

**SANTEE SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

January 4, 2011
MINUTES

Douglas E. Giles
Educational Resource Center
9619 Cuyamaca Street
Santee, California

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order and Welcome

President Ryan called the meeting to order a 7:02 p.m. and asked all in attendance to read along with her the District Mission Statement.

Members present:

Barbara Ryan, President
Dan Bartholomew, Vice President
Dianne El-Hajj, Clerk
Ken Fox, Member
Dustin Burns, Member

Administration present:

Dr. Patrick Shaw, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board
Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Minnie Malin, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources/Pupil Services
Kristin Baranski, Director, Educational Services
Linda Vail, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary

2. President Ryan invited Erica Martinez, a teacher at Carlton Hills School, to lead the members, staff and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda.

Motion: Burns Second: El-Hajj Vote: 5-0

B. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Superintendent's Report

- 1.1. Developer Fees Collection Report
- 1.2. Use of Facilities Report
- 1.3. Enrollment Report
- 1.4. Schedule of Upcoming Events

2. Spotlight on Learning: Principal Presentation from Hill Creek School

Hill Creek Principal Jerelyn Lindsay, and Vice Principal Suzanne Martin shared that Hill Creek is very enthusiastic about the uplift at their school with the installation of Solar. Administration, in collaboration with staff, have done an analysis to establish what is working well and what is not and implementing strategies that have proven to be successful. The strategies include: ideas from articles and peers from other schools, dedicated funds for professional development, and reading intervention strategies.

Mrs. Lindsay also shared how the students and staff are using the solar for learning activities. The school held a schoolwide energy appreciation day on November 17th.

3. Spotlight: Out-of-School-Time Programs

Pam Brasher, Director of Out-of-School-Time Programs presented their new logo, which encompasses all of the programs that have joined Project SAFE. Ms. Brasher said first she must mention the staff, because the programs could not run without the great staff. A slide presentation showed staff participating in staff development and students involved in all aspects of the Out-of-School-Time Programs. She explained the expansion includes after school enrichment classes that include a "learn to swim" program partnership with the YMCA. As our partner, the YMCA has provided a wonderful discount for students. Four schools have participated in this enrichment class and the others will have the opportunity before the end of the school year. Families that do not attend Project SAFE are also invited to participate. Another enrichment class provided was drama. The class culminated with a production of *Willy Wonka*. During the summer program, the 6-7-8 grades joined together to participate in a specially designed middle school program, ending with a rock climbing adventure at Mission Trails Park. Next year the middle school students will participate in a bowling league. The YALE fee-based preschool program has been very successful, expanding to Hill Creek this year with 2 classes, and adding another class this month. Ms. Brasher thanked the Board for their support for the afterschool program and the many opportunities they are now able to provide children.

Member Bartholomew asked how the program and the afterschool opportunities are advertised to the community. Ms. Brasher said in addition to the web site, she is preparing to pilot a *Facebook* site. This is the way the parents of today communicate and she believes a *Facebook* contact will spread the word quickly.

Member Burns asked if the number of older students participating in the program has increased over the years. Ms. Brasher said the middle school population is increasing, especially over the summer.

Member Burns said Ms. Brasher runs a quality program with fiscal responsibility and is greatly appreciated. Ms. Brasher said the Out-of-School-Time Programs department partners with the schools frequently and recently purchased 28 net-books they share with PRIDE Academy.

Member Fox shared that he attended the *Willy Wonka* play and it was very well done and very cute. There was a large audience for the performance.

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

President Ryan invited members of the audience to address the Board about any item not on the agenda. There were no public comments.

E. CONSENT ITEMS

Items listed under Consent are considered to be routine and are all acted on by the Board with one single motion. President Ryan invited comments from the public on any item listed under Consent.

- 1.1. **Approval of Minutes**
- 2.1. **Approval/Ratification of Travel Requests**
- 2.2. **Approval/Ratification of Expenditure Warrants**
- 2.3. **Approval/Ratification of Purchase Orders**
- 2.4. **Approval/Ratification of Revolving Cash Report**
- 2.5. *Pulled for Separate Consideration*
- 2.6. **Approval of Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report Required by the Williams Settlement**
- 3.1. **Approval of Revised Excel Therapy Agreement for Language Speech Therapy Services**
- 4.1. **Personnel, Regular**
- 4.2. *Pulled for Separate Consideration*

It was moved and seconded to approve Consent Items, with the exception of Items E.2.5. and E.4.2.

Motion: Bartholomew Second: Burns Vote: 5-0

2.5. **Acceptance of Donations** (Pulled by Member Bartholomew for separate consideration.) Member Bartholomew wanted to express appreciation to the Santee School District Foundation for their continued support of the classrooms through mini-grants. Their contributions are putting direct dollars into things that matter. Member Bartholomew moved to accept the donations listed.

Motion: Bartholomew Second: El-Hajj Vote: 5-0

4.2. **Approval of New Probationary Teachers** (Pulled by Member Burns for separate consideration.)

Members Burns wished to act on the approval of new probationary teachers as a separate action. Member Burns moved to approve the new probationary teachers.

