

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, February 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 5pm
- 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 this date in 1870 when the 15th Amendment was ratified, guaranteeing the right to vote regardless of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

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 Feb. 2 Superintendents meeting, it was noted that Mary Jane Burke will not run for another term as Marin County Superintendent of Schools. There was discussion about trying to get all the districts countywide to secretly nominate her for a Golden Bell award this year.
 - A few districts have received a “cease & desist” letter regarding mandated vaccinations and masking. Legal counsel recommends not responding. A proposed Senate bill would add Covid-19 to the list of vaccines required for public school attendance with exemptions permissible for medical or religious reasons. The governor has stated that the mandate would be phased in for students.
 - On Feb. 4, California Senator Mike McGuire will discuss housing projects for school employees and essential workers. He has asked districts to identify any unused property that could be used for state-funded housing developments.
 - Planning for transitional kindergarten (TK) is required for 2022-23, with full implementation by 2025-26. The intent is to provide a separate and unique stepping stone from preschool into kindergarten. Local education agencies have the flexibility to determine how best to meet the needs of each child. There is money from the state to support the TK mandates for revenue limit districts, but not for basic aid (aka community funded) districts such as Nicasio. Supt. Neu said rural schools such as Nicasio with multilevel classes and smaller enrollment need to be considered. She noted that the

expectation to teach a single child in isolation from kindergarteners is a non-starter, and that the District has been teaching a combination TK-2 class for years whenever a resident student qualifies. The District will continue offering that configuration next year.

- There is a staffing shortage in schools throughout the county and currently there are 180 vacant positions.
- Interim Supt. Neu reported that vaccination rates at Nicasio School include 94% of staff (with weekly testing of non-vaccinated staff) and 90% of middle school students. Data for students in grades K-5 is still being collected.
- A New York Times article features a graph showing Marin County as the most vaccinated county in the country.
- During the recent Superintendents meeting, Dr. Lisa Santora said Marin's Omicron surge has been reduced to less than 100 cases per day. Fully vaccinated individuals who are exposed to the virus are 50% less likely to become infected. Dr. Santora said natural immunity wanes and unvaccinated people are 44% more likely to become re-infected than those who are vaccinated. Vaccine-induced protection also wanes, which may prompt the recommendation for another booster after five months. Next fall, there may be a seasonal flu/COVID combination vaccine.
- Cal OSHA is getting stricter regarding COVID requirements in the workplace. If a fully vaccinated employee tests positive, he/she can re-test on day 5 and return to work on day 6. If unvaccinated, the employee's day 5 test must be observed either by the employer or by a telehealth proctor.
- Regarding youth sports, performing arts and extracurricular activities, CDPH isolation and quarantine guidance must be followed, but suspension of the activity due to an outbreak is no longer required. Same-day testing should take place for all exposed persons - regardless of vaccination status - prior to participation in practices, games, etc.
- The state is expected to end the indoor mask mandate for vaccinated individuals in most settings by Feb. 15th, however, masks will still be required in schools until at least March.
- Principal Snekkevik presented the following report:
 - The Nicasio School Foundation is planning a May 7th spring fundraiser in an outdoor venue; location TBD
 - Events & Activities: Winter Performance (*Frozen*), Dec. 16; Holiday Craft Faire, Dec. 16; Student Council Raffle (raised \$226); Waffle Breakfast & Spirit Day (PJ Day), Dec. 17; CDPH Return-From-Break iHealth Rapid Antigen Testing Program (one test kit per student/staff member); All-School Assembly, Jan. 5; January's Life Skill: Effort; Yoga with Shannon Kozubik continues (twice monthly); Presentation by First Alternate Dairy Princess, Ashley Winkelmann, Jan. 10; Circus Dynamics performance sponsored by MCFL, Jan. 13; Twin Day Spirit Day, Jan. 21; NSF meetings, Jan. 10 & 24; 100th Day of School Spirit Day, Feb. 2; All-School Assembly, Feb. 2; February's Life Skill: Kindness
 - Staff Updates: Staff review of benchmark assessment results, Jan. 14; Open position for Instructional Assistant; On-going Public Health Liaison meetings (weekly & as needed)
 - Site Updates: Playground structure currently closed; Damaged light fixture in parking lot
 - Upcoming Events: Annual Parent/Family Survey opens, Feb. 7-18; Annual Student Survey (grades 5-8), Feb. 14-18; Kindness Week, Feb. 14-18; Sports Day Spirit Day, Feb. 18; Mid-Winter Recess, Feb. 21-25; End of 2nd Trimester, March 4

