



SARB Minutes
February 10, 2021
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM
Zoom

Attendees: Carol Bjordahl, Amber Bowman, Aldo Campos, David Castellano, Rebecca Day, Robert DeCandia, Veronica Escobedo, Juan Garcia, Sonia Garcia, Robin Gillette, Ray Gonzales, Bianca Lopez, Daisey Lopez Valadez, Melissa McMurdo, Laurel McWaters, Jose Ramirez, Chris Ridge, Rosie Rosales, Gina Simonsgaard, Stef Sisman, Jamie Snodgrass, Brett Taylor, Julie Taylor, Suzanne Weist, Connie Wright, Taylene Yniguez

Mr. Gonzales welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for introductions.

Mr. Gonzales asked everyone to review the minutes from the January 13th meeting (previously emailed). The minutes were reviewed and approved.

Public Comments

There were none.

Kids on the Move

There were none.

Attendance Works Website

Mr. Gonzales reviewed the Monitoring Attendance in Distance Learning – Attendance Works document previously shared via email to the group. He shared the website listed on the bottom of the document has a lot of great resources in English and Spanish. He reviewed the four key areas listed in the document: Contact, Connectivity, Relationships and Participation.

Reports

- District Attorney's Office – Ms. McWaters reviewed AB 901. She shared that the new law does not affect us because we all engage in SARB. One change with this law is that a Police Officer or District Staff can't cite students for truancy.
- Public Defender's Office – Nothing to report.
- Probation Agency – Nothing to report.
- Gateway Community School – Mr. Taylor stated that Distance Learning has been a struggle for most families. He will be bringing in his first group for SARB in March. Gateway is accepting referrals, please contact Mr. Taylor with any referral or expulsion questions.
- Behavior Health – Nothing to report.

- Public Health – Ms. Escobedo shared that the Spring Semester is back on track with Nursing students.
- Human Services Agency/Children Family Services – Nothing to report.
- Human Services Agency/CalWORKs – Ms. Garcia shared she has been invited to more SARB meetings and is hoping her presence is helping. She thanked everyone for the invitations. She shared they continue to take applications by phone or mail. They do not have a re-opening date set at this point.
- Community Partners – Nothing to report.

Return to in Person Learning – Update from Districts

Mr. Gonzales shared that OUHSD is making plans to have small groups of students on campus. He shared Freshman have not yet been on campus and are hoping to bring small groups back as it gets less restrictive.

Around the Table: Successes, Challenges and Needs

Ms. McWaters shared that it seems like they are getting in touch with more parents on zoom and/or the phone. She feels that is a success. Contact has improved tremendously. She suggested having the student join the meetings, she feels it makes a big difference having the student on zoom or on the phone. She shared how wonderful it has been to have Ms. Garcia present at the meetings, Ms. Garcia is a great resource. Ms. Garcia shared that she follows up with the families outside of the SARB meetings and has seen improvements in attendance.

Ms. Bjordahl shared an experience she had with a family that was with the RAIN project. Due to COVID, the family was housed at a hotel. At the hotel, they were provided with a small fridge and a microwave. She suggested that instead of perishables, grocery cards would be best so that they can purchase microwavable food. Ms. Garcia offered to help locate families if they leave the RAIN project. Please contact her for assistance.

Mr. Ridge shared that a family moved out of the area and the question was asked about continued enrollment. Mr. Ridge explained that there should not be a cause to drop the student as long as the student is being successful and completing distance learning. Mr. Gonzales agreed and shared there are families that have had to leave the country and continue to do the work. Ms. Garcia shared that a student that moved from Florida to California continues distance learning with the Florida school. It would be hard for this student to start in a new district during this time.

Trainings and Workshops Upcoming from VCOE – Virtual unless noted *

- May 24, 2021 – VCOE Equity Conference / 2:00PM to 5:00PM



Mr. Taylor stated that the Alternative Education Summit previously scheduled for February 19th has been cancelled. Speaker, Ricky Robertson, will present at the VCOE Equity Conference scheduled for May 24th.

Ms. Lopez Valadez stated that VCOE Comprehensive Health and Prevention Programs is hosting various trainings and would like input from the group on training needs that staff may have. Please reach out to Ms. Lopez Valadez if you have any suggestions. For scheduled trainings, please visit <https://www.vcoe.org/health>.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting

- March 10, 2021 - Zoom