

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

**MINUTES
August 3, 2010**

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

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order and Welcome
President Burns called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and read the District Mission Statement.

Members present:

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

Members absent:

Allen Carlisle, Clerk

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
Linda Vail, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary

2. President Burns invited Assistant Superintendent Karl Christensen 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: Ryan Second: El-Hajj Vote: 4-0

B. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Superintendent's Report

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

Dr. Shaw shared there were recently a number of articles in the *Union Tribune* on education topics. He mentioned an interesting article on Sweetwater High School District accepting corporate sponsorships. The article explains that all sponsorships will be run by the community and they will not advertise in a way that would exploit students. Another article, written by the current Superintendent in Chula Vista, was regarding the low performing schools list developed for "open enrollment."

Dr. Shaw reported that he and four principals recently attended an *Apple* Institute where they worked with a laptop, an IPAD and an IPOD Touch. The IPOD can be a very valuable educational tool and 50% of their time was spent working with educational applications for IPODs. Principals will be looking at ways to fund IPOD Touches for classroom technology learning tools. They are also a great tool for second language students. Dr. Shaw and the principals will be sharing this information with teachers.

Dr. Shaw reported that Santee will be rolling out the Cloud this month and training administrators and teachers before school begins.

Dr. Shaw reported he visited Hill Creek on Monday and the solar panels are being installed. He was able to get a good sense of the amount of shade they will be providing and is very pleased.

2. Year End Report

Dr. Shaw presented highlights of the School Program Services Year End Report for 2009-10. The Year End Report is assembled and published every year and contains very valuable information that he will be highlighting and sharing with the principals. He believes if the time is being spent to put this report together the data should be reviewed and used.

Member Bartholomew noticed that more than 500 students are coming into Santee as senior students. Families may be seeking the K-8 model. Member Ryan said it shows there is value in the K-8 model. President Burns said it would be helpful if there were two years of data to compare. Dr. Shaw will get comparison data to the Board in the next few weeks.

Dr. Shaw reported that the figures for habitual truancies are significantly different for last year. He believes that with the HINI flu, administration may not have been as diligent on attendance, however, there will be a renewed focus on student attendance this year, with Bob Kull filling the gap.

Dr. Shaw noted the yearly comparison of student suspensions. He will be talking to site administrators about the numbers and sharing ideas and thoughts on student discipline methods. Mr. Christensen calculated about \$35,000 may have been lost in out-of-school suspension days. Dr. Shaw believes there are more effective ways to deal with student behavior. President Burns believes that consistency across the district in the number of days for infractions may make a difference. Dr. Shaw also noted there were a number of drug offences last year involving multiple students with the maximum days of suspension. Member Ryan said she recently reviewed a report that indicated marijuana use is increasing everywhere.

Dr. Shaw said administration is excited to be receiving the TUPE grant with the focus of tobacco and drug use prevention for junior high kids.

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

President Burns invited members of the audience to address the Board about any item not on the agenda.

Mr. Russell Watson, from Sprotte Watson Architectural Planning, wished to address the Board and said he would be taking the time for all 3 cards submitted to address the Board.

Mr. Watson said he believes Santee School District is keeping quiet about a very serious legal issue. Former Assistant Superintendent Bill Clark told the Board that if they terminated the architect contract for convenience it would be a seamless transition. He believes that poor Board decision making has resulted in approximately 4 million dollars of avoidable expenditures over the past two years. He believes the Board is keeping these decisions from the public by discussing them in closed session.

In December 2006 the Board approved a contract with Sprotte Watson. Mr. Watson said late in 2007 the District began to withhold payments to Sprotte Watson for no reason. Sprotte Watson continued to perform its contractual duties but the District changed the scope of work often. In the summer of 2008, Sprotte Watson was informed the Santee School District was not happy with the contract. Sprotte Watson made overtures to maintain good will and to avoid litigation. Signing a new agreement so far into the contract was not a viable option. On September 2, 2008, the Board on a 3-2 Board vote, terminated the contract without notification to the firm. The District was not willing to take Sprotte Watson's financial incentives but instead went down the litigation path.

He believes the Board also decided to make a personal attack on his partner. Sprotte Watson will be seeking all administrative and legal recourses on the responsible staff when they determine who signed the complaint document.

He believes no one from the District has made an attempt to learn the facts or read depositions. For two years the Board has made threats, false accusations, and unethical personal attacks on them. Mr. Watson and Ms. Sprotte are looking forward to seeing each of the Board members in court on August 20th.

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 Burns invited comments from the public on any item listed under Consent.

