

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE
SIERRA-PLUMAS JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

March 13, 2018

Sierra County Office of Education, 109 Beckwith Rd, Loyalton CA 96118
Teleconferenced to Downieville School, 130 School St, Downieville CA 95936

A. CALL TO ORDER

President MIKE MOORE called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mike Moore, President
_____, Vice President
Sharon Dryden, Clerk (Vice President after item F.)
Allen Wright, Member
Patty Hall, Member
Jenny Gant, Member (Clerk after item F.)

ABSENT: None

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

HALL/GANT

5/0

D. RECESS back to Sierra County Board of Education meeting at 5:55pm

E. RECONVENE Sierra-Plumas Joint Unified School District meeting at 6:35pm

F. BOARD ORGANIZATION

1. Appoint SPJUSD Vice President

HALL motioned to appoint Sharon Dryden as SPJUSD Vice President and fill Clerk position with Jenny Gant. Seconded by WRIGHT.

DRYDEN – aye

WRIGHT – aye

MOORE – aye

HALL – aye

GANT – aye

G. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Superintendent's Report – GRANT

a. School Safety Update – carry over from County meeting discussion – want to get school leaders and students more involved with safety planning – commend school administrators for being involved and knowing the kids

MOORE: should look at bullet-proof glass and replacing doors; maintenance plan to enhance safety (glass and doors)

WRIGHT: look into film cover on windows for one-way looking

DRYDEN: Healthy Kids Survey 16-17 indicates kids feel safe here – how are we going to continue making them feel this way?

GANT: Counselors available?

- GRANT: Yes, but staffing issue for more hours available – can always use more; school administrators/teachers are mentoring/counseling students ongoing
- b. Report on Northern California Superintendents Meeting – GRANT: lots of time spent on school safety, state budget and federal advocacy
- c. Facilities Update – GRANT: heating elements; asphalt project meeting tomorrow; Downieville boiler being worked on as soon as school is out – averaging one major project per year among the school sites

2. Business Report

- a. Account Object Summary-Balance from 07/01/17 to 02/28/2018
- b. Sixth Month Enrollments for the 2017-2018 School Year
- c. Update on new phone system
GRANT: safety enhancement – can PA all phones/campuses easily
GRIESERT: battery backups received – can still run phones if power goes out

3. Staff Reports (5 minutes)

- a. Loylton Elementary School – CERESOLA: assembly by Sierra Arts Council last week; 2nd trimester awards 3/16/18; basketball wrapped up for the year; sports banquet 3/26/18; gearing up for Science Night 3/29/18 and annual Art Show; Booster Club crab feed coming up – benefits the athletic teams at the high school
- b. Loylton High School – JONES: busy time of year; assembly a couple weeks ago with student awards and recognitions – lots of great GPA numbers; beginning planning for courses for next year – getting feedback from both teachers and parents
- c. Downieville Schools – GRANT: Sierra Arts Council and Sierra Schools Foundation help make extra activities possible for students; basketball wrapped up; tennis and golf are spring sports

4. Board Members' Report (5 minutes)

- a. WRIGHT: attended early-release teachers meeting in DVL a couple weeks ago – everyone on task at addressing items for next year in classroom and attendance
- b. HALL: speech contest – daughter does well thanks to speech contest – good opportunity for students to help with public speaking skills

5. Public Comment

- a. Current location – no comment
- b. Videoconference location – no comment

H. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1. Approval of minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held February 13, 2018
- 2. Approval of Board Report-Checks Dated 02/01/2018 through 02/28/2018
- 3. Approval of Assignment of John Smith, Downieville School 2017-2018 Varsity Boys Basketball Coach
HALL/WRIGHT
5/0

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. New Business

- a. Approval of Safe Schools Plan, annual revisions (this plan can be found in its entirety on our website,
http://www.sierracountyofficeofeducation.org/upload/?action=viewer&path=SCHOOL_SAFETY_PLAN/&file=2018_v.9_SAFE_SCHOOLS_PLAN.pdf)
HALL motioned to approve plan with the same condition as in the County Meeting. Seconded by GANT.
5/0
- b. Approval of 2018-2019 School Calendar
WRIGHT/HALL
5/0
- c. Approval of 2017-2018 Second Interim Reports as of January 31, 2018
HALL/WRIGHT
GRIESERT: reported out on highlights of report – positive status
GRANT: things are good on paper, but need to keep discussions going for where we can decrease spending
MOORE: emphasized to public that the board is fully aware of where monies go – budgets will start to get tight
5/0
- d. Contract for Control System at Loyalton Elementary School
WRIGHT/HALL
GRANT: updated bid for heating/cooling system to enhance energy efficiency
5/0
- e. Discussion and possible approval of California School Boards Association Resolution for Full and Fair Funding – approved
WRIGHT/HALL
5/0
- f. Discussion and possible approval of Sierra County and SPJUSD Memorandum of Understanding with Holy Rosary Catholic Church and Holy Family Catholic Parish – approved
WRIGHT/HALL
GRANT: MOU regards plowing of church parking lot that students use for parking for the high school; county is paid for plowing school sites, so would like to continue having them include the church parking lot since students use for parking – county is paid for service
5/0
- g. Presentation from Curriculum Coordinator Megan Meschery
***PowerPoint attached with Minutes*
GRANT: highlights from teacher/staff development
MESCHERY: standards-based teaching and learning – College and Career Ready – plan and implement district-wide common teaching and learning practices that align with what we want students to do (skills) and know (content) for K-12