Motion: Burns Second: El-Hajj Vote: 5-0

Following the Board's action, Mrs. Malin introduced the four new probationary teachers.

G. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

President Ryan invited comments from the public on any item listed under Discussion and/or Action. There were no comments.

1.1 Approval of Monthly Financial Report

Assistant Superintendent Karl Christensen presented the monthly financial report. The latest projections are that the District can meet its cash obligations through June 30, 2011. The budget report is unchanged from October and the year will end with a small surplus and reserve percentage of 16.56%, including fund 17, but these reserves will be nearly depleted by the end of the 2012-13 fiscal year with the current budget assumptions. Administration anxiously awaits the new Governors budget proposal. There are some positive signs at the State level. Revenue was up a bit in November. Governor Brown still needs to address the \$ 28billion deficit. Member El-Hajj moved to approve the Monthly Financial Report.

Motion: El-Hajj Second: Bartholomew Vote: 5-0

1.2 Acceptance of FCMAT Report Regarding Student Transportation and Optimal Bell Schedules

Karl Christensen reported that in April 2009 the Board approved a Fiscal Crisis and Management Assessment Team (FCMAT) to review student transportation and bell schedules in order to ascertain if there would be a feasible savings with route changes and/or an optimal bell schedule. Their task was to provide recommendations that would maximize and optimize savings from the transportation of students.

Tim Purvis, one of the FCMAT team members and the transportation director in Poway, presented the findings of the team to the Board. He thanked Dr. Gillespie, who headed the team but was unable to attend this evening for the report.

Mr. Purvis said it was a pleasure working with the Transportation staff and that he believes Debbie Griffin and Diane Turner are doing a great job. He provided a background of the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team. FCMAT was asked to come in and narrow down the findings from the FCMAT report from 2009. There were 3 areas of focus:

1. Review the current instructional calendar and bell schedules,
2. Conduct an analysis with routing optimization software,
3. Determine the optimal configuration of the bell schedules and modified days for the Districts nine schools, and provide recommendations to the Board.

The prior study in 2009 revealed that the District was beginning each of their nine schools within 55 minutes of each other with multiple start and dismissal times. Individual schools' modified days create an additional challenge to efficiently and cause additional resources to be spent. The current findings show 193 special education students and 234 regular education students receiving transportation service. The ridership ratio of students per bus remains below the statewide average. The 2009-10 school year has become less efficient for transportation support with five start times and twelve dismissal times. This is a real challenge from the transportation perspective. Modified day support costs the District an additional \$6,000 annually.

The recommendations from FCMAT include:

1. Design a two-tier District master bell schedule which would result in elimination of 1-2 bus routes.
2. Create a standard formula for a District modified school day plan-assuring no additional transportation resources are required.
3. Review school site traffic patterns to determine optimal time to start/end school. (For consideration)
4. Maintain a minimum of forty minutes between the two tiers to allow sufficient pick up and delivery of students.

Member Bartholomew asked if the special education student ridership increased this year because of the client base or another reason. Mrs. Baranski responded saying the count was not correct and Administration is checking. It may have been that preschool students were not included in the previous count.

Member Burns asked if the possibility of having combination classes would be impacted with assigned dismissals. Dr. Shaw said Administration would accommodate that by either assigning one grade to go with the other or maybe one group would leave earlier, such as currently done in K-1 combos.

Member Burns asked if there are other ways to arrange a bell schedule to get the same savings. Mr. Purvis said there are many combinations that can be implemented, such as grouping schools or regionalizing. Dr. Shaw said the next step is to investigate with our own staff to see what is feasible from the recommendations. There are things we can look at, such as if the two-tier routes could be phased in and how modified days could be structured. Mr. Purvis said the bus recommendations are separate and the optimal bell schedules are not connected to modified days.

Member Burns has reservations about a two-tier start time at schools. His concerns include parent schedules and safety with students being home alone in the mornings.

President Ryan has concerns about multiple start times for families. It is difficult for families with more than one child to have separate start times. She would prefer staggering start times by school.

Member Burns moved to accept the FCMAT report regarding Student Transportation and Optimal Bell Schedules and Administration will investigate which of the recommendations would be feasible for implementation. Any implementation would come to the Board prior to consideration.

Motion: Burns Second: El-Hajj Vote: 5-0

2.1. State Funding and Capital Improvement Program Update

ON Dec. 15, 2010 Santee School District received word that the State Allocation Board had allocated the previously unfunded \$35,096,478 due to the District, most of which was for reimbursement of work already completed in Phase I. These funds, coupled with the potential \$5.9 million General Obligation Bond sale, will allow the District to pay off the Bond Anticipation Note, modernize the three schools in Phase II (Chet F. Harritt, Hill Creek, and PRIDE Academy), construct the remaining two ball fields at Chet F. Harritt, and have approximately \$11.78 million remaining. These remaining dollars are enough to do only one 10-classroom construction at this time. Mr. Christensen presented the Board with a number of decisions they would need to make in the near future. Administration will be seeking direction from the Board about which

classroom addition to do if only one can be built at this time. Administration recommends Hill Creek be designated to receive the classroom at this time because there is a greater need with a 6-classroom shortage to be realized following their modernization, YALE preschool would like to continue using classrooms for their program, and the State grant funding is the highest for Hill Creek.