- 1.1. **Approval of Minutes**
- 2.1. **Acceptance of Donations**

- 2.2. **Approval of Agreement for Student Transportation Services Agreement between San Diego County School Districts**
- 2.3. **Approval of Transportation Services Agreement with Grossmont Union High School District**
- 2.4. **Approval of Boys and Girls Club Transportation Services Agreement**
- 3.1. **Approval/Ratification to File Notice of Completion Document for the Chet F. Harritt Ball Field Project**
- 4.1. **Acceptance of Year End Report**
- 5.1. **Personnel, Regular**

It was moved and seconded to approve Consent Items.

Motion: *El-Hajj* **Second:** *Ryan* **Vote:** 4-0

F. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

President Burns invited comments from the public on any item listed under Discussion and/or Action.

1.1. Code of Ethics

Dr. Pat Shaw reported the District, as well as all public/government agencies in San Diego County, received a Grand Jury Report regarding code of ethics and fraud. The recommendations from the Grand Jury were: to adopt integrated comprehensive Codes of Ethics defining and prohibiting fraud, waste, abuse, and conflict of interest, adopt and apply internal controls compliant with "generally accepted government auditing standards and/ or "generally accepted accounting principles;" and adopt and implement fraud, waste, abuse and conflict of interest hotlines outsourced to third party providers to assure anonymity.

Dr. Shaw said internal controls are covered by Board Policy 3460 and monthly reports to the Board. The recommendation for a fraud hotline is address by the availability of the WeTIp toll free hotline for our employees.

Administration presented an Administrative Regulation (AR 4119.21, 4219.21, and 4319.21) that was developed from a template used by the County Office of Education and San Diego City Schools which addresses the concerns in the Grand Jury Report. The new Administrative Regulation was brought to the Board to review.

Member Bartholomew asked how this Grand Jury Report was initiated. Karl Christensen said this issue was prompted by issues within the City of San Diego. Dr. Shaw said a response will be sent to the Grand Jury judge showing compliance with their recommendations.

Member Ryan moved to accept Administrative Regulation 4119.21, 4219.21, and 4319.21.

Motion: *Ryan* **Second:** *El-Hajj* **Vote:** 4-0

2.1. Storm Water Management Plan Annual Report

Karl Christensen reported in February of 2003, Santee School District joined a JPA with SDCOE for Storm Water Pollution requirements. In May 2006, the Board adopted a Storm Water Management Plan which requires an annual report to the Board. This report shows the District has made substantial progress in implementing the Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP). The progress includes: education of students and staff; identification of drainage inlets; elimination of non-storm water discharges; improvement of construction site controls; maintaining quarterly water records; working with the City of Santee on outfall maps; and adding language to future architect and construction contracts, facility use agreements and leases, and applicable purchase orders. The next steps will focus on policy amendments as needed. The annual report was presented for acceptance.

Member Ryan moved to accept the Storm Water Management Plan Annual Report.

Motion: *Ryan* **Second:** *El-hajj* **Vote:** 4-0

G. BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS

- 1.1. **First Reading: Board Policies Series 5000 and 6000 (With noted exceptions)**

Board Policies Series 5000 and 6000 were presented to the Board for a first reading. No action was taken and they will return for a second reading.

1.2. First Reading: New Board Policy 4319.21 Professional Standards (Management Employees)

New Board Policy 4319.21 was presented to the Board for a first reading. No action was taken and the policy will return for a second reading.

2.1. Second Reading: New Board Policy #3600 – Consultants

New Board Policy 3600 Consultants was presented to the Board in a second reading and recommended for adoption. Member El-Hajj moved to adopt new Board Policy 3600.

Motion: *El-Hajj*

Second: *Ryan*

Vote: *4-0*

H. BOARD COMMUNICATION

President Burns asked about the left turn in the front of Rio Seco being blocked off. Mr. Christensen said the City engineers decided to move the traffic off Cuyamaca as there was major congestion converging into the driveway at Rio Seco. This will be re-evaluated since the construction work at the ball fields and park has been completed. It may be a permanent solution because it creates an unsafe traffic flow and additional options are available for parents: the light at the new intersection for U-turns and the driveway at the entrance to the ball fields near the pedestrian bridge.

Member Ryan spoke with Flu Busters, a company that organizes seasonal flu shot clinics. They have a minimum required (70) to participate. Agencies may be offering pertussis because of the epidemic. It is recommended that persons between the ages of 7 to 64 get a booster. The focus right now is vaccinating families as they take newborns home from the hospital. Flu Busters would be appropriate to use. Kristin Baranski will investigate the possibility and if there would be enough interest.

I. CLOSED SESSION

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

- 1. 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 8:08 p.m.

J. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board reconvened to public session at 9:15 p.m. No action was reported.

K. ADJOURNMENT

The August 3, 2010 regular meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Allen Carlisle, Clerk

Dr. Patrick Shaw, Secretary