

SONOMA COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
Sonoma County Office of Education – Board Room
5340 Skylane Boulevard, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 8, 2009

Chairperson, Mary Schafer, called the meeting of the Sonoma County Committee on School District Organization to order at 6:05 p.m. and led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held at the Sonoma County Office of Education in the Board Room.	MEETING
Jeanne Bassett Fernandes, Vernon Calsy, James DeWilder, Larry Haenel, Rick Massell, and Mary Schafer. Jeremy Brott, and Bob Koenitzer arrived at 6:15 p.m.	MEMBERS PRESENT
Dan Bunting, and Kathy Hayes	MEMBERS ABSENT
Denise Calvert, Jerry Johnson, Susanne Reed, and Patti Springer	STAFF PRESENT
Mr. Johnson administered the Oath of Office to Vernon Calsy, Larry Haenel, and Rick Massell.	1. OATH OF OFFICE
None	2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC
On motion by Mr. DeWilder, seconded by Ms. Fernandes, the motion carried to approve the June 8, 2009 agenda.	3. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 8, 2009 AGENDA
On motion by Mr. DeWilder, seconded by Mr. Massell, the motion carried to approve the December 8, 2008 minutes.	4. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 8, 2008 MINUTES
	5. INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS
Mr. Johnson reviewed the Petition to Delay Reorganization Request, which will be sent to Larry Shirey at CDE. He added that if a delay is requested, and if there is no opposition, the matter will remain in a suspense file at the CDE; it won't be withdrawn. Guerneville is not asking for the delay.	5.1 <i>Update on Guerneville and Monte Rio Consolidation</i>
The reason for Monte Rio's request for delay is due to the State Budget and loss of property tax related revenues. Monte Rio is currently Basic Aid and Guerneville won't be Basic Aid for several years. The districts will be periodically revisiting the topic to consolidate to evaluate whether to activate the petition.	
Some committee members voiced their opinions on the delay – they would have liked the districts to address the committee directly, in person; they don't think it is helpful to delay because it could complicate their efforts to consolidate in the future with an election. Mr. Johnson said the delay is due to the financial conditions deteriorating. He will get back to the districts to let them know that the committee would appreciate future communications directly to the committee; and that the committee would like to be invited to district meetings on this subject.	
Ms. Calvert said if Sebastopol and Twin Hills consolidate it would be a financial loss to both districts. Sebastopol will contract with the high school district for oversight services and they are reorganizing the business manager position. ADA for Sebastopol is about 1,300, Twin Hills about 1,000, and Westside about 100.	5.2 <i>Update on Sebastopol/Twin Hills Discussions Regarding Sharing Services</i>

Mr. Johnson stated that the Governor had vetoed legislation regarding uncontested consolidations on the local level. Also discussed were amendments to existing law concerning financial aspects of consolidation; leveling of salaries, legal requirement to have equal salaries based on experience and years of service; sharing of services between districts; and the educational advantages/benefits Monte Rio and Guerneville would have gained in spite of the financial loss from consolidating.

5.3 *Potential Legislation
Regarding Consolidations*

None

6. ACTION ITEMS

Ms. Calvert and Ms. Reed spoke more on Basic Aid; deferred revenue limits; Proposition 13; and State provided equalization dollars. Ms. Calvert will provide the members with the Revenue Limit Chart by district.

The next meeting was scheduled for September 28, 2009, as several members were unable to attend on September 14 or 21.

7. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

Mr. Johnson will see if, and when, Monte Rio and Guerneville will be having a joint meeting regarding the consolidation. Ms. Calvert stated that due to discrepancies, there might be some district map/boundary issues that the committee will have to address next year. Also discussed was lapsation, whereas the committee would have to take action should a district's student population fall below six students at the end of any given school year; she added that some districts are obtaining waivers to lapse with more than the minimum number of required students eight students. Ms. Reed added that we might have redistricting issues in 2011 as a result of the 2010 census.

Ms. Schafer adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

8. AJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,



Jerry Johnson, Secretary
S.C.C.S.D.O.