

Minutes
SSCS School Council Meeting

Tuesday
6:00 PM
2/25/14

Webex Teleconference and SSCS Admin Office
2452 El Centro Blvd.
East Nicolaus, CA. 95659

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **INTRODUCTIONS/WELCOME/ROLL CALL** Corporate Officers present: Eric Schoffstall, Executive Director: Compliance, District Relations and School Services, Cynthia Rachel, Corporate Secretary, Nichole Sawatzky, SSCS Liaison, Brenda Christensen, School Council Secretary. Eleven members were present: Courtney Adams, Janine Campos, Gabriel Garcia, Jennifer Hunziker, Nichole McCulloch, Richard Mize, Jean Ping, Rebecca Rodriguez, Tammy Walker, Doria Wallentine, Mara Weston, and Robin Wren.
4. **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

Members of the public may be heard on any item. A person addressing the Council will be limited to 3 minutes, unless the Site Administrator grants a longer period of time. Comments by members of the public on an item on the agenda will only be allowed during consideration of the item by the Council.

Eric Schoffstall recapped on Noah Mackenroth's comments during our February 21, 2014 school council meeting. Eric went on to say that in accordance with South Sutter Charter, IEM is responsible for the management and operation of South Sutter Charter School. Any material violation of our charter or of law could be grounds for revocation. During their 20 years of managing and operating charter schools, IEM has maintained their commitment to be a change engine in public education through its educational delivery model of individual learning plans and parent choice. This has not changed. By engaging in a sound employment and fiscal practices operating according to the school's charter and the law, we have been able to protect our students, parents, and employees rights to an alternative model. Eric stated that he spoke with Noah Mackenroth and Gail Dilka today and asked them to provide a comprehensive list of their concerns in writing. As a representative of IEM, Eric stated that he values their input, takes their concerns very seriously, and looks forward to the opportunity to review and respond. Noah Mackenroth approached the board next in an effort to reach more of the parent council due to last meeting's low attendance and technical problems. He described his history with South Sutter from the beginning as ES who was soon promoted to an advisor where he trained and supervised ESs to safeguard the school's parent choice philosophy. He taught ESs to work around the one size fits all standardized model. Noah informed the parents of the administrative changes that took place last year. He explained that he was formally coming before the board as a "whistle-blower" regarding improper/illegal governmental activities. Noah stated that over the last year he has witnessed a systematic mistreatment of employees and a realignment of the schools mission. He then asked the board to formally investigate these matters. Janine Campos asked Eric Schoffstall what his role was regarding employee complaints. Eric stated that he was responsible for compliance and is involved due to the issue of the realignment of our mission and philosophy which is tied to our charter school which is something he is responsible for. Janine then asked if the board could view a copy of the investigation. As part of the mission of the school council to uphold the vision of the school, Eric stated that he is more than happy to have the complaints come through in writing and reported back to the parent council. Noah Mackenroth asked how IEM is investigated when Wendy Gashler asked to address the council next and then let the board know that IEM welcomes any investigation from the board. She stated that Steven Ward, Human Resource director, was unable to attend due to traveling from an All ES meeting in Monterey. She went on to say that everything has gone through Steven. Eric is not personnel; he is our representative for the parent board meetings. Wendy again welcomed the board to investigate IEM, audits; anything that we have is at the board's disposal.

5. **REPORTS**
6. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**
7. **ACTION ITEMS**

1) **Approval of the November 12, 2013 Minutes**

Richard Mize motioned to approve the November 12, 2013 minutes. Courtney Adams seconded the motion. Roll call was taken; Approval of November 12, 2013 minutes passed by 13 votes to none with 0 abstentions.

