

Efficiency and Effectiveness (E2) Collaborative
Meeting Notes from Wednesday, November 13, 2019
MCOE | 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Present: A.J. Brady (Reed Union), Brett Geithman (Larkspur-Corte Madera), David Hellman (Marin County Board of Education), Debbie Butler (Novato Unified), Marilyn Nemzer (Marin County Office of Education), Jill Sellers (Larkspur-Corte Madera), Heather McPhail Sridharan (Kentfield), Linda Jackson (San Rafael), Nancy Lynch (Reed Union), Samantha Hunt (Office of Assembly member Levine), Tara Taupier (Tamalpais Union), Megan Hutchinson (Miller Creek), Terena Mares (MCOE), and Gavin Pugsley (MCOE)

Introductions

Megan Hutchinson was introduced to the group as a new representative for Miller Creek.

Public safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Recap

Terena Mares provided an overview of how the county addressed the unfolding events of PSPS:

- The Marin County Office of Education in coordination with school districts, PG&E, the Marin County Fire Department, and the Marin County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services coordinated their efforts through conference calls with school district superintendents to address school closures and communication with the public. As events unfolded in real time MCOE provided a consistent advisory message that was reinforced by the districts in their respective areas. MCOE and the districts had prepared a protocol in advance of the PSPS that was implemented and adapted as events unfolded.
- It was agreed that the county was as prepared as it could be given the circumstances, however there was room for improvement and that this event could be used as a learning experience on how to prepare for future anticipated events.
- It was agreed that the key to improving effectiveness during PSPS events is to have capable systems and effective facilities management.
- It was agreed that continuing county office and district collaboration to maintain messaging consistency helps facilitate an orderly addressing of the situation and maintains order within the county.

Several members contributed suggestions and feedback from their experiences from the PSPS event. These suggestions are summarized as follows:

- Generators should be installed in every school to maintain critical systems and to provide charging stations for the community.
- Classes in capable schools should continue even with loss of power.
- Schools can be converted into community hubs as they are already central structures within communities. As hubs, schools could provide charging stations, coffee, and minimum food/water distribution.
- Further to the community hub idea, capabilities can be further augmented when a generator is installed on site.
- Support the efforts for telecom providers to install generators at cell sites throughout the county.
- Utilize solar panels and backup batteries at schools and offices.

Consolidation/Unification

The collaborative discussed the details and mechanics of Consolidation/Unification and how it applies to districts in general. A handout detailing the consolidation process (Consolidation/Reorganization of School Districts in California – An Overview) was also shared with the collaborative. Historical background was provided to give context to the process. Key points shared were:

- Consolidation may be a reorganization of multiple districts becoming one district.
- A petition to consolidate must be approved either by the County Committee and the California State Board of Education.
- At the local level, county committee is governed by a series of education code requirements.
- A county committee is made up of 11 members: 2 members from each supervisorial district and 1 member at large.
- Each member of the county committee is annually elected. The electoral body are district representatives to the Marin County School District Association (MCSBA).
- Consolidation may take several years to complete.
- All 8 conditions listed in the consolidation handout must be met for the county committee to approve the consolidation of all effective districts, plus any other conditions determined by the State Board of Education (SBE).
- The electorate votes to consolidate once approved by the County Committee and the SBE.
- For uncontested consolidations (all governing boards agree), an election is not required.

E2 Informational Video

The collaborative recapped the content for the E2 informational video and further agreed on the following points:

- The atmosphere and tone of the video should be positive and emphasize happiness.
- The wellbeing and creativity of children within the county should be highlighted.
- School programs such as arts, music, and athletics should be featured.
- The video should consider that the target audience could be scared or fearful and the video should work to counteract this bias with an overall positive message.

Details and timelines on the production of this video will be forthcoming after the Winter Recess.

Reference Materials

The following items were provided as reference material and are a part of these meeting notes:

- Consolidation/Reorganization of School Districts in California – An Overview
- MCOE PSPS Chronology
- E2 Video Framework

Next Meeting

- Wednesday, December 11, 2019 | Topic: Resource Evaluation & Sexual Harassment