

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

May 1, 2012  
**MINUTES**

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

Prior to the regularly scheduled Board meeting, the Board met with Principals for a discussion, mostly centered on the challenges facing school districts due to budget reductions and deferrals by the State of California.

**A. OPENING PROCEDURES**

1. Call to Order and Welcome  
President Bartholomew called the regular meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and read the District Mission Statement.  
Members present:  
    Dan Bartholomew, President  
    Dianne El-Hajj, Vice President  
    Ken Fox, Clerk  
    Dustin Burns, Member  
    Barbara Ryan, 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 Bartholomew invited the audience to recite the District Mission and then invited Aaron Peterson, a 4<sup>th</sup> grade student from Sycamore Canyon 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: Ryan Second El-Hajj Vote: 5-0**  
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**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. **Student Spotlight – Sycamore Canyon School: A Celebration of Writing**  
Sycamore Canyon Principal, Debra Simpson, shared that Sycamore Canyon students are excited about writing and students came to share some of their terrific stories with the Board. Three students read stories they wrote:  
    Aliha Leholm, 6<sup>th</sup> grade: *Arntia the Hidden World*  
    Jacob Joralemon, 4<sup>th</sup> grade: *San Diego Beaches*  
    Joseph Roman, 1<sup>st</sup> grade: *George Washington's Visit to Room 3*  
The Board was very impressed with their writing skills and also complimented their outstanding penmanship.
  
3. **Student Spotlight – Rio Seco School: Choir Enrichment Rotation Class**

Rio Seco Principal, Lisa McColl, reported how proud she is of the 5th grade program and the teaming rotation provided by the teachers. The rotation includes music, art, poetry, history, and athletics. She believes there is great value in these opportunities. Mrs. McColl introduced Allicen Ostash, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher who teaches the choir rotation class. Mrs. Ostash presented her class singing two songs from the Broadway musicals *Hairspray* and *Grease*. The Board loved the performance.

#### **4. Report from the Budget Advisory Committee**

Karl Christensen reported the Budget Advisory Committee meets once each month with the task of formulating lists of budget considerations to present to the Board. Mr. Christensen introduced parent members of the BAC, Jody Flannigan and Ann Petta, who presented the committee's report to the Board.

Ms. Flannigan and Ms. Petta shared the BAC consists of parents, community members, and district staff. This year the committee expanded its scope to provide the Board with 3 lists of recommendations: revenue enhancements, perspectives on service and functions, and programs to be reserved, restored and/or expanded in the future as funds become available. The committee hopes this information will also assist the Board in their strategic planning. The list of recommendations was weighted by combining the scores given by each committee member. The list will be filed with the minutes. Ms. Flannigan and Ms. Petta thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve and be a part of the District budget process.

President Bartholomew asked the committee members what the thinking was including what to preserve and/or expand, as this is an addition to past committee recommendations. They shared the committee wanted to look at the budget as a tool to providing the best possible future for the education of our children. Member Burns said the report shows that someone on the committee could not support "quality of instruction" and he wondered why that would be. Mr. Christensen said it needs to be confirmed because it is odd that someone would not support quality instruction. He will check on it as it may be a misunderstanding of the scoring process. President Bartholomew thanked the parents for serving on the committee and presenting the information.

#### **5. Report on Educationally Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS) for 2012-2013**

Hope Michel provided an update on ERMHS for the 2012-13 school year. On March 1 the East County Directors and the SELPA met with 7 Non-Public Agencies (NPA) to hear information regarding their services and costs. The Directors clearly identified Vista Hill as a NPA to begin conversations with regarding outpatient mental health services. Vista Hill has a long history of providing school based mental health services. At this time, Santee School District does not have any students requiring outpatient services. Should we require them in the future, there are several options available. We can contract directly with Vista Hill, purchase staff full time equivalents (FTE's), or work collaboratively with another district who is already purchasing staff FTE's. At the March 6, 2012 meeting, the Board voted to continue using Cajon Valley District services for day treatment/day rehabilitation options. In June, administration plans to bring their final recommendations and any necessary ERMHS contracts to the Board for approval.

