

# California Online Public Schools

## Minutes

### California Online Public Schools (CalOPS) Board Meeting

Approved by CalOPS Board of Directors February 06, 2024

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#### **Date and Time**

Tuesday December 5, 2023 at 3:30 PM

#### **Location**

CalCA NorCal: 580 N. Wilma Avenue, Suite G, Ripon, CA 95366  
CalCA SoCal: 33272 Valle Road, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675  
23091 Arden Street, Lake Forest, CA 92630  
1201 Cara Road, Dinuba, CA 93618  
8422 Madison Avenue, Fair Oaks, CA 95628  
3753 W. Norberry Street, Lancaster, CA 93536  
32946 Calle San Marcos San Juan Capistrano, 92675  
9423 Reseda Blvd. Apt#230, Northridge, CA 91324  
1608 Lake Street, Calistoga, CA 94515

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#### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93762840563>

Meeting ID: 937 6284 0563

Dial In:

+1 (669) 444-9171 ext. 93762840563# US

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This meeting is open to the public in person and via teleconference. For information about this meeting or for members of the public who require special accommodations to attend, contact the school offices: Bernie Jamero at (209) 253-1208 or Eva McGahey at (714) 248-6179 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. The Board packet can be made available for public review by contacting the school offices prior to the Board meeting in compliance with California open meeting law.

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#### **Directors Present**

D. Rivas (remote), E. Pavlich, E. Wickliffe (remote), M. Henjum (remote), P. Hedrick (remote)

#### **Directors Absent**

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A. Pulsipher, B. Hartelt

**Directors who arrived after the meeting opened**

P. Hedrick

**Guests Present**

A. Larsen (remote), C. Sanchez Reyes (remote), D. Hertzler, D. Kozub (remote), E. McGahey, J. Colombero, J. Sitomer (remote), Jennifer Brunner, Kara Mannix (remote), L. Carter, L. Dombek (remote), L. Johnson (remote), Lauren Weed, M. Percin (remote), M. White (remote), Member of the Public, R. Dreifus, R. Romero (remote), R. Savage (remote), S. Ford (remote), V. Acosta, Z. Kidd (remote)

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**I. Opening Items**

**A. Call the Meeting to Order**

E. Pavlich called a meeting of the board of directors of California Online Public Schools to order on Tuesday Dec 5, 2023 at 3:37 PM.

**B. Roll Call**

**CalOPS Staff**

- Ashley Larsen - CalOPS Administrative Assistant
- Dan Hertzler - CalOPS Director of Business Services - SoCal Office
- Eva McGahey - CalOPS Administrative Assistant - SoCal Office
- Jennifer Brunner - CalOPS High School Assistant Principal - SoCal Office
- Julie Colombero - CalOPS California Family Outreach - SoCal Office
- Kara Mannix - CalOPS High School Principal
- LaChelle Carter - CalOPS Director of Financial Services - SoCal Office
- Lauren Weed - CalOPS High School Assistant Principal - SoCal Office
- Leslie Dombek - CalOPS Director of Student Achievement
- Marcus White - CalOPS Elementary School Principal
- Richard Savage - CalOPS Superintendent
- Richie Romero - CalOPS Deputy Superintendent
- Ryan Dreifus - CalOPS Assistant Director of Human Resources - SoCal Office
- Stephen Ford - CalOPS Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
- Viridiana Acosta - CalOPS Executive Assistant - NorCal Office
- Zana Kidd - CalOPS Director of Human Resources

**Contracted Staff**

- Chandre Sanchez Reyes - PVS Academic Success Partner
- Donna Kozub - PVS School Financial Services
- Jason Sitomer - Charter Impact Managing Director
- Laura Johnson - PVS School Success Partner

Matt Percin - Charter Impact Director of Client Finance

1 Members of the Public

### C. Approval of Agenda

M. Henjum made a motion to approve the agenda.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### Roll Call

M. Henjum Aye

E. Wickliffe Aye

D. Rivas Aye

E. Pavlich Aye

A. Pulsipher Absent

P. Hedrick Absent

B. Hartelt Absent

## II. Public Comment

### A. Public Comment

The Board welcomes participation by the members of the public telephonically. To address an item on the agenda, before the scheduled start of the meeting, an individual must write their name and a short description of the agenda item on which they wish to comment on the card provided and submit this to the Chair, along with any materials they want to have distributed to Board. Individuals who wish to address the Board telephonically must contact the School Leader by phone or by email at least twenty four (24) hours before the scheduled start of the Board meeting. If the individual wants to provide any written materials to the Board, these should be emailed to the School Leader at least twenty-four (24) hours before the scheduled start of the meeting.

