

Governance Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
January 13, 2026 @ 10:30 am  
714 F St, Eureka, CA 95501

Our mission is to deliver personalized learning through strong family, educator, and community partnerships that empower students to achieve academic excellence and foster active citizenship.

Governance Council Members Present: Matt Wilton, Geri Emberson, David Turner, Sarah Weltsch, Kate Salazar

Governance Council Members Absent:

Certificated Staff Present: Tim Warner, Nichole Dollarhide, Stefani Gambrel, Jen Burtam,

Classified Staff / Guests: Alexi Wagner, Blue Peters, Jacey Spies, Mary Fisher, Adyn McCabe, Crystal Collins, Tatianna Ferrington, Cassie Moulton, Beth Johnson,

### Regular Meeting Agenda

- I. Meeting Called to Order: 10:40am
- II. Review Agenda
  - a. A motion was made to add the possible approval of the SARC under action items. Turner/Weltsch, motion carried, 5/0
- III. Public Comment / Correspondence / Communication:
  - Letters from Erica Alston and Kathy Yeager are read
  - Stefani read a letter announcing her intent to resign at the end of the school year if her concerns regarding compensation and job oversight are not taken care of
  - Lexi, Blue, JC, Mary Fisher, Aiden, Crystal, Tatiana, Cassidy, Beth and Nicole all spoke in support of Stefani
  - Geri Emberson – Wanted Stefani’s position to be examined, in light of changes, so she can be fairly compensated for her job and unique abilities in leading the school
- IV. Consent Items
  - a. A motion was made to approve the December 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. Sarah/Kate, all approved
  - b. A motion was made to approve the November 2025 Warrant Report Sarah/Kate, all Approved
- V. Reports
  - a. Student Council: Report not available.
  - b. Enrollment Report: 504 enrolled students
  - c. Leadership Team Report
    - Ongoing conversation about AI policy work; on Friday CDE issued guidance with a webinar regarding new guidelines.
    - Looked at 4 different job descriptions
    - Salary study presented by Tim
    - Feedback from parents about on- campus behavior and newsletter

d. Director of Secondary Services Report:

- 18/32 seniors completed FAFSA 56%
- Students getting awarded, guiding through process of accepting \$\$ etc.
- Humboldt Area Foundation Scholarships opens 1/15: resumes, cover letters, requests for letters,
- HCOE Academic Achievement Award Nominee: 45 college credits: Rocky Villalpando
- 37 students Fall concurrent enrollment
- Planning for HS info night 3/12 5-7pm
- CCGI Alignment with OASIS and Jen Doane: [californiacolleges.edu](http://californiacolleges.edu) (college and career planning platform-streamlines college and financial aid applications securely connecting student records with California public colleges and California Student Aide Commission and is a key tool within the state's Cradle-to-Career Data System for students, families, schools, and colleges.
- Updating Alternative Pathways to Diploma/New Grad Requirements: Fin. Lit and Ethnic Studies. Should be ready for board approval next GC meeting.

e. Principal/Director of Operations Report

- Noteworthy happenings: spring class registration and rostering; intent to enroll meetings
- Student support: PBIS committee continues to work diligently to support continuity in behavior expectations on campus.
- Stefani attended a Restorative Conferencing training at HCOE last month and she is looking forward to bringing those concepts and techniques into disciplinary matters at AGCS
- We have interviewed and plan on hiring a Behavior monitor who will hopefully start next week with spring semester

f. Director of Special Services Report

- Celebration Corner: Steve has a group attending lunch where they work on social skills and students are thriving through it!
- We will be working to become our own LEA for special education. The process is lengthy and they are hoping to expedite it.
- We are currently 15 students over the preferred number to meet caseload caps. Nichole requested that ed specialists be compensated for the extra students on their caseload until the end of the year.
- Interviewed an ed specialist and offered her a position for next year.
- There is an increased need for 1:1 aide/SCIA support for students with significant disabilities. Director of Operations has led a team in the process of hiring a behavioral support position that will help address these needs.
- Nichole has submitted a job description for the LEA BOP and CYBHI Coordinator. This position has taken a substantial amount of work this year, but will hopefully be easier to maintain once everything is in place. She is requesting a stipend for the role.

g. Superintendent Report

- Charter renewal: attending board meetings at SB and Eureka for the sake of charter renewal process. Has been working on a federal audit we received. It has been completed with no audit findings (good news). Public meeting Dec. 11th and we had a good turn out. Concerns about us not being our own LEA for special ed (yet). Eureka City schools worried about liability, Nichole and Tim working with legal counsel to make a "pass-through MOU" to help satisfy their concerns for any liability. Because of this, requested a 30-day extension for

the charter renewal. Thursday Feb 12th is an important day for AGCS to come to the meeting to support our school in this process.

- Tim enjoyed spirit week and winter craft night and connecting with AGCS students and families.
- Other updates:
  - Working on job descriptions, updating and creating policies.
  - Attending ECS events/meetings.
  - CalPads Fall 1 was time consuming,
  - NCCC is convening at AGCS for a site tour.
  - The governor's proposed budget seems promising, will know more in June.
  - First overnight field trip: snowboarding forthcoming.
  - Appreciation to our ED Specialists for taking students above their usual caseloads.

#### VI. Discussion and Information

- Reviewed P1 Report
- Alternative Diploma Pathways: Jen B actively working on this, should be ready for board approval at the next GC meeting

#### VII. Action Items

- Certification of prior year's Fiscal Audit with minor edits (Sarah / Geri / All approved)
- Approval of the Instructional Aide / Behavior Monitor Job Description and Salary Schedule (Sarah \ Katie \ All approved)
- Approval of the Pupil Behavioral Health Policy (Sarah \ Geri \ All approved)
- Vacated until later date: Possible approval of the Speech Language Pathology Assistant Job Description (SLPA) and Salary Schedule
- Vacated until later date: Possible approval of the Director / Principal Salary Schedule Revision (Sarah \ Geri \ All approved)
- Approval of the Education Specialist Job Description and Salary Schedule (Sarah / Geri / all approved)
- Approval of a Credit Limit Increase (Sarah \ Katie \ all approved)
- Approval of SARC (Sarah \ Katie \ All approved)

#### VIII. Future Agenda Items (February 2026)

- School Coordinator Report
- CA Form 700
- Comprehensive School Safety Plan
- LCAP Mid-year Report
- Principal Salary schedule
- Job descriptions for Superintendent, Director of Special Services, Director of Secondary Programs, Principal/Director of Operations
- Annual Salary Percentage Increase

#### IX. Adjourn to Closed Session Personnel (Pursuant to Gov. Code 54957) @ 1:50 pm

- a. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
- b. Public Employee Resignation
- c. Public Employee Appointment
- d. Complaints / Grievances Officer Communication
- e. Legal Action

XI. Return to Open Session @ 1:50 pm

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XII. Adjournment 1:51 pm

Minutes taken by: David Turner, GC Secretary

Approved: 2/10/26