Member Burns confirmed that outpatient services would be delivered at the schools sites. Ms. Michel said they are working to provide all outpatients services at school sites as they believe it is in the best interest of the students. Member Ryan thanked Ms. Michel for taking the time to go over this information with her prior to the meeting. Mrs. Ryan wished to caution staff that in some instances agencies may only use interns to provide the services on the school campuses. Mrs. Ryan wants to make certain that is not the case if Santee School District uses their services. Ms. Michel said this concern was duly noted, and at the March SELPA meeting she advised Vista Hill should Santee School District require services, we would require licensed clinicians.

#### **C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**

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

#### **D. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**1.1. Santee School District Board of Education's Initial Proposal to Modify Articles of the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between Santee School District and Santee Teachers Association's (STA)**

President Bartholomew opened the public hearing on the Santee School District Board of Education's initial proposal to modify articles of the collective bargaining agreement between Santee School District and Santee Teachers Association. There were no comments. The hearing was closed.

**1.2. Santee Teachers Association's (STA) Initial Proposal to Modify Articles of the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between Santee School District and STA**

President Bartholomew opened the public hearing on the Santee Teachers Association initial proposal to modify articles of the collective bargaining agreement between Santee School District and Santee Teachers Association. There were no comments. The hearing was closed.

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

- 1.1. **Approval of Minutes**
- 1.2. **Adoption of Revised Santee School District Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Core Belief Statements, and Goals**
- 2.1. **Approval/Ratification of Travel Requests**
- 2.2. **Approval/Ratification of Revolving Cash Report**
- 2.3. **Acceptance of Donations**
- 2.4. **Adoption of Resolution #1112-22 Requesting Temporary Transfer of Funds**
- 2.5. **Approval of Interdistrict Attendance Agreements**
- 2.6. **Adoption of Resolutions Authorizing Specific Designated Agents**
- 2.7. **Approval of Amendment #4 to Agreement with City of Santee For Cooperative Facilities Utilization**
- 2.8. **Acceptance of Child Nutrition Services Roofing Project and Authorization to File Notice of Completion Document**
- 3.1. **Finalization of Costs for Consultants Pertaining to Dispute Resolution for State Grant for Hill Creek Addition Project**
- 3.2. **Approval of Retention Reduction for Hill Creek Addition Project**
- 4.1. **Personnel, Regular**
- 4.2. **Approval of Short-Term Positions**
- 4.3. **Approval of Shared Classroom Teaching Assignments for 2012-2013**

Member Ryan confirmed with Mrs. Malin that the teachers with shared contracts receive 50% benefits. Mrs. Malin said yes, all teachers on new shared contracts receive prorated benefits. Member El-Hajj moved and seconded to approve Consent Items.

**Motion: El-Hajj Second Burns Vote: 5-0**  
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**F. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS**

**1.1. Quail Brush Power Plant Project**

President Bartholomew recognized members of the audience who submitted Request to Speak Cards: Eid Fakhouri, Santee resident: Mr. Fakhouri provided information regarding the impact of the Quail Brush Power Plant on the community of Santee and Santee property values. He presented a study on the effect of power plants on property values. Mr. Fakhouri requested the Board to consider their fiscal responsibility to the community of Santee and a healthy environment for the children.

Dr. Kurtz: San Diego resident: Dr. Kurtz spoke about the emissions and noise levels the proposed power plant would create from the use of natural gas fired engines. The engines are similar to what is used on large ships. This type of plant, an intermediate peaker plant, has frequent engine stops and starts which cause extra emissions that are not accounted for in the emissions levels reports included on the application. To counteract the emissions, ammonia is injected into the exhaust. The dosage of ammonia is critical and too much causes it to be released into the environment. Maintenance of the engines is very important and as the engines get older they create more exhaust. This type of engine runs relatively

slow, 700-750 rpm, with noise at a low frequency. There is no information in the applications about frequency of noise. He concluded, reporting significant concerns about the technology for this power plant, including increases in emissions and a possible significant problem with noise.

Steven Houlahan, Santee resident and Registered Nurse: Mr. Houlahan has been a resident of Santee over 30 years. He shared with the Board his concerns about the health for children and that it is his passion. He reported the power plant has the potential of emitting at least 56.5 tons of emissions. Not included by the power plant is also 484.9 tons of carbon dioxide that will be emitted. This is a total of 689.74 tons of emissions annually, with the power plant working at 43% capacity. The actual amount will probably be more since these engines will start and stop more frequently. There is also no estimate of how much nitrogen oxide would be emitted. Nitrogen oxide increases allergies and respiratory illnesses, and according to documented journals, air pollution harms children's lungs for life.

