ~ Daniel Ager, *Trustee* ~ Mark Burton, *Trustee*

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Nicasio School District Board of Trustees

Thursday, March 3, 2022 5pm

5555 Nicasio Valley Road, California

Meeting was held via videoconference pursuant to Executive Order N-25-20 issued by California Governor Gavin Newsom on March 12, 2020. Videoconference access information was posted on the District website:

<http://www.nicasioschool.org/index.php/school-board/board-meetings>

1. Opening Business

- a. Call to Order at 5:01pm
- b. Roll Call *Present* (via videoconference): **Trustees Elaine Doss, Mark Burton and Daniel Ager**
Also in attendance (via videoconference): Interim Superintendent Nancy Neu, Principal Barbara Snekkevik, Chief Business Official Margie Bonardi and District Secretary Mikki McIntyre.
- c. Patriotic Moment in honor of the many democracies in Europe and around the world who have voiced their support for Ukraine.

2. Approval and Adoption of Open Session Agenda

Action: M/S: **Burton/Ager** to approve and adopt Agenda **Vote: 3/0** Ayes: Ager, Burton and Doss;
Noes: None

3. Reports

- a. Trustee/Superintendent/Principal Announcements
 - *Interim Supt. Neu reported the following:*
 - At the March 2 Superintendents meeting, Dr. Santora discussed the state's lifting of the mask mandate in schools as of March 12. She said Marin County had the highest vaccination rate in the country. County health officials recommend that schools continue to advise wearing of masks for a while, however, districts are not all in step on that issue. Ultimately, the decision is up to individual families and staff. Regardless of whether masks are worn, those who are sick are still expected to stay home and test for Covid. If there is a positive case in a classroom, exposed students and staff will be advised to wear masks for five days. The biggest concern countywide is for the Latin-X and African American populations, where vaccination rates are the lowest. The county is expecting a Covid surge again within the county after spring break. Statistically, the safest place for students to be is in the classroom.
 - Interim Supt. Neu said it is her assumption that the District will follow the county's guidelines related to masking unless the Board makes a decision to change it.
 - She also said it is unlikely the state will move in the direction of vaccine mandates for next school year.
 - Interim Supt. Neu said schools have been provided with resources on how to talk to students about the Ukraine/Russia conflict. She said the school administration has

shared a lot of that information with parents through various communication channels, and will continue to do so.

- Parent and staff workshops are being offered to address the rise in use of opiates and heroin by students in Marin.
- The discussion continues regarding possible sites for staff housing on unused school district properties around the county. Senator Mark McGuire will participate in a March 17th Zoom meeting on that topic.
- This year, there are 56 Marin County school trustee seats opening up, which is likely a record number. Interim Supt. Neu said that may be due to the political and unpleasant tenor of meetings at some districts. She expressed appreciation to the Board for caring so much and working so hard in support of the District.
- *Principal Snekkevik presented the following report:*
 - Events & Activities: February's Life Skill: Kindness; Kindness Week, Feb. 14-18; Sports Day Spirit Day, Feb. 18; Annual Parent/Family Survey, Feb. 7-18; Annual Student Survey (grades 5-8), Feb. 14-18; Mid-Winter Recess, Feb. 21-25; All-School Assembly, March 2; March's Life Skill: Perseverance; Bookmobile visit, March 3
 - Staff Updates: Resignation of Damena Ware at the end of this school year; On-going Public Health Liaison meetings (weekly & as needed)
 - Site Updates: Playground structure currently closed; Damaged light fixture in parking lot - Repair scheduled; Septic system pumped; Obstructed plumbing cleared; AED device currently not in service
 - Upcoming Events: End of 2nd Trimester, March 4; Professional Development Day, March 7; ELPAC testing begins, March 8; Spirit Day, March 17; Open House, March 31; Spring Break, April 4-8

