

SOUHSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
4991 Southside Rd. Hollister, CA 95023
SPECIAL MEETING: Tuesday, June 13th, 2023
In-Person Meeting

MINUTES

ITEM I – Call to Order: 5:29pm

- a. Meeting called to order** at 5:29pm by Mr. Michael Ruth

Roll Call:

Board Members Present:

- Michael Ruth
- Julie Corrigan
- Laura Forth
- Julia Otterlei
- Julio Salazar (5:35)

Board Members Absent:

- b. Comments from public –**

S. Romiti – Mrs. Romiti asked that the Capturing Kids Hearts contract be put on hold. She stated that staff has ideas about creating the program internally. She said the staff has made it a priority to make positive changes to support our unique school.

S. Howard – Mrs. Howard spoke on behalf of the Southside Educator Association and stated that they have determined a vote of confidence in the school leadership.

J. Cruz – Ms. Cruz spoke about the Capturing Kids Hearts program and her experience with the program at Sunnyslope school.

A copy of the statements by Mrs. Howard and Ms. Cruz are attached.

- c. Recess to Closed Session**

ITEM II – Closed Session 5:37pm

Notice is hereby given that a closed session of the Board will be held under the general provisions listed as follows:

- a. PERSONNEL - Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 & 54957.6(a)
- i. Uniform Complaint

ITEM III

- a. Roll Call – Closed Session ended at 6:50pm regular session started at 6:50pm**

Present:

- Michael Ruth
- Laura Forth
- Julie Corrigan
- Julia Otterlei

Absent:

- Julio Salazar
- b. The Board stated that further training is needed at the school.
 - c. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Schilling
 - d. Approval of the Agenda – Julie Corrigan made the motion to approve the agenda and was seconded by Julia Otterlei and carried the following vote: Yes – 5; No/Absent/Abstain – 0
- **Comments from the public – NC**

ITEM IV. – DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

a. Officers’ Report

1. Superintendent/Principal –

- a. Mr. Schilling shared information about how the summer school was going.
 2. Board Member comments – None
 3. Board President comments – None
 4. Parent Club – None

ITEM V – DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

a. Education Protection Account (EPA) 2023-2024 Resolution #22-23-11 (ACTION)

Rationale: Pursuant to Article XIII, section 36 of the California Constitution, school districts and county offices of education are required to determine how the funds received from the Education Protection Account are spent in the school’s jurisdiction. The language in the constitutional amendment requires that the funds shall not be used for salaries and benefits of administrators or any other administrative costs.

Recommendation: That the board review and approve the 2023-2024 EPA resolution #22-23-04

Laura Forth made the motion to approve the EPA resolution #22-23-11 and was seconded by Julio Salazar and carried the following vote: Yes – 5; No/Absent/Abstain –

b. Capturing Kids Hearts Contract for services (ACTION)

Rationale: Through experiential training, expert coaching, a character-based curriculum for students, and personalized support, *Capturing Kids’ Hearts®* equips professionals in K-12 education to implement transformational processes focused on social-emotional wellbeing, relationship-driven campus culture, and student connectedness. The program focuses on Cultivating relational capacity, improving school culture, strengthening trust between teachers and student, building self-managing classrooms, and creating accountability.

Mr. Ruth talked about character building and the need for a grass roots movement to address the needs of the school. But an outside program may not meet the needs of our school. He said as a board member we need to use money wisely and use our funds to make positive things happen. Mrs. Howard mentioned that the staff is already working on things behind the screens. Mrs. Corrigan asked how the program is different from PBIS? Mrs. Abercrombie stated that PBIS outlines positive actions Mr. Ruth raised a point about the discussion of values and how to address values and positive character. Mr. Salazar spoke about a person by the name of Jerry Lopez from the Santa Clara Migrant program that did a presentation on character strengths. Mrs. Forth talked about bringing parents back to campus and parents taking ownership of the campus. Things like the talent show felt like something that was needed

The Capturing kids hearts program was put on hold. No motion was made.

a. School Board Policy (DISCUSSION)

Rationale: The Board has requested to have the opportunity to discuss the policies for the district as an open discussion item. It has been requested to be an ongoing item moving forward.

Recommendation: That the Board discuss the topic of school board policies for Southside School

VII. Closing Items

- a. The next Regular Meeting of the Board is Wednesday July 12th, 2023, at 6:00 pm.
- b. Adjournment

Julia Otterlei made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm and was seconded by Julio Salazar and carried the following vote: Yes – 5; No/Absent/Abstain – 0

John Schilling, Superintendent/Principal
Southside School District

Michael Ruth, Board President
Southside School District, Board of Trustee

In light of recent events, complaints, and public comments against Southside School's administration, SEA leadership felt it necessary to hold a vote of confidence in our Superintendent/Principal, Mr. Schilling.

An anonymous vote was conducted and we can state that SEA, the school's teachers, have confidence that Mr. Schilling should continue to lead our school and district and are united in their support of Mr. Schilling's leadership.

CKH 5:30

I want to speak about the Capturing Kids Hearts program that is on the open session agenda. I am speaking now since this is when I could attend, I hope that is okay. We all know that the climate at our school needs some mending.

I would like to suggest that Southside puts the purchase of CKH on hold. I have read many positive reviews on the program, but I would like to see our school look to the staff as a resource first. The Southside teachers and staff know our students and we are very interested in improving the school.

We began last school year with the faculty meeting where we sat together and brainstormed ideas about how to improve our school, culture and climate. We came up with the values that we find important, and we brainstormed ideas about how to make improvements. Once the school year started, the staff's ideas were overrun by the day to day of the school year. Perhaps staff can devote time at staff meetings each month detailing what's working and what's not. The staff at Southside knows how great our school can be and we each have good ideas to improve our culture and school. If we make this a priority, and work to implement positive changes we will see growth. By working with the staff and teachers' ideas you will also see greater staff involvement.

We have a unique school with committed, dedicated teachers and staff and the staff's ideas should be invested in before buying a packaged program.

CKH

It should be known that the \$34,500 quote will not cover all of the program's costs. Each teacher will be $\frac{1}{2}$ hour out of contract hours on each day if as it says the training goes from 8-5 with an hour for lunch. Each teacher will need their hourly rate for a total of an hour.

As shown on the CKH proposal for the district, it requires a 2-day training. Teachers work 2 days prior to each school year. It has been past practice (most of my 29 years here) to have 1 to 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ of those days to prepare our classrooms and prepare the first lessons. If the two-day training takes up this time, the district will need to compensate teachers for the personal time needed to do this work, or the teacher work calendar must be extended and pay adjusted for this.