GRANT: great use of time for staff development – looking at daily interactions/relationships between students and teachers
MESCHERY: big accomplishment – cohort teaching teams brought together collaborating around standards-based instruction; teachers receiving great/better support all around

8 District Goals for 2018-19 School Year ***see PowerPoint attached*

MOORE: to clarify ELA stands for English Language Arts

MESCHERY: refocus on core purpose – Teaching and Learning

Opened up for questions:

PARENT in public: How will the Board support this plan/these goals?

MOORE: very dedicated and experienced board members here that pay attention and care about what's going on at every level

GRANT: Board addresses/takes care of functionality and infrastructure of facilities and staffing to make sure the focus is on Teaching and Learning for teachers and students

PARENT in public/DRYDEN: How are the goals assessed?

MESCHERY: test scores, student and parent surveys, involvement and awards from extra-curricular clubs/activities, etc.

Opening doors – more inclusive environment – site administrators spending more time visiting classes

TEACHER in public: appreciate Board/Superintendent efforts

h. Approval of Assignment of Brian Devlin, Loyalton Schools Plan Maintenance Worker, .5 FTE, 20 hours weekly, effective March 6, 2018

HALL/GANT

5/0

i. Approval of California Department of Education J-13 Report for 2017-2018 school closure days

HALL/GANT

5/0

J. ADVANCED PLANNING

1. Next Regular Board Meeting will be held on April 10, 2018 at Downieville School, 130 School St., Downieville, CA 95936 beginning with Closed Session, as needed, at 5:00pm and the Regular Board Meeting following the Sierra County Board of Education meeting at 6:00pm.

2. Suggested Agenda Items


a. Finish Superintendent Evaluation

b. Safe Schools Plan??

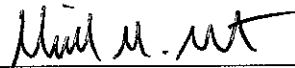
K. ADJOURN at 7:53pm

HALL/WRIGHT

5/0



Jenny Gant, Clerk



Dr. Merrill M. Grant, Superintendent

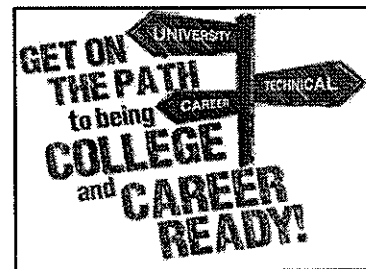
The Journey to the Core!

The Sierra-Plumas Joint Unified School District Plan for Standards-Based Instruction and Learning

Start with “The Why”

Because the new standards K-12 are:

- **Rich in content and practice.** Students are doing and demonstrating learning, collaborating, and thinking critically and creatively.
- **Rigorous and incorporate the learning of *skills*** so students are **College & Career Ready**. Teach “real-life” skills to be successful.
- **Reflective of how students learn.** Socially and through a mix of discussion, deep-thinking activities, quiet reading, reflection, writing and lots of trial and error.



“The Why Now?” for SPJUSD

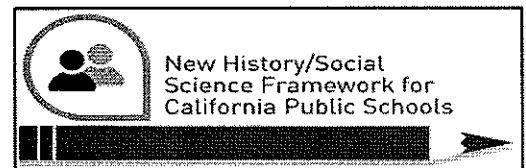
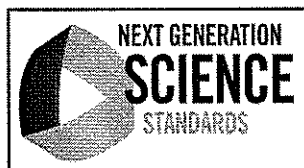
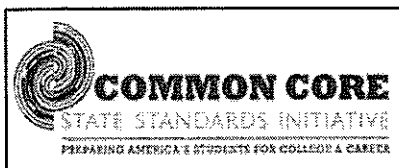
- We are starting from where we are. Assessment data is now in our hands.
- It is the **right time** to design, plan and implement district-wide common teaching and learning practices that align with what we want students to be able to do (**skills**) and know (**content**) when they leave our care.
- A district approach to instruction K-12, using **teaching practices that we know work** will help our teachers feel part of an **educational team** with a common vision. **This is new for us!**
- The shift from the past era of No Child Left Behind to this New Era has been slow in coming, and we must move forward with **urgency, consistency and fidelity**.

