



California Online Public Schools (CalOPS)
A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation
EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING

GOVERNING BOARD for:
CalCA North Bay
CalCA Central
CalCA Central Coast
CalCA Monterey Bay
CalCA Ripon
CalCA Southern California

Notice is hereby given to the members of the
California Online Public Schools Board and the general public that the
California Online Public Schools Board will hold a meeting open to the public on:

Date and Time:
Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. PT

Telephone Conference Call Locations:
CalCA SoCAL: 33272 Valle Road, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
-AND-
1 (800) 504-8071; Passcode 843-8063

This meeting is open to the public in person and via teleconference. For information about this meeting or for members of the public who require special accommodations to attend, contact the school offices: Bernie Jamero at (209) 253-1208 or Deborah Larson at (949) 461-1667 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. The Board packet can be made available for public review by contacting the school offices prior to the Board meeting in compliance with California open meeting law.

BOARD AGENDA

- I. Call to Order – E. Pavlich
- II. Roll Call – E. Pavlich
- III. Public Comment

The Board welcomes participation by the members of the public telephonically. To address an item on the agenda, before the scheduled start of the meeting, an individual must write their name and a short description of the agenda item on which they wish to comment on the card provided and submit this to the Chair, along with any materials they want to have distributed to Board. Individuals who wish to address the Board telephonically must contact the school principal by phone or by email at least twenty four (24) hours before the scheduled start of the Board meeting. If the individual wants to provide any written materials to the Board, these should be emailed to the School Principal at least twenty four (24) hours before the scheduled start of the meeting.

The total time for any individual to present, either in person or via telephone, on an item on the agenda shall not exceed three (3) minutes, or six (6) minutes if the individual requesting to comment is a non-English speaker and requires a translator, unless the Board grants additional time. However, in compliance with Board policy and the Brown Act, the Board is not permitted to discuss or take action on non-agenda items.

Individuals desiring to make a formal presentation to the Board on an item not on the agenda but desiring it be placed on the agenda must provide notice and written submissions detailing the subject of the presentation to the School Principal at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting. Any such presentations shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes in duration, unless otherwise permitted by the Chair.

To view the Board Public Comment Policy, visit the school's "Our School Board" page at <https://www.connectionsacademy.com/california-online-school/about/school-board>.

- IV. Routine Business
 - a. Approval of Agenda – E. Pavlich

- V. Action Items
 - a. Authorization for Executive Director to direct SCHOOL CLOSURES and such other actions as may be reasonably necessary to address the emergency circumstances presented by the COVID 19 PUBLIC HEALTH SITUATION, including Federal, State and Local emergency declarations and orders (attached) – R. Savage

- VI. Adjournment and Confirmation of the Next Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. PT

Agenda publicly posted: On: Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. PT

At: 33272 Valle Road, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

MEMO to Board of Directors, California Online Public Schools

RE: Emergency Board Meeting Agenda and Action

DATE: March 19, 2020

Action Item: School Closures with delivery of educational services

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Based on the recent legislative decisions made by the state, there is an urgent need for our network of charter schools to take action on school closure for all of our six schools. On March 16, the California Legislature passed [SB 117](#), emergency legislation to implement Governor Newsom's executive order (N-26-20) which was issued on March 13, regarding school funding and related topics during the Coronavirus-19 (COVID-19) crisis. The bill was enacted in great haste with virtually no public discussion and includes the following key features with respect to schools that close due to COVID-19 and generally comply with the provisions of this new law. The following is a summary of the areas that directly impact California Connections Academy Schools:

1. Shifts the usual "P-2" attendance reporting cut-off date from mid-April to the end of February. This means that any actual attendance for the month of March and beyond would NOT be included in the funding formula for 2019-20.
2. Declares legislative intent that schools funded under this revised methodology "ensure that the local education agency's employees and contractors are compensated and paid during the period of time a school is closed...as reasonably anticipated if the school had not been closed due to COVID 19."
3. Deems schools to have met the usual minimum annual instructional day and minutes requirements during the period the school was closed due to COVID-19 and waives related penalties for missing the usual days/minutes targets. (NOTE: The number of annual instructional days DOES apply to us, whereas the annual instructional minutes does NOT apply to us under normal conditions as independent study schools)
4. Requires a school administrator to certify that a school was closed due to COVID-19 and provide additional information related to the closure as requested by the State Superintendent.
5. Extends deadlines for assessing English learners by 45 days, "unless otherwise determined" by the State Superintendent.

6. Extends the testing window for the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) assessments, Physical Fitness Test, and English learner testing (ELPAC) and reassessments by the length of time a school is closed due to COVID-19, or until the end of the testing window, whichever comes first. (NOTE: Based on an additional Executive Order N-30-20 issued March 18, the state is actually expected to completely suspend all state testing for this school year.)
7. Extends the usual 15-day deadline in state law to develop an assessment plan for a student who may have an exceptional need and has been referred to assessment or reassessment by the number of days a school is closed due to COVID-19. Also extends 5-day deadlines to provide parents with requested records and new LEAs with records if a school is closed due to COVID-19, until the school reopens, and the regular school session reconvenes. These state law deadlines are extended “even if a local education agency continues to offer educational opportunities through distance learning or independent study” during a COVID-19 closure. Note that these waivers of state legal deadlines do not waive federal laws that govern this topic.

RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES AND TIMELINE:

The following is a summary of the likely actions to be taken by the Executive Director and designees, following board approval of the action item:

1. The school calendar would remain the same, with spring break the week of April 13-17. During spring break, teachers and students do not need to work, but Connexus is available and students may continue working in their assignments. Administration and administrative support staff do continue to work as usual. The last day of school would remain the same.
2. During the week of March 23, there would be a schoolwide shut down for all staff. Connexus would remain available for students, but teachers, administrators and support staff would not be available for one week. The school offices would be closed.
3. Educational services would continue throughout the closure period, under the provisions of the Executive Order and SB 117, and therefore online and remote educational services for all students, including general education and special education services, will continue through the end of the regularly scheduled school year. Administration will work to provide the best educational program given the limitations of the current circumstances.
4. The official closure would remain in effect until changed by action of the Board OR until the last day of school, whichever is earlier.
5. Continue the enrollment process for families still interested in enrolling for 2019-20, with the support of the POBL enrollment team as well as CalCA staff.
6. Send all appropriate communications to families and staff to explain that instructional services will be continuing and that other than the short time during the shutdown, the educational program will continue.

RATIONALE FOR ACTION:

In addition to the legal and compliance areas cited above, there are a few other reasons why we feel this is appropriate at this time. We have a number of staff members that have had their worlds turned on their side, as have many in society with the closing of their own children's schools. With the Governor stating publicly that we can all expect schools to remain closed until the end of the school year, and with multiple counties across the state issuing orders to "shelter in place", many of our staff members could use a break to re-establish themselves within their own homes and adjust to their new normal. This is an unprecedented time and calls for unprecedented action. We want to be sure we are expressing good will to our staff and letting them know we understand their needs and the desire they have to meet them, and that their health and safety is of the highest priority.

It is important to note that while this action is made due to the state's orders and guidance, the state is also very interested in making sure students are able to receive education during this public health crisis. Because the guidance dictates that we should continue to provide education through any means possible within the public health constraints, our families and MOST importantly our students will still be able to access our curriculum. They will still be able to complete their lessons and progress through their curriculum. They will not have access to teachers during the one week shutdown and during spring break; however, they will be able to get the help they need at all other times.