

DRAFT



California Online Public Schools

California Online Public Schools

Minutes

Continued California Online Public Schools (CalOPS) Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday April 3, 2024 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

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 937 6284 0563

Dial In:

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

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.

Directors Present

A. Pulsipher (remote), D. Rivas (remote), E. Wickliffe (remote), P. Hedrick (remote)

Directors Absent

B. Hartelt, E. Pavlich, M. Henjum

Guests Present

A. Larsen (remote), Aali Stelly (remote), Amy Hickey (remote), E. McGahey, Elnora Harris (remote), Felicia Scrivner (remote), Felicia Scrivner (remote), H. Tamayo (remote), J. Colombero (remote), J. Sitomer (remote), Jasmine Samuels (remote), Julia Davis (remote), K. Eng (remote), Kara Mannix (remote), Kathryn Plowman (remote), L. Dombek (remote), L. Johnson (remote), M. White (remote), Meena Duguay (remote), Member of the public (remote), R. Dreifus (remote), R. Romero (remote), R. Savage (remote), S. Ford (remote), Sarah Sulman (remote), Shannon Doss (remote), Shayla DeShay (remote), Tammy Nettles (remote), Tiffany Carrasco (remote), V. Acosta, Z. Kidd (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

D. Rivas called a meeting of the board of directors of California Online Public Schools to order on Wednesday Apr 3, 2024 at 3:42 PM.

B. Roll Call

CalOPS Staff

Aali Stelly - Teacher

Amy Hickey - Teacher

Ashley Larsen - Administrative Assistant

Elnora Harris - Teacher

Eva McGahey - Administrative Assistant - SoCal Office

Felicia Scrivner - Executive Assistant

Heather Tamayo - Middle School Principal

Jasmine Samuels - Teacher

Julia Davis - Teacher

Julie Colombero - Director of California Family Outreach

Kara Mannix - High School Principal

Kathryn Plowman - Teacher

Kristina Craig - Teacher

Leslie Dombek - Director of Student Achievement

Marcus White - Elementary School Principal

Meena Duguay - Teacher
Phil Wenker - Interim Director of Student Services
Richard Savage - Superintendent
Richie Romero - Deputy Superintendent
Ryan Dreifus - Assistant Director of Human Resources
Sarah Sulman - Teacher
Shannon Doss - Social Worker
Stephen Ford - Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Tammy Nettles - Teacher
Tiffany Carrasco - Assistant Director of Finance
Viridiana Acosta - Executive Assistant - NorCal Office
Zana Kidd - Director of Human Resources

Contracted Staff

Kate Eng - Charter Impact Director of Client Finance
Jason Sitomer - Charter Impact Managing Director
Laura Johnson - PVS School Success Partner

4 Members of the Public

C. Approval of Agenda

P. Hedrick made a motion to approve the Agenda.
A. Pulsipher seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

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 CalOPS Governance Page at <https://californiaops.org/governance/>

A member of the public was in attendance and wanted to bring attention to some things which had affected their education as a student at CalCA. The student noted that this was their first year attending CalCA and they were enrolled in several classes at the beginning of the year. The student expressed dissatisfaction with their experience and requested the board adjust their grade from a B to an A.

R. Savage clarified that, as per the California State Ed code, the teacher's grade cannot be altered, and congratulated the member of the public on passing such a demanding course.

D. Rivas concluded the public comment section of the agenda by reminding attendees that board meetings are intended for board members and additional attendees are not allowed to make comments moving forward with the rest of the agenda items.

No action is taken.

III. Oral Reports

A. Superintendent's Report

R. Savage offered updates on relationship with Authorizing Districts. Constant communication is ongoing with CAPO, informal meeting to come after Spring Break. This will be prior to CAPO's next board meeting where they will have a public hearing and recognize the CalOPS name change. Been in contact with Scott's Valley Unified. Have heard from Ripon Unified. Recently discovered Middletown Unified has a new Superintendent, to be reached out to after Spring Break to develop relationships.

Updates on CCSA Conference were all positive. There was plenty of attention on DEI and student success. There was a lot of presence from online school options, which was comforting.

R. Savage also mentioned the high registration rate for state testing, the upcoming spring break, and the preparation efforts of teachers.

B. Principals' Report (attached)

M. White mentioned a generally positive mood with Spring Break in the upcoming week. Teachers have been developing plans to catch up students that are behind in coursework. The school year has been moving quickly and upon returning from Spring Break, elementary school will jump into state testing.

H. Tamayo emphasized the work of the A-Team to provide a great testing environment for students. Physical fitness testing for 7th grade is complete and upon returning from Spring Break, middle school will be diving into state testing. Middle school has been working to build relationships with families to ensure students have continuous support while some teachers are out for state testing. Staff has been taking trainings on new curriculum and look forward to the upcoming year with a fun, positive energy.

K. Mannix spoke about how quickly things will go once returned from Spring Break. There is focus on the balance in supporting students and families with state testing and coursework. There are upcoming mid-semester conferences which will wrap up soon. With the transition, this year has been intensive, but very exciting and motivating.

C. Charter Impact Financial Report for CalOPS

K. presented in place of M. Percin, highlighting a strong yield and a surplus forecast for the year, despite a slight drop in attendance. She noted an increase in expenses primarily due to benefits and emphasized the strong cash position of the schools.