The total time for any individual to present, either in person or via telephone, on an item on the agenda shall not exceed three (3) minutes, or six (6) minutes if the individual requesting to comment is a non English speaker and requires a translator, unless the Board grants additional time. However, in compliance with Board policy and the Brown Act, the Board is not permitted to discuss or take action on non-agenda items.

Individuals desiring to make a formal presentation to the Board on an item not on the agenda but desiring it be placed on the agenda must provide notice and written submissions detailing the subject of the presentation to the School Leader at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting. Any such presentations shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes in duration, unless otherwise permitted by the Chair.

To view the Board Public Comment Policy, visit the school's "Governance" page at <https://www.connectionsacademy.com/california-online-school/about/school-board>.

E. Pavlich asks if any members of the public are present and wish to comment, no one came forward at this time.

### **III. Oral Reports**

#### **A. Superintendent's Report**

R. Savage starts his report with talks on transitioning away from PVS and the contracted vendors to be used in the coming years. New vendors are being brought on to support marketing and public relations, as well as back end efforts (curriculum, student information systems and Canvas). CalOPS is working on how to best support everybody. On sponsoring districts, met with Ripon school board for public hearing portion of renewal. Relationship is very healthy. CSDC Conference went well, no major anti-charter bills to be concerned with right now. Financial forecast is average.

#### **B. Principals' Report (attached)**

M. White notes the exciting window between Fall and Winter Break, currently a very busy time. Teachers are making efforts to speak with families to ensure students are able to start break with 75% of work complete for the first term.

K. Mannix seconds with trying to support students and get them prepped for end of the semester. Things will move very quickly upon return from break. Spring semester will be busy as well with a shift in workload and goals.

P. Hedrick arrived at 3:48 PM.

#### **C. Policy, Compliance, and State Accountability Report**

D. Hertzler notes that there isn't too much pertinent information needing inclusion. He points out an extraordinary audit for a prior non-classroom based school that showed no fraudulent activity. Things noted were a lack of transparency and bookkeeping. These compliance pieces were not up to standards, but CalOPS holds these factors in high priority and does not worry about it becoming an issue for CalOPS schools.

### **IV. Consent Items**

**A. Approval of Minutes from the November 07, 2023 Board Meeting (attached)**

**B. Approval of Staffing Report (attached)**

**C. Approval of Expenditures over \$20k (attached)**

**D. Ratification of Special Education Service Contracts (attached)**

**E. Approval of Check Registry (attached)**

**F. Approval of Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Compact (attached)**

**G.**

**Approval of Uniform Complaint Procedures Policy (attached)**

**H. Approval of Santa Barbara County Office of Education Authorized Signature Form 23-24 (attached)**

M. Henjum made a motion to approve Consent Agenda, Items A- H.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

B. Hartelt Absent

A. Pulsipher Absent

P. Hedrick Aye

E. Pavlich Aye

M. Henjum Aye

D. Rivas Aye

E. Wickliffe Aye

**V. Action Items**

**A. Approval of First Interim Financial Reports (to follow)**

M. Percin starts with SoCal First Interim Report. He points out the projected budget for the year is 74.8M with actual to date being 9.4M in regards to revenue. Total expenses are 68.2M with actuals to date being 10.9M, so there is a deficit year to date, explained by timing. Projecting 23.2M ending fund balance, 34% of total expenses.

Central Valley has revenue budget of the year at 13.1M and actuals to date are 1.3M. With expenses, budget is 11.3M with year to date being 1.3M. Projection 1.8M surplus. Fund balance is expected to grow to 4.9M by year end, 43% of total expenses.

NorCal has a revenue of 25.5M with actuals being 4.1M. Expense budget is 24.1M with surplus of 1.3M. Fund balance is projected to be 6.4M by end of year, 27% of total expenses.

North Bay has projected revenue budget of 2.44M, 380K year to date. Total expenses projected is 2.1M leaving a surplus of ~300K. Close to 48% of total expenses.