- b. 2022-23 Universal Free Meals Program Update *Principal Snekkevik provided the following update:* Recent Admin. team conversations with a food service vendor and a school lunch consultant have been helpful. The easiest route for the District to provide universal breakfast and lunch to students next year would be for NSD to become a satellite site of a larger district. Staff put out feelers in that regard, and it looks promising for a possible arrangement with Miller Creek School District. Principal Snekkevik has reached out to the school lunch consultant about next steps. CBO Bonardi explained that the schools have to provide universal breakfast and lunch to all students who apply for it next year. The state is offering to reimburse schools for the difference between the cost of the meals and the Federal reimbursement amount. In order to participate, the District must join the National School Lunch Program. The District can opt out of the Federal lunch program, but would then need to provide the meals at its own cost. By partnering with Miller Creek, NSD would save the labor costs of a staff time. The District is spending \$15K-\$20K to provide lunches this year, so Miller Creek would be the best possible option.
- c. Spring 2022 Parent Survey Results *Principal Snekkevik presented a summary of the survey feedback:* Ninety-six percent of parent respondents said Nicasio School is a supportive and inviting place to learn, adults really care about students, and the school treats students with respect. Principal Snekkevik said she was very pleased with those positive results and that all feedback is really valuable. One takeaway was that some parents don't feel that the school welcomes parent input and contributions. That is new feedback, Principal Snekkevik said, adding that it is something she takes personally and needs to be addressed. She explained that in the context of Covid, parents have been separated from volunteering and in-person meetings, and most interactions were on Zoom, which limited access for some families. The school needs to figure out how to overcome those barriers and return to

more in-person events. Parent input will be gathered on the LCAP in coming weeks, which will hopefully take place in-person. Overall, the comments were positive, Principal Snekkevik said. Additional feedback included suggestions for playground improvements, garden utilization, and continued information about extracurricular activities in the community.

- d. Covid-19 Vaccination Rate Update *Interim Supt. Neu reported the following:* Seventy-four percent of the student body has been vaccinated. Seven students are unvaccinated, and the status of two is undetermined. We have done very well with vaccinations in our school community, Interim Supt. Neu said.

4. Public Comment

- a. A parent in attendance said she joined the Zoom meeting because she had not attended a Board meeting in a while and wanted to see what is new and what is going on in the school.

5. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes: February 3, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
- b. Ratify Warrants Paid: February, 2022
- c. Personnel Action Three-Year Master Contract with Stephen Roatch Accountancy Corporation

Action: M/S: Burton/Ager to approve Consent Agenda **Vote: 3/0** Ayes: Doss, Burton and Ager; Noes: None

6. Action

- a. Consider Approval of 2021-22 Second Interim Budget Report *Discussion:* CBO Bonardi presented the report, noting that the District's second interim budget period has been very quiet this year.
 - Revenue increased by approximately \$1200 from lottery funds and \$1500 due to a special education funding adjustment.
 - Salaries went up \$3540 after launching an afterschool homework club paid for by Covid learning loss funding, and the music teacher salary was adjusted by \$718.
 - There increased spending at second interim for Covid-related supplies, payment of an installment from a prior year contract, and repairs to lighting in the parking lot.
 - There was a decrease of \$5028 for MCOE Special Ed. excess costs.
 - The District has made all of its minimum reserves and overall, is doing really well.
 - The District got a very good rating from the state when the first interim was submitted.
 - Salary negotiations haven't been settled for the current year, which will impact next year and the following year.
 - The District might not spend nearly \$50,000 in federal and state Covid funding because it cannot afford to put those programs into place.
 - The District monitors its budget very closely and almost always spends less than it says it will during the year.

Action: M/S: Burton/Ager to Approve 2021-22 Second Interim Budget Report **Vote: 3/0** Ayes: Doss, Burton and Ager; Noes: None

- b. Updated Brown Act Teleconferencing/Virtual Meeting Requirements (AB 361) *Discussion:* There was discussion about whether more people would attend the meetings if they were held in person or via Zoom, and a suggestion to consider an in-person meeting later in the school year.

Action: M/S: Burton/Ager to Approve Conducting the March 30 Board meeting via Zoom
Vote: 3/0 Ayes: Doss, Burton and Ager; Noes: None

7. **Conclusion**

- a. Agenda items for upcoming Board Agenda
 - Discussion of Indoor Mask Requirement
 - Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints
 - Update on Vaccine Mandate

- b. Adjournment

Action: M/S: Burton/Ager to adjourn meeting at 6:18pm **Vote: 3/0** Ayes: Doss, Burton, Ager; Noes: None

Respectfully Submitted,

Mikki McIntyre

☐ Unadopted ☒ Adopted

Mark Burton, Board Clerk