Highlights include:

- Total enrollment forecasted at 8,491 students
- Total attendance forecasted at 8,324
- Revenue forecasted at \$122M; no major changes
- Expenses forecasted at \$112M; up 1%
- Surplus forecasted at \$9M with an ending fund balance forecasted at \$32.3M.
- Cash balance of \$41.5M
- Enrollment: strong; no changes
- Revenues: stable at \$122M
- Expenses: \$1.2M increase in total (+1%)
- Surplus: \$9M total; \$1.9M decrease
- Fund balance: \$32.3M
- Cash: \$41.5M; down from \$52.5M (PVS invoices)

A. Pulsipher asked about invoices due to PVS.

K. Eng answered that a recent payment in the past week brought CalOPS up to date and the schools will be caught up for the remainder of the year.

R. Romero added that payments were only delayed because they were withheld during negotiations on the amendment to the statement of agreement. It was not an inability to pay on CalOPS' end, but rather a strategic move to wrap up negotiations in December.

D. Policy, Compliance, and State Accountability Report

R. Romero filled in for D. Hertzler to present. He brought attention to the report from FCMAT and the legislative office, both of which were intended to look at the fiscal impact of non-classroom based schools. CSDC, CCSA and A+ organizations have authored Bill 1409 to ensure non-classroom based schools have representation. Nothing official yet, so CalOPS will have more to share, likely in August.

E. Student Achievement Update

L. Dombek shared kudos to the A Team for their preparation efforts ahead of state testing scheduled from April 20 to May 24. She highlighted the new addition of smaller testing sites and 3 Saturday testing sites, developed directly in response to family needs and requests from prior years. This has been received positively by both staff and families, as shown by high registration rates. Staff trainings have been ongoing and she will report back with updates as they come.

IV. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes from the March 05, 2024 Board Meeting (attached)

B. Approval of Staffing Report (attached)

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

D. Approval of Check Registry (attached)

E. Approval of Updated Admission Policy, Effective for the 24-25 SY (attached)

F. Ratification of Special Education Service Contracts (attached)

P. Hedrick made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Items A-F.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

D. Rivas asks about a charge on the check registry and K. confirms it is nothing to worry about and explains the need for the \$1 charge.

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

Roll Call

A. Pulsipher Aye

P. Hedrick Aye

Roll Call

D. Rivas Aye
E. Pavlich Absent
E. Wickliffe Aye
B. Hartelt Absent
M. Henjum Absent

V. Action Items

A. Approval of Raise and Salary Schedule (attached)

A. Pulsipher made a motion to approve a 20% increase to all CalOPS staff members' salaries effective July 1, 2024. This 20% raise to all staff members salaries includes an increase of \$51,571.90 to the Superintendents Salary.

D. Rivas seconded the motion.

S. Ford notes the health of the CalOPS fiscal budget and the need to be competitive going into hiring for the next school year. Notes a mistake in the salary schedule that will be corrected and brought to the board for revision next month. The purpose is to attract and retain talent, improve education, and secure future success.

A. Pulsipher asks about fiscal impact.

R. Romero states that conservatively, there is a 5-7% reserve (7.5-10M) and we can be penalized for having too high a reserve. CalOPS works to balance the appreciation for staff and compensation, and fiscal responsibility.

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

Roll Call

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

B. Approval of Bonus

A. Pulsipher made a motion to approve a one-time bonus of 20% of an employees base salary pay, based on the 24-25 annual salary for all employees who have been with CalOPS during the 2023-24 school year prior to June 1, 2024, to be disbursed on July 10, 2024. This 20% Bonus to all staff members includes a bonus of \$61,886.28 to the Superintendent.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

S. Ford proposes a one time 20% bonus on the 24-25 base salary for employees that have been with CalOPS prior to June 1, 2024 and are still with us upon dispersal. This is

a strategic move to keep talent and show appreciation to staff, keeping CalOPS a competitive employer.

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

Roll Call

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

C. Approval of 2023-24 Auditor Selection (attached)

A. Pulsipher made a motion to approve Action Item C, 2023-24 Auditor Selection.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

T. Carrasco introduces this item in substitute of L. Carter. Ed code requires CalOPS to select an auditor, this item is to ask for selection for this years auditor. CLA has been used for auditing in the previous 5 years and has a great understanding of . They have proven themselves to be very accessible which is helpful throughout the process and they also have a relationship with Charter Impact \$73,870 annual fee is in line with comparable auditors.

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

Roll Call

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

VI. Closed Session

A. Motion to Move to Closed Session

Motion to move to closed session and pause recording of the board meeting.

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

Roll Call

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

Roll Call

D. Rivas Aye

Brown Act; California Gov't Code §54957

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE

D. Rivas notes that closed session did not result in any action taken. Discussion was held regarding the above.

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

A. Pulsipher made a motion to adjourn the CalOPS Board Meeting, and confirm next meeting on May 7, 2024.

D. Rivas seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

E. Wickliffe Aye

P. Hedrick Aye

B. Hartelt Absent

A. Pulsipher Aye

E. Pavlich Absent

D. Rivas Aye

M. Henjum Absent

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 4:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

D. Rivas