Mr. Houlahan urged the Board to adopt a resolution opposing the Quail Brush Project and do what they can to stop this from happening in our community. Mr. Houlahan said he believed Grossmont Union High School District passed a resolution.

Sonja Ramos, Santee resident: Mrs. Ramos expressed her concerns about the recent application to build a power plant outside the city limits. She is concerned about the health and safety of our children and our community if this project is approved by the California Energy Commission. Mrs. Ramos requested the Board to send home flyers with the students and submit a resolution formally opposing the Quail Brush Power Plant to the California Energy Commission.

William Dudley, resident of Santee and parent of students at Chet F. Harritt School: Mr. Dudley urged the Board to coordinate with the Grossmont High School District facilities director, Bob Keesley, in their efforts to get information and formulate their opposition to the proposed power plant. He is concerned about the impact on Santee property values and how a power plant might negatively impact our community.

By invitation of the Board, Lori Ziebart, project manager for the Quail Brush Power Plant, presented information regarding the proposed 100 megawatt natural gas peaker plant. The plant would be located on 10 acres of land off Mast Blvd., just west of the Sycamore Canyon Landfill. This site was chosen because it is close to natural gas and transmission lines. The purpose of the plant will be to provide power to SDG&E and activity will be limited to specific hours that it can run. By law, they will be continuously monitoring emissions. The company is taking community concerns very seriously and making changes based on their concerns. The original plan had 11 stacks, 100' high each. They are currently working to reduce visual impact after hearing that this was a major concern of the community. Cogentrix recently requested a 60-day extension for consideration of their application for some of these changes. Their contract with SDG&E and permit will limit their operation to 43%. Ms. Ziebart urged the Board to continue to seek information and get all of their questions addressed.

Member Ryan asked to see some renderings. Ms. Ziebart said they initially provided very rough renderings which caused great concern. They have hired an architect to create more realistic renderings. That is one of the reasons for the delay. Board members would be interested in seeing renderings from the vantage points at Carlton Oaks and Sycamore Canyon Schools, as well as the Camp Elliot property which is nearby. Member Burns asked about the other peaker plants in the County and if there were any in closer proximity to a school than they are proposing. He would be interested in a map showing more details of the current peaker plant locations and their proximity to schools. Ms. Ziebart said the Encino plant is in the proximity of five schools less than 2 miles away. In Escondido, there are 11 schools within 2.5 miles. The new Palomar Medical Center is less than ½ mile from a plant. Mr. Burns would be interested to see if there is any impact to their schools and asked for information from those school districts. If he is provided the names of the schools, he may contact the schools for information on any impacts as well.

Member Ryan would be interested in seeing where the peaker plant between Hwys 125 and 52 is located. Member Fox asked if there are studies available about property values and fleeing residents. Ms. Ziebart

is unaware of any. Member El-Hajj would like to know if the sizes of the existing peaker plants around the county and indicated on the map are similar to what they are planning. Member Fox asked if the power plant would provide direct benefit to our community. Ms. Ziebart is not certain if the power created would go directly to Santee citizens, but said the community may benefit through school fees and property taxes. She is not certain and is still checking on this.

Member El-Hajj thanked Ms. Ziebart and the community members for coming. It was really helpful to be able to hear both sides of the issue without an overflow of emotion.

President Bartholomew asked when the CEC would publish the preliminary staff assessment. Ms. Ziebart said around the end of July but that may be extended now because they need to provide additional information. She expects the preliminary staff assessment to be available in late summer or early fall.

President Bartholomew asked if Cogentrix has been involved with other peaker plants. Ms. Ziebart said yes, they have built two in Colorado that are slightly larger in size. President Bartholomew said the potential health risks associated with the emissions are very important and asked Ms. Ziebart to address this concern. Ms. Ziebart said data is provided based on their modeling and the emission levels would be in compliance with the State. The CEC is looking at the emissions levels and must approve the project.

The Board summarized the information they would like to receive:

- Renderings with a sense of scale and line of sight
- Information about schools in similar proximity to a plant of this type
- Sizes of existing peaker plants around the County (shown on the map provided)

President Bartholomew said the Board appreciated everyone for coming and for their time to bring the Board to a level of understanding. He has specific personal concerns and it is a very hot issue in our community. There was no further discussion and no action taken by the Board.

