

Educational Options Council

Wednesday, November 4, 2020 | 10:00am –12:00pm

[Join WebEx](#)

Dr. Milisav Ilic, Council President

AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order** (10:03 - Dr. Milisav Ilic)
- II. **Welcome & Introductions** – Dr. Milisav Ilic
 - a. Introductions of new and returning members
- III. **Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes** – Dr. Milisav Ilic
 - a. Maria Munguia moved to accept the minutes.
 - b. Dave Deal seconded
 - c. Motion carries unanimously.
- IV. **ACSA Liaison Report**
 - a. *Board Report – Erin Simon, Ed.D.*
 - i. This week is the ACSA Leadership Summit and be encouraged to participate.
 - b. *Legislative Policy Committee liaison – Maria Hwang de Bravo*
 - i. The Committee will meet on 11/18. The Spring meetings were not held traditionally for bill review due to COVID. Will have more to report after the first meeting.
 - c. *ACSA Governmental Relations – Iván Carrillo*
 - i. The department is monitoring the local and national news to see what the election results will mean. There's lack of clarity in CA about how the legislature is going to shake out. There are still tight races that have yet to be called.
 1. Democrats have had overwhelming majority in both the State Assembly and the Senate. One Assembly seat flipped. On the Senate side, there are a few races yet to be called. 3 possible Republican Senators in tight races. There is a potential that the Democrats will pick up 2-3 additional seats.
 2. Looks like Prop 13 related to Commercial Real Estate is likely to be defeated. Additional revenues will not be realized if it is defeated. Prop 16 is defeated, related to affirmative action.
 - ii. Budget trends are showing revenues from Q1 are significantly higher than what was estimated. Things are trending very well. Everyone is cautiously optimistic knowing that things can potentially

go down. Continue to keep an eye on fiscal year 21/22. Hopefully decisions will not be as difficult as what we were fearing. \$10B is the number to keep an eye on.

1. We still have a way to go to avoid cuts for 21/22. There will be a report coming out in a few weeks that will be the basis of the legislature, so watch out for that.
2. Lots of focus on distance learning and schools opening.
3. What are the effects of Educational Equity if it's the lower socioeconomic areas that have the schools that are still closed.
 - a. Also, a focus on mental health issues and lower rates of CPS calls. What can educators do to make sure kids are safe and healthy? Educators are pushing back to say they are doing everything possible to address the safety of students.

V. **President's Report** – Dr. Milisav Ilic

- a. [Report and Recommendations of the California Advisory Task Force on Alternative Schools](#)
- b. Will be presenting on 11/5 to the SBE. Going to advocate that Administration and teachers for Alternative & Continuation school be high quality professionals who are interested in working with at-risk students.

VI. **Region Share Out**

- a. Due to our Breakout Activity, we asked for volunteers to share rather than calling on each council.
- b. *Karen Ellington (Region 9)*: Merced county is starting to phase students back. High schools plan to return in January (second semester). Return will be hybrid for HS.
- c. *Dr. Elsie Simonovski (Region 17)*: Title 1 district in Buena Park opening next week. 50/50 on students who didn't want to return. Have the option to go virtual. CSCA and Teachers Union negotiations are close to being finished in anticipation of the opening.
- d. *Don English (Region 12)*: His district is wrestling with how to continue with a percentage of students who want to remain in distance learning. Determining whether those students would be Distance Learning vs Independent Study.
- e. *Joe Antonelli (CCEA)*: Identified students who are doing most poorly in the current remote environment. Started with F list from Q1 (most were not engaged in online/remote learning). Doing an in person personal intervention in very small groups. Personal counseling, cheerleading, and accountability factor to try to reengage students. Able to start that yesterday 11/3. 4/20 students showed up.
- f. *Erik Taylor (Region 6)*: Using small cohorts to address students who are struggling. Students report that they are excited to come back. Home visits are taking a long time but have been effective. Having conversations with the district about increasing staff to support students.

- g. *Robin Geissler (Region 15)*: Update on the Alternative Ed Learning Collaborative through Stanford. 20 school districts represented. Working on best practices and integrating Social Emotional Learning component.

VII. **Distance Learning Resource Activity**

- a. Spent 10 minutes on each prompt (4 total) in teams to address Distance Learning Resources.
- b. Malcom Heron reports that there seems to be similar ways that schools are utilizing resources to engage students. Home visits seems to work well to engage students. On track to do 3x the number of home visits as in previous years.
- c. Joe Antonelli says COVID has been good for business at Alt Ed. Students are suffering at traditional high schools and falling farther behind. Demand is high. Need for therapeutic response at comprehensive school site.
- d. Robin Geissler: Prepare for the “tidal wave” of students that are going to come to Alt Ed when school “resumes to normal.”
- e. Don English: Group discussed a Director of Equity and Access to address student needs, “drive-bys” for wellness checks, provided technology for student access.
- f. Maria Hwang de Bravo: her children’s school used COVID funds for headsets for student engagement.

VIII. **Wrap Up: Actions & Takeaways**

- a. Malcom Heron: In the future, looking forward to how comprehensive schools are addressing credit recovery. Now that we are seeing that kids can learn virtually, how will this change the model? Offering an online zero or 7th period. Adding in SEL to see what interventions and support are necessary to support the student.
- b. Erik Taylor: having traditional schools look at their schedules. Making sure students are set up for success.
- c. Joe Antonelli: Alternative Ed is relationship based. COVID is the proving ground for SEL and connections with students. These times are highlighting the relationship component.
- d. Darrell Amerine: At his school, the principal of Alt Ed site works directly with the director of counseling to early identify students. Setting up guidelines and flow charts for early identification.

IX. **Adjourn (11:51am)**

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Date	Meeting Location	Time
March 26, 2021	Educational Options Council Meeting WebEx	10:00AM – 12:00PM