- b. Supplement to the Annual Update for the 2021-22 Local Control and Accountability Plan *Report*: Principal Snekkevik provided the one-time, mid-year report identifying what is being done with increased funding to support students, teachers, staff and their communities in recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic and to address the impacts of distance learning on students.

c. Water System Update

- SWRCB Citation No. 02_18_22C_003 Disinfection Byproducts Maximum Contaminant Level Violation for Second, Third and Fourth Quarters 2021

Report: Principal Snekkevik provided an overview of the circumstances that led to the citation. She said the drinking water system has needed an upgrade for many years, which the District has been attempting to complete. Due to changing state drinking water regulations, the scope of the project has changed numerous times. The citation stems from an excess of haloacetic acids, which are water treatment byproducts that result when water has too much contact time with chlorine. She said the conundrum is that the school has been purchasing bottled water for consumption during the pandemic and not much water is being flushed through the system. Once the water system upgrade receives state funding and the project is completed, the problem of excessive contact time will be resolved, she said.

4. **Public Comment** *There were no public comments.*

5. **Consent Agenda**

- Approval of Minutes: December 14, 2021 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board of Trustees
- Ratify Warrants Paid: December 2021-January, 2022
- Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints (Oct.-Dec. 2021)
- 2021 SARC
- 2021-22 Comprehensive School Safety Plan Update
- Marin County 2021-22 Annual Statement of Investment Policy

Action: M/S: Burton/Ager to approve Consent Agenda with correction to minor typo in Minutes as noted. **Vote:** 3/0 Ayes: Doss, Burton and Ager; Noes: None

6. **Action**

- Consider Acceptance of 2020-21 Audit

Discussion: CBO Bonardi said districts must select a new auditor every three years. This is the final year of the contract with Stephen Roatch Accountancy. The District will join MCOE in getting bids for a new three-year contract. She said the highlights listed in the current audit speak very well of the District. She noted that this is the first document that any financier of a bond, parcel tax, etc. looks at, and the District has a very clean audit. She estimated that the District currently has a Standard & Poor's rating of AAA and said the District's ending balance is 20% healthier than the prior year. Interim Supt. Neu thanked CBO Bonardi for her hard work in managing the budget.

Action: M/S: Burton/Ager to Accept 2020-21 Audit **Vote:** 3/0 Ayes: Doss, Burton and Ager; Noes: None

- Updated Brown Act Teleconferencing/Virtual Meeting Requirements (AB 361)

Discussion: Interim Supt. Neu said the Board must follow the same process as in previous months if it wants to conduct the March Board meeting virtually.

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

7. **Correspondence**

- 2021-22 First Interim Review, Kate Lane, Assistant Superintendent, Marin County Office of Education, January 14, 2022

8. **Conclusion**

a. Agenda items for upcoming Board Agenda

- Vaccination rates of kids in K-5
- Second Interim Report
- Parent Survey Results
- Next meetings: March 3 and March 30 (Wed.)

b. Adjournment

Action: M/S: Burton/Ager to adjourn meeting at 6:15pm **Vote: 3/0** Ayes: Doss, Burton, Ager; Noes: None

Respectfully Submitted,

Mikki McIntyre

☐ Unadopted ☐ Adopted

Mark Burton, Board Clerk