Monterey Bay projected revenue budget is 7.9M, with 675K year to date. Expenses projected at 7.1M leaving a 761K surplus. Projection of 13% of total expenses.

Central Coast projected revenue budget of almost 2M, with year to date being 200K. Projected expenses are 1.7M. Expected 12% fund balance as a percentage of expenses.

Positive traction for all six schools.

M. Henjum made a motion to approve Action Item A, Approval of First Interim Financial Reports.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

P. Hedrick Aye

E. Wickliffe Aye

D. Rivas Aye

E. Pavlich Aye

M. Henjum Aye

B. Hartelt Absent

A. Pulsipher Absent

**B. Approval to Hire K. Savage for Elementary School Teacher**

M. Henjum made a motion to approve Action Item B, Approval to Hire K. Savage for Elementary School Teacher.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

S. Ford notes that hiring has been difficult with many teachers applying and still enrolled in college. S. Ford wanted to hire K. Savage, believing she would be a great addition to the team with her years of experience and skill. She could contribute a lot to the elementary team and is

E. Pavlich notes her respect and passion for CalOPS, but also wants to recognize that the perception from staff and teachers should be considered. M. Henjum responds the concerns could be warranted and worth conversation, but also states that the leadership has proven they are capable of making decisions with results via growth and financial health. He emphasizes the trust that CalOPS staff would have considered the repercussions. E. Wickliffe agrees that the skills of the individual matter and if she's the best we have to offer to continue the schools growth and progress, then he does not argue this item. P. Hedrick states that family connections are present in brick and mortar schools, so with this situation if there are no issues with her capabilities, it would be in the school's best interest to bring her on. D. Rivas feels that the board is in a precarious position here and should be cautious in its decision. She states that this decision could affect public image with sponsoring districts, employees, and potential families. Rivas is not willing to take the risk on the perception at this time.

S. Ford appreciates everyone's comments, but wants to reiterate that there is a teacher shortage nationwide now. Finding qualified individuals is difficult at this time, but CalOPS is taking steps to find those candidates. He respects everyone's comments and decisions. The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

A. Pulsipher Absent

E. Pavlich No

**Roll Call**

- E. Wickliffe Aye
- D. Rivas No
- M. Henjum Aye
- B. Hartelt Absent
- P. Hedrick Aye

E Pavlich reiterates how difficult of an item this is and that she expects CalOPS to take proper procedures to ensure no preferential treatment and allow staff a way to express opinions and thoughts on the action.

**VI. Information Items**

**A. School Enhancement Target Quarterly Review (attached)**

L. Dombek talks about the Grad Rate, Academic, and Engagement Goals. Official Grad Rate not yet released, but numbers here should be correct, they will be confirmed later. Project Success Q1 is doing great with highest Q1 pass rate, highest number of students enrolled, highest number of passed courses in Q1, and lowest number of failed courses in Q1. Academic goals are met for Q1. Schoolwide PLCs 65.4% SMART goals met and Math PLCs 54.5% of SMART goals met. Engagement goal for Q1 is met with schoolwide contacts being at 97%, and elementary middle and high school being 97, 96, and 97%. i-Ready and MAP diagnostics are being used to press success. Looking forward to celebrating efforts, reaching out to kids and families, digging into dashboard data upon publishing, pushing participation at all grade bands, and CAASPP participation.

**B. Pearson Virtual Schools Update**

L. Johnson starts by announcing small wins from November that allows teachers to see up to date information on overdue assignments. This will allow teachers to better support students. Enrollment team is continuing to support students enrolling in this first semester.

C. Sanchez Reyes notes the attached key school metrics for Q1 trending similarly or higher than last year's data. She mentions 96% of students returned to CalOPS from last year to this year. National Association of Black School Educators Conference was last week and was great to learn from with lots of fun interactions. Reminder to the board that school year evaluations are in progress.

**VII. Closing Items**

**A. Adjourn Meeting**

M. Henjum made a motion to adjourn the meeting and confirm next meeting date.  
E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

- E. Pavlich Aye
- M. Henjum Aye
- A. Pulsipher Absent
- B. Hartelt Absent
- D. Rivas Aye
- P. Hedrick Aye
- E. Wickliffe Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 4:33 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
E. Pavlich