The What

- Common Core State Standards
- College and Career Readiness Standards
- Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)
- New California History Framework and upcoming Standards

This is a lot to take on but we knew we had to start somewhere

1. Deep Dive into the Standards
2. Creation of Priority Standards
3. Professional Development for Teachers in Best Practices



Our Vision: The What of SPJUSD

- The Department of Curriculum & Instruction envisions students who are **deeply engaged in their learning** and who can **analyze problems from many different angles and communicate effectively** in a 21st Century world to be **college and career ready**. It is committed to **ensuring educators and leaders feel supported in their efforts to improve** standards-based teaching and learning in an environment that **celebrates transformational instructional practices** reaching all students where they are academically, socially and emotionally.

The How: The Mission & The Goals

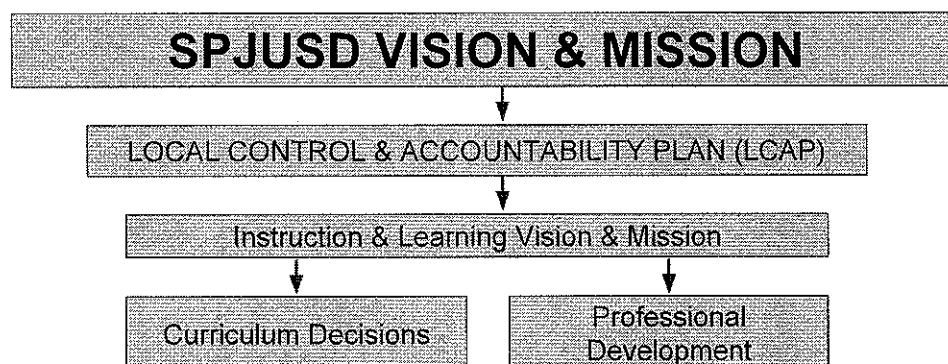
- The mission is to **provide teachers with the time, resources, training and encouragement** to meet their professional goals and continuous improvement as educators so as to transform the lives of their students through education.
 - **Strengthening teaching capacity and leadership** by providing time to analyze grade level and subject-specific state standards, **plan** successful standards-based lessons, **assess** what works, and **differentiate** instruction.
 - Ensuring teachers receive the **resources for collaboration** to create **priority standards** that can be taught within a viable curriculum.
 - Creating **teaching teams for collaboration, support and sharing** transformational instructional practices based on **formal and informal student data** and ways to ensure a safe and secure learning environment.
 - **Supporting teachers and students** as they **reflect on their learning for continual improvement and growth**.

The How: Superintendent's PD Plan

- Imbed “time” for collaboration within the certificated staff contract day.
- Curriculum Coordinator position re-established (more investment for 18-19)
- Internal accountability a “professional obligation”, not evaluation-based
- Better continuous feedback loop through Board, community, teaching staff, support staff, and students
- Continue the vocal narrative to work “from the classroom out” in all decisions we make in the Sierra-Plumas Joint Unified School District

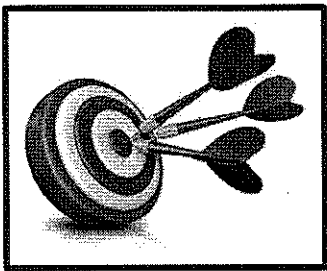
Accomplishments We Can Celebrate

- The development of a clear Vision and Mission document for Teaching and Learning that aligns with SPJUSD's vision and mission and LCAP goals. This document informs a structure for making instructional decisions, clarifying leadership roles and guiding resource allocation, professional development and accountability.



Accomplishments We Can Celebrate

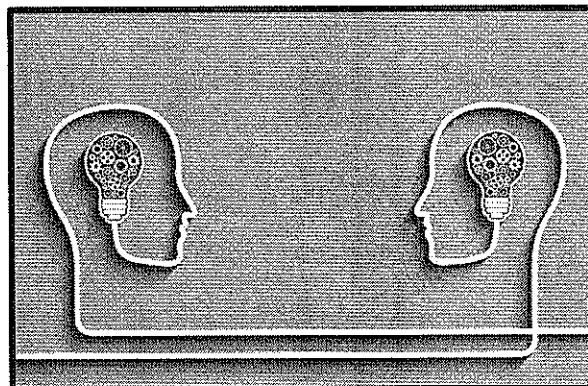
- The development of District-Wide Professional Learning Communities to bring cohort teaching teams together to collaborate around standards-based instruction. In these PLC's, teachers have:
 - Analyzed ELA, Math and NGSS standards to determine the Priority Standards.
 - Attended District-Wide, in-house trainings on Deep Reading Strategies, the Writing Process through the use of Data-Based Questions, and Next Generation Science Standards.