Administration will also be coming to the Board in the future with options for an opportunity to provide the benefits of modernization and current learning environments at Chet F. Harritt at a lower cost and allow to the District to complete the school without having to wait and reducing the cost by \$5 million.

Administration requested approval to move forward the modernization projects and bring the Board the Guaranteed Maximum Prices over the next several weeks in order to assure work to begin as soon as possible.

Member Ryan said she believes no action should be taken regarding Chet F. Harritt before the school community is made aware of the plans and has an opportunity for input. Dr. Shaw said Administration will return to the Board on January 18th asking the Board to consider several viable options that Administration can then take back to the community for input. Their input would be brought to the Board for consideration when a decision is requested.

Member Burns wants to look at the language in the bond before making decisions.

Member Bartholomew would not want to make a decision until the Chet F. Harritt issue was a part of the whole discussion and revisiting the components of modernization at Chet F. Harritt and PRIDE Academy.

Board members requested a workshop be scheduled to look at the modernization and construction picture as a whole. Dr. Shaw will provide background material about decisions that have been made prior to the halting of construction when the funding was frozen.

Board members approved for staff to move forward seeking the Guaranteed Maximum Prices for modernization to bring to the Board for consideration.

2.2. Approval of George Mercer Contract

Karl Christensen reported that several months ago Administration brought a water conservation plan to the Board. This contract is for landscape and architectural document preparation to submit plan to Padre Dam Water and the County of San Diego to move forward on installing split irrigation. Member Bartholomew asked if there is an estimate for water savings. Mr. Christensen said there is no saving estimate at this time. Member Burns moved to approve the agreement for landscape architectural services with George Mercer Associates Inc.

Motion: Burns Second: Bartholomew Vote: 5-0

3.1. Approval of Revised Consultant Agreements: Bridges Educational Corporation and Laura Epstein, AAC Specialist

Kristin Baranski returned with a consultant agreement previously approved by the Board because the approved amounts have been expended. The initial estimates were based on the costs from last year. Administration presented a revised agreement for autistic and mild/to moderate severe classes. This need is due to an increase in new special education teachers and the greater need of a particular student this year. Member Burns was sad to see previous consultant Deborah Plotkin leave and questioned if the District will still be realizing a savings. Mrs. Baranski said there is still a savings using Bridges and we receive a broader service level. Member Burns does not agree that the services being received are as adequate as previously received. Member Burns moved to approve the revised consultant agreements with Bridges and Laura Epstein through June 30, 2011.

Motion: Burns Second: Fox Vote: 5-0

3.2. AB 3632 County Mental Health Services: Adoption of Resolution #1011-11

Kristin Baranski provided background information on funding for AB 3632 mental health services provided to students through County Mental Health. The Governor has suspended AB 3632 which means these costs will now be the responsibility of the school districts. There is a CSBA lawsuit currently in the courts saying only the Legislature can suspend a mandate. County Mental Health (CMH) was going to discontinue services at the end of 2010. Through negotiations, CMH has agreed to provide the services through June 2011 but the fiscal responsibility will be with the districts because the funding is suspended. Then next steps are to advocate for legislative remedies, adopt Board Resolutions, and seek short term stability and long term options. Member Bartholomew is frustrated that these are the areas that were chosen to take funding from. He asked if resolutions are effective. President Ryan said not necessarily, but they make a statement of support from the Board. Dr. Shaw reported the SELPA is scheduling meetings with legislators. The Board will be meeting with legislators as well and this should be a topic.

Member Burns moved to approve Resolution #1011-11 in support of full State funding of County mental health services for children with disabilities.

Motion: Burns Second: El-Hajj Vote: 5-0

H. BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS

1. Second Reading: New BP 5118 Open Enrollment Act Transfers
There were no comments and Member El-Hajj moved to adopt new Board Policy 5118.
Motion: El-Hajj Second: Burns Vote: 5-0

I. BOARD COMMUNICATION

Dr. Shaw shared an incident at Sycamore Canyon School this afternoon. The Sheriff will investigate and a school messenger will be sent out.

Dr. Shaw reported that Stephanie Southcott, through information from a parent at her school, sent a letter to Sony requesting laptops for her school. She recently received 19 brand new laptops for her school. Administration will invite a Sony representative to a Board meeting to formally thank them.

J. CLOSED SESSION

President Ryan announced that the Board would meet in closed session for:

1. **Conference with Labor Negotiator** (Govt. Code § 54956.8)
Agency Negotiator: Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent
Employee Organizations: California School Employees Association
Purpose: Negotiations
2. **Conference with Legal Counsel-Existing Litigation**
(Subdivision (a) of Gov't Code §54956.9)
Case # 37-2009-00083936-CU-CO-CTL

The Board entered closed session at 9:05 p.m.

K. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board reconvened to public session at 9:55 p.m. No action was reported.

L. ADJOURNMENT

The January 4, 2011 regular meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.