## **2.1. Approval of Monthly Financial Report**

Mr. Christensen reported an ending cash balance of \$1,407,468 as of March 31, slightly higher than projected. We received \$4.4 million in proceeds this month from our County Treasury loan which was needed to bridge a projected short term cash deficit into July. We continue to show a projected deficit of approximately \$2.3 million for the Unrestricted General Fund and \$16,000 for the Restricted General Fund, which will drop our reserve to a little less than 20%. If the ballot initiatives fail and the \$455/ADA proposed mid-year trigger is pulled, our reserve would drop to 13.5% for 2012-13 and then to slightly higher than the minimum 3% required in 2013-14. Member Ryan moved to approve the Monthly Financial Report for March 2012.

**Motion:** Ryan                      **Second** El-Hajj                      **Vote:** 5-0  
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## **2.2. Approval of Addendum to Agreement with School Innovations & Advocacy for Mandated Cost Services for Site Services**

Mr. Christensen reported School Innovations & Advocacy currently provides services related to accumulation and reporting of mandated cost claims. Although we are not currently receiving funding for this program, it is important that we continue to file claims as this represents a debt of the State that must eventually be paid. For the 2009-10 fiscal year, we claimed \$87,000, which dropped for 2010-11 to \$34,000.

Ordinarily, we would expect to see an approximate 50/50 split between claims for the District Office and those for schools. For 2010-11, the split was 94% DO and 6% sites. Administration would like to provide the sites with more personalized service for submitting reimbursement claims which will help to increase the amount of claims submitted. SI&A offers SiteServ, which involves a consultant personally meeting with each individual at a school site submitting claims to assist with accumulating data for the claim at a cost of an additional \$6,750 per year above the current cost of \$11,000. This cost is also fully reimbursable from the State.

Member El-Hajj asked if spending this additional money will ever pay off. Mr. Christensen said in 2006 the District received about \$1 million so we are hopeful that these costs will be paid to districts in the future.

Member Ryan moved to approve the addendum to Agreement with School Innovations & Advocacy for Mandated Cost Services to incorporate SiteServ<sup>SM</sup> Services for 2011-12 and 2012-13.

**Motion: Ryan Second Burns Vote: 5-0**  
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### **3.1. Update on Castlerock Project and Methods to Mitigate School Impacts**

Mr. Christensen provided an update on the Castlerock home development project, sharing their plan for 421 single family detached homes. They are currently seeking annexation into the City of Santee. According to their timeline, models will open in July 2014 and production will begin in December 2014. The project is currently in the Carlton Oaks attendance area, and based on the school facilities need assessment, the student generation rate is ½ student per home (191 students). Based on current utilization, Carlton Oaks would be short two classrooms. There are various methods for school impact mitigation, which include, developer fees (\$1.7 million), negotiated school fees assessment, or community facilities district (CFD). A CFD is governed by the Mello-Roos Act of 1982 and allows a special tax on property within specified boundaries to fund public facilities and services. Mr. Christensen provided the Board a summary sheet with the advantages and disadvantages of each of these options. A CFD can provide revenue for the long term; however, there is risk of bond default. The advantage to a builder is they transfer the school fees to the homeowner, often lowering the price of the home to compensate.

Member Burns said the Board would need to determine what school students living in that development would attend as their school of residence. If students attended Sycamore Canyon, the library resource center could be funded from those fees. Mr. Christensen said he believes CFD should be explored and the Board supported continued exploration into this method of school impact mitigation. Member Burns asked Administration to return to the Board as the development of Castlerock draws nearer to determine where students from this development would go to school. No action was taken.

### **3.2. Submission of Modernization Grants for Relocatable Classrooms at Pepper Drive, Cajon Park, Hill Creek and Rio Seco and Approval of Architectural Services**

Mr. Christensen reported there is an opportunity to obtain additional sources of funding for relocatable classrooms at various sites. This grant would be reimbursement to the District for work already completed and provide funding for Rio Seco work on the portables that is necessary in order to be able to close out the Phase 1 Rio Seco modernization project with DSA. Funding could help to offset costs for the possible YALE preschool expansion at the old Cajon Park junior high and provide Pepper Drive some benefit to include with CIP funds. These State Grants now allow inclusion of funding for green initiatives such as solar. Therefore, we would include this component in each of these applications. Applying for these grants does require some architectural design work estimated at \$46k, of which \$25k is already available through the open PO with Webb Cleff that was approved several months ago. Administration seeks approval to continue with design work for this possible funding through Webb-Cleff Architecture.