Accomplishments We Can Celebrate

- Teachers have received new curriculum and instruction support from district instructional leaders (Superintendent, site principals, curriculum coordinator) and one-on-one support from an in-house person who can assist them where needed.

Provide ideas, mentorship, direction, guidance, goal-setting, leadership and accountability



Gain confidence, knowledge, strategies, frameworks, and security knowing what is expected of us as professionals. Share with others.

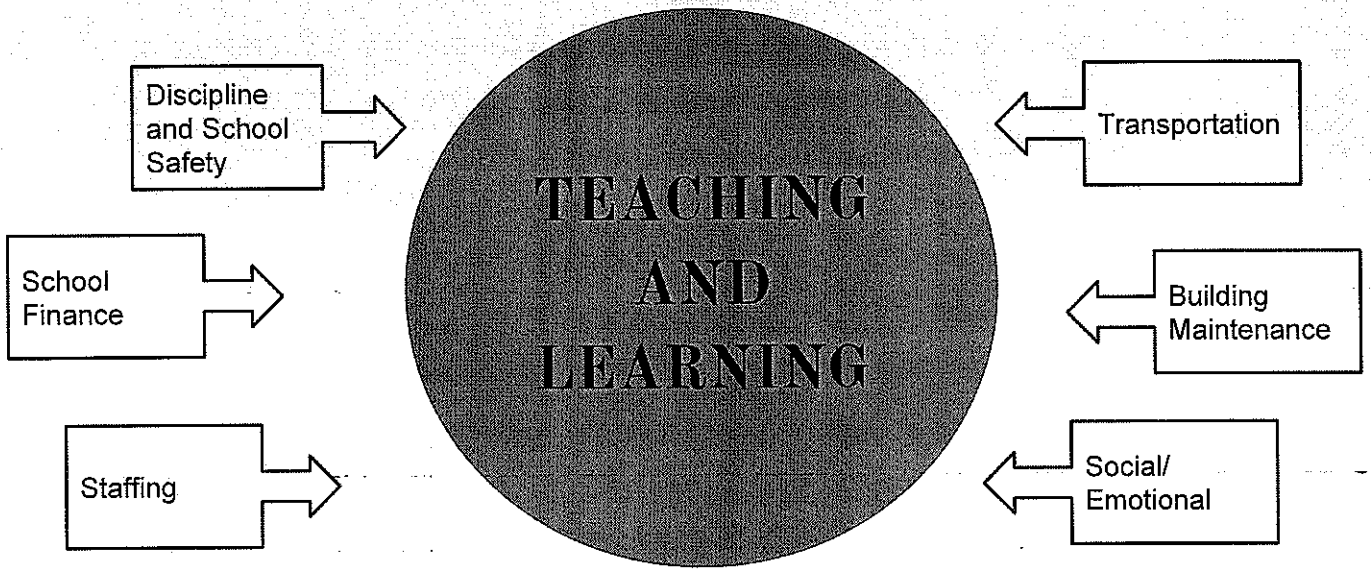
8 District Goals for 2018-2019 School Year

1. **Analyze data** from last year (CAASPP Scores, Teacher and Student Surveys, Stakeholder Interviews, LCAP Goals and Community Forum Input) **to decide focus areas** in Instruction and Learning districtwide.
2. Continue with **Priority Standards and Scope** of Instruction decisions in ELA, Mathematics, and Science.
3. Begin to train teachers on how to use **Proficiency Scales** districtwide.
4. **Research, assess and adopt social studies** Curriculum based on new California framework.

8 District Goals for 2018-2019 School Year

5. Meet with **Science team K-12** to begin developing a plan for **training and curriculum** around NGSS.
6. Encourage teachers to **continuously improve their craft by organizing professional development workshops (based on teacher and student needs)** in the use of researched-based instructional strategies for **greater student engagement in the classroom and overall academic achievement.**
7. Continue to **train teachers to use educational technology** as a tool for teaching and learning.
8. Create an **accountability plan for instruction and learning (Roles & Responsibilities).**

And Back to "The Why." The Why We're Here...



QUESTIONS?