2) **Approval of Common Core State Standards Expenditure Plan**

Robin Wren motioned to approve the Common Core State Expenditure Plan. Rebecca Rodriguez seconded the motion. Janine Campos asked how we come up with these totals and how their broke down. Eric explained that the department heads responsible for Common Core implementation got together with their teams to discuss their needs and then allocated the money based on needs. Janine asked if the Chromebooks were coming under instructional or under technology. Eric stated they would be coming under technology. Janine then asked if all testing would be done on computers. Eric stated that all testing would be done on computers. As a result, Chromebooks would be primary. Secondary would be an internet service provider that would be able to provide service at our test sites. Nichole McCulloch asked what would be done with the Chromebooks when not in use for testing. Eric explained that that the Chromebooks would be maintained in storage. They could possibly be used by ESs during learning record meetings, but mainly

during the first 2 years they will maintained in storage in order to make sure we have Chromebooks available for testing. Janine asked if the budget was speculative. Eric stated that it was based on needs and potential cost. Janine asked what would happened if we went over the budget. Eric said it would be absorbed by the general fund. Doria Wallentine asked if the board would be called to discuss any spending that goes over the budget. Eric was not sure at this time if it would need to come back before the council. There was nothing in the literature from CDE that stated that. What is required is that we have a plan and that we maintain compliance with the allowable expenditures. Janine asked if SSCS was included in the Race To the Top money. Eric was not sure. Roll call was taken; Approval of the Common Core State Standards Expenditure Plan passed by 13 votes to none with 0 abstentions.

3) Approval of Independent Study Policy

Janine Campos motioned to approve the Independent Study Policy. Courtney Adams seconded the motions. Cyndi Rachel directed the boards attention to the highlighted section and explained that “face to face” was removed. Everything else remained the same that was previously voted on. Rich Mize asked if we could continue to meet the requirement with a phone call or email. Eric explained that the nature of this revision was to allow more flexibility in meeting with an ES unforeseen circumstances. We value the face to face experience of building relationships between the families and ESs and will continue to meet face to face as always to evaluate the student’s work. Also, there are those in the political landscape who don’t believe that non-classroom based homeschoolers are accountable, and meeting face to face demonstrates strong accountability. We are trying to avoid truancy issues if someone becomes ill and needs a few extra days. Rich asked if this was an internal charter school policy or an IEM policy and wondered if there was an ed code that we’d be in trouble with for changing this. Eric sated that this was a South Sutter Charter School policy that has been approved and adopted since the inception of the school. Roll call was taken; Approval of the Independent Study Policy passed by 13 votes to none with 0 abstentions. .

4) Approval of Education Protection Account Courtney

Adams motioned to approve the Education Protection Account. Janine Campos seconded the motion. Eric explained that this is a result of the passing of Prop. 30 where the legislator created a separate account where we identify what the revenues are, the categories, and the object codes in which we expend those revenues. Eric directed the board’s attention to a note stating that this isn’t new money; it’s neutral money. He went on to explain that Prop 30 for the time being raised the minimum funding guarantee for K-14. That was one of the primary reasons they reached out to the tax payers. It is something that will come forward annually as long as they maintain this account. Eric is not sure how long that will last as we are shifting toward a new funding formula called the Local Control Funding Formula and he is not sure how that will affect the Education Protection Account. Roll Call was taken; Approval of the Education Protection Account passed by 13 votes to none with 0 abstentions.

5) South Sutter Charter School board approve disposal list pursuant to Education Code 60510-60511.

Jean Ping motioned to approve the donation of obsolete instructional materials. Rich Mize seconded the motion. Roll call was taken; Approval of the donation of obsolete instructional materials passes by 13 to none with 0 abstentions.

6) Approval of use of funds from donation account to cover cost of graduation ceremony

Janine Campos motioned to approve the use of funds from the donation account for graduation expenses. Jena Ping seconded the motion. Roll call was taken; Approval of the use of funds from the donation account for graduation expenses passed by 13 votes to none with 0 abstentions.

Cyndi announced that we will have one more meeting in May. Janine Campos asked if we could release personal contact information of our current board members. Cyndi said that she’d check into requirements on how many board members can get together without it being considered a meeting with an agenda and minutes.

8 ADJOURN Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM

This agenda was posted at least 72 hours prior at the IEM, Inc. Offices, 1166 Broadway Ste. P, Placerville, CA, Marcum Illinois Union School District, charter school office, 2452 El Centro Blvd., E. Nicolaus, CA and on the school website- <http://www.sscs.cc/ParentCouncil/index.htm>.