Member Ryan moved to authorize submission of applications for State Modernization Grants for relocatable classrooms at Pepper Drive, Cajon Park, Hill Creek, and Rio Seco schools and approve architectural contract services with Webb Cleff Architect & Engineering, Inc.

**Motion: Ryan Second Burns Vote: 5-0**  
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### **3.3. Hill Creek New Addition Fencing**

Dr. Shaw reported that with modernization we have installed ornamental iron fencing in the front of the schools. Pursuant to the current design, the fencing installed in front of the new Hill Creek addition is chain link. Because of the proximity of the new Hill Creek building and the highly visible school frontage, he believed it would be good to discuss the option of upgrading the fencing in front of the building to ornamental iron fencing. If the Board desired to do this, the new fencing could be installed during the summer. At this time we can get a good price on the ornamental iron fencing through a piggy-back bid with Chula Vista. The run of 265' with 2 gates would not exceed \$15,000.

Member Fox asked about gates and if they would be locked. Christina Becker said yes, they would be locked just like all perimeter gates are locked during the school day. The school would determine ingress and egress.

Member Burns asked if the gates would have panic bars or locks. Ms. Becker said she would prefer locks but will need to see what the Fire Marshal requires. Member Burns asked if the fence being removed can be re-used. Ms. Becker assured him that it would be re-used. Member El-Hajj moved to replace the current fencing in front of the new Hill Creek 10-classroom building as described in the item.

**Motion: El-Hajj                      Second Fox                      Vote: 5-0**  
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#### **4.1. Dual Immersion Program**

Kristin Baranski reported that Administration came to the last Board meeting with information to propose considerations to implement a dual immersion program. The Board took no action. Member El-Hajj said she asked to bring this item back because she felt another discussion was needed. She believes there may be support for a dual immersion program if it is done in the appropriate way. She wished to have a discussion with the Board to re-examine the option and see what the concerns of the Board are and if they can be addressed over time. The following is a list of items the Board seeks more information or analysis on and areas of concern that need to be addressed:

- A financial analysis/projection of what the program would look like at one or more schools, showing potential growth,
- The financial commitment for 1 class or 1 group of students moving through the grades,
- A financial analysis of 1 class versus 2 classes, showing any savings by having 2 classes (over a 5-year period),
- How the attrition of participating students would be addressed,
- The cost analysis for the model proposed with 2 classes,
- A proposed plan if the program needed to grow,
- Information from Chula Vista about how they implemented the program and expanded their program,
- Board members visits planned to observe an existing program,
- Investigate best practice programs and language programs that offer a greater number of students opportunities to be exposed to another language,
- Alignment with the Strategic Plan,
- Analysis of the expense of a dual immersion program versus a program where all students have exposure to another language,
- Analysis of the academic benefit if the funds were used to offer foreign language opportunities to all students,
- Analysis of the financial portion, facilities portion, educational portion, and political (policies): How they are intertwined in some ways and not in others,
- Rationale of starting program in grade K rather than 1<sup>st</sup> grade,
- Analysis of what we can learn from the Lakeside program: how the program grew and displaced staff. What does it look like when it grows? Could we develop a formula for a program like this?,
- A plan on how we would fill open spots or new classes (i.e., lottery),
- Policies addressing the program should be in place first,
- What does it mean if the current principal were to leave and what would be looked for in replacing the principal,
- A plan showing how teachers would be impacted and the ripple effect,
- A plan to mitigate a large number of students leaving a particular school or having too many student desiring to participate, and
- A plan to preserve the neighborhood schools and at what point do we stop adding to a school.

Moving forward it is important to remember the Board's philosophy to provide choice of schools to parents. Board members would like to have the opportunity to visit current programs in other districts. As Administration continues to provide information to the Board, the timeline should include a final decision about implementation in the 2013-14 school year be made by April 1, 2013 in order to adequately prepare and inform families.



**J. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION**

The Board reconvened to public session at 11:45 p.m. No action was reported.

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

The May 1, 2012 regular meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m.