

March 6, 2018

Ms. Cathie Fisher
Speech and Language Pathologist
El Dorado County Office of Education

Dear Ms. Fisher,

On behalf of the Board, thank you for taking time to write me twice, and for the second request that all Board meetings would be held specifically after school hours at 3:30 p.m. to allow employees to attend. Your latest email also stated that the El Dorado County Board of Education serves El Dorado County Office of Education (EDCOE) employees. As stated in my February 8, 2018 letter to you, in its December 5, 2018 annual organization meeting, the Board determined September 4, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. to be the late afternoon meeting to accommodate requests from EDCOE personnel to attend our meetings.

Please know that as trustees, we are elected to serve all constituents in El Dorado County. We do also work in partnership with Dr. Manansala, County Superintendent of Schools, and his staff to promote positive student outcomes and achievement. This partnership holds great respect for the services and talents of all EDCOE personnel.

The EDCOE Board has several significant mandated responsibilities such as approving the annual EDCOE budget and Local Control Accountability (LCAP) and serving as appellate board. We address and make determinations on expulsion appeals, interdistrict appeals, and charter school appeals.

The mid-day meetings have allowed the Board to:

- Effectively fulfill its required responsibilities to address appeals in which district staff, parents, and sometimes students present their particular needs and viewpoints in these appeals. The appeals can be lengthy and are thorough. Adequate time must be provided for travel, providing information, deliberation, and decisions. Timing is important to ensure safety considering the county geography and inclement weather.
- Promote and allow student representation for our high school population to present current activities, needs, celebrations, and aspirations county-wide. We also believe that this representation exemplifies student leadership development which allows students to further excel in their abilities by representing their districts, schools, fellow students, staff and administration.
- Promote and allow district programs and service presentations that are conducted by local staff, administration, and students. These presentations highlight the excellence of innovation, achievement, and leadership for our students and their local schools. Again, these activities must allow time for their travel before/during the lunch hour, early afternoon presentations, and timely

return back to their schools. These presentations also exemplify leadership development and builds appropriate pride and appreciation for their learning and achievement.

We have found that if there is an area of strong interest and desire for input or learning, individuals and organizations will attend the Board meetings as they are currently scheduled. In general, we also attempt to travel to our most eastern school district, South Lake Tahoe Unified School District, for one meeting annually knowing that the public may have challenges attending any meeting due to weather constraints.

I hope this letter clarifies our current Board schedule. If there are additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Georgianne Knight, President
El Dorado County Office of Education