

Cal-SOAP



Cal-SOAP Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Date and Time January 19, 2023
9:30 a.m.
Meeting Place Zoom Meeting, Meeting

Called to order: 9:34 a.m. **Chair (s):** Steve Molina **Note Taker:** Rosa Cortes

Board Members Present: Steve Molina, Brett Gimlin, Abraham Gonzalez, Mary Dominguez, Alfonso Gonzalez, Rosa Martinez, Liliana Cárdenas, Alexander Jáuregui, Michelle Evans, Anthony Overton, Ashley Walter

Board Members Absent: Brian Jaramillo, Judy Holloway, Maribel Salazar, Roberto Rodriguez, Zhrinna McDonald, Britt O. **Guest(s):**

Cal-SOAP staff: Diana Perez, Rosa Cortes

Agenda No. 1 Welcome – Steve Molina

- Steve welcomed all board members

Agenda No. 2 Approval of Governing Board Minutes September 15, 2022 -Tabled

- Tabled for March 16, 2023, Governing Board Meeting

Agenda No. 3 Selection of New Co-Chair – Steve Molina - VOTE

- Alfonso Gonzalez motion to appoint Liliana Cardenas as the new Co-chair for the Cal-SOAP Consortium. All in favor, approved via Zoom.

Agenda No. 4 Cal-SOAP/ SMJUHSD Budget Updates – Abraham Gonzalez

- Cal-SOAP Consortium has a balance of \$219,697.23. Abraham mentions that the Cal-SOAP Consortium budget is halfway spent. By the end of the fiscal year, it will be entirely spent.
- It was mentioned by Diana that CSAC (CA Student Aid Commission) has made it clear that we are not to roll over any funds for this year. All funds must be spent before the end of the fiscal year.
- SMJUHSD has a balance of \$65,258.56. Diana mentioned that we might receive additional funds. In previous years there were times that we could not spend \$200,000, but this year we will be able to spend all the funds.
- Steve and Diana will discuss the increase in the SMJUHSD budget under Agenda No. 7. It was projected that there would not be enough funds to pay for all the students until the end of the school year.

Agenda No. 5 Cash for College Update – Diana Perez

- Handouts provided on Cash for College data.
- The first column on the excel sheet provides the number of seniors in each of our school districts. The second column has the Cash for College attendance number of seniors. The fourth column to the end will show, as of yesterday, the race to submit numbers of students who have completed a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) or CA Dream Act application.
- Pioneer Valley High School has 81% of completion. This is the first time seeing such a high number of students done with a financial application by the month of January. Last year, PVHS had 80% FAFSA completion, but it was closer to the March 2nd deadline. Last year Pioneer Valley was number 3 in the state in terms of FAFSA completion. Both Santa Maria and Pioneer Valley are doing an outstanding job.
- California student Aid Commission is going to create a website like the race to submit that will show the highest opt out rates for their students. The website is coming up next academic year. CSAC is giving authority to all project directors to notify the state about any school districts not doing their best in

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getting FAFSA completion.

- As a board, we need to come together and figure out if it is not working in some of our school districts. What do we need to do differently to assure it is working? For a student to opt is extremely easy and has no consequence, so anyone can do it.
- Liliana mentions that there is some discrepancy in the total number of seniors. Any discrepancy can be provided to Cal-SOAP Director and will be given to CSAC for review.
- At Winter Promise, we helped 282 students complete their financial aid applications. The Cal-SOAP team relocated to a new building due to a fire and served many students for three weeks.

Agenda No. 6 Cal-SOAP Tutors and Coaches – Diana Perez

- Handouts on Cal-SOAP Tutors and Coaches provided.
- We are spending the funds and we hired throughout the semester. Cal-SOAP will be transitioning tutors to college Coaches, which is the term CSAC use. College Coaches will focus on financial aid applications, college/university applications, and mentoring for students. Diana will provide any training needed to facilitate the transition for the next fiscal year.

Agenda No. 7 SMJUHSD/MOU Increase Student Employee Salary - **VOTE**

- SMJUHSD will increase the budget amount for this fiscal year to about \$280,000.
- Salary increases for student employees that work for SMJUHSD to be moved from \$20 to \$25 an hour and coordinators from \$25 to \$30 an hour. It would not make sense to pay them all the same \$25 dollars an hour because coordinators have more responsibilities than tutors/college coaches.
- Cal-SOAP budget can afford to pay current coordinators that rate. Diana mentioned she had already checked in with HR (Human Resources). The guidelines say that if the board supports it, it goes to the process. By supporting SMJUHSD with tutors, we get 15% indirect and that will help Cal-SOAP ensure they have enough funds if they overspend.
- **Alexander Jáuregui motion to increase tutors/college coaches to \$25 and coordinators to \$30 dollars an hour. Motion second by Liliana Cardenas.**
- SMJUHSD will increase its budget amount to help with the salary increase for Tutors/College coaches, and Cal-SOAP will adjust its current budget of \$425,713.96.
- The Summer Algebra Institute was covered by the indirect cost provided by SMJUHSD. Currently, unsure if SAI will happen during the upcoming summer, but SMJUHSD will see if they can take over the costs to make it happen.
- Alfonso agrees with the salary increase, but there is a difference in percentage. Tutors/College coaches will get a 25% increase and coordinators only a 20% increase. This means tutors/ College Coaches are getting more than the coordinators. Alfonso suggests doing a 20% increase for both, so it will be Tutors/College coaches to \$24 and Coordinators to \$30. A percentage versus a number.
- **Alexander Jáuregui amended the motion to increase Tutors/College Coaches to \$24 and Coordinators to \$30 dollars an hour. Making sure the increase is equitable for everyone. All in favor.**

Agenda No. 8 Consortium Updates

- Consortium updates provided.

Next Meeting: **Allan Hancock College, Thursday, March 16, 2023 9:30 to 11:30a.m.**

Meeting Adjourned at 10:40 a.m.