

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

March 4, 2014  
**MINUTES**

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

**A. OPEN SESSION – CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 p.m.**

President Fox called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**1. Public Communication on Closed Session Items**

There were no public comments.

**B. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

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

**1. Conference with Labor Negotiator (Govt. Code § 54956.8)**

*Agency Negotiators: Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent and  
Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent*

*Employee Organizations: Santee Teachers Association*

**2. Conference with Labor Negotiator (Govt. Code § 54956.8)**

*Purpose: Negotiations*

*Agency Negotiators: Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent and  
Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent*

*Employee Organization: Classified School Employees Association*

**3. Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation (Govt. Code § 54956.9(c))**

*Special Education Dispute, Student v. Santee School District,  
OAH Case No. 2014020009*

**4. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Govt. Code § 54957)**

*Superintendent*

The Board entered Closed Session at 6:04 p.m. reserving the right to reconvene to closed session at the end of the open session if closed session matters had not been completed prior to the convening of the open session meeting.

**OPENING PROCEDURES**

**1. Call to Order and Welcome**

President Fox reconvened the meeting to Open Session at 7:00 p.m.

Members present:

Ken Fox, President

Dustin Burns, Vice President

Barbara Ryan, Clerk

Elana Levens-Craig, Member

Dianne El-Hajj, Member

Administration present:

Dr. Cathy Pierce, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board

Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources/Pupil Services

Dr. Stephanie Pierce, Director, Educational Services

Linda Vail, Recording Secretary

**2. President Fox invited the audience to recite the District Mission and then invited Member El-Hajj to lead the members, staff, and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

President Fox reported the Board would be adjourning the March 4, 2014 meeting in memory of Jackie Billings, a former Santee School District employee and outstanding Santee community member who lost her life very unexpectedly on February 17, 2014.

Member Levens-Craig shared Jackie was a friend to everyone. Jackie was well-known as the lady behind the counter at the Starbucks at Magnolia and Mast. People say that when you were with Jackie, she always made you feel that you were the most important person in the world.

Jackie worked in Santee School District from 1996 to 2001. She always had a smile and would go out of her way to help as needed. Jackie, and her twin sister Julie, have been stalwart volunteers for Santee City events for many years. Jackie also worked as a volunteer for activities and events for Santana High School. Jackie's three children attended Santee School District and her daughter Krista now works for the YALE preschool program.

Jackie's passing will leave a deep hole in the entire Santee Community and the Board extended their deepest sympathy to Jackie's family and her many friends. President Fox presented the Billings family with a certificate recognizing the adjournment in Jackie's memory.

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda.

**Motion:** *El-Hajj*  
**Second** *Ryan*  
**Vote:** *5-0*

*Fox* *Aye*  
*Burns* *Aye*  
*Ryan* *Aye*

*Levens-Craig* *Aye*  
*El-Hajj* *Aye*

## **B. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

President Fox reported that in closed session, the Board reviewed a due process complaint filed by a parent with the Office of Administrative Hearings (OHA) due to a dispute regarding a student's special education placement. On a motion by Member El-Hajj and a second by Member Ryan, the Board voted to approve a settlement agreement reached by the parties in OAH Case No 2014020009 resolving all issues in dispute. The agreement was approved with a vote of 5-0, all Board members voting Aye.

### **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. Recognition of Arts Attack Coordinators**

Superintendent Pierce reported last Thursday evening the community came together for a wonderful exhibit of children's art and the annual Foundation Art Show and Auction. It was a great event and could not have come together without the commitment and work from the school Arts Attack Coordinators. Dr. Pierce introduced the Arts Attack Coordinator from each school and President Fox presented each with a certificate of appreciation from the Board.

Member Levens-Craig said this was her first time experiencing the Art Show and she was impressed. It was reported that there were over 600 people in attendance and over \$5,500 was raised for the Foundation, who will in turn donate those funds to support the Arts Attack program at schools.

### **3. Spotlight on Education: Pepper Drive School Presentation**

Pepper Drive Principal, Debbie Brenner, shared a video showing 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning in classrooms and the wonderful traditions that take place each year at the school.

## **C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**

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

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **1. Proposed Increase to Level 1 Developer Fees**

President Fox opened a public hearing for a proposed increase to Level 1 Developer Fees. There were no comments from the public. The hearing was closed.

## **D. CONSENT ITEMS**

- 1.1. Approval of Minutes
- 1.2. Adoption of Resolution No. 1314-22 Declaring March 2014 as Arts Education Month in Santee School District
- 2.1. Approval/Ratification of Travel Requests
- 2.2. Approval/Ratification of Revolving Cash Report
- 2.3. Acceptance of Donations

- 2.4. Approval/Ratification of Expenditure Transactions Charged to District Issued Purchasing Cards (P-Cards)
- 2.5. Approval of Consultants and General Service Providers
- 2.6. Adoption of Resolution #1314-19 Increasing Level 1 Fees on Development Projects
- 3.1. Approval of Nonpublic Agency Master Contract with Soliant Health for Speech Therapy
- 3.2. Approval of Nonpublic School Master Contract with Excelsior Academy for Nonpublic School Services
- 4.1. Personnel, Regular
- 4.2. Approval of New Principal Job Description
- 4.3. Adoption of Resolution No. 1314-20 for Restoration / Reduction of Work Hours for Identified Classified Non-Management Positions
- 4.4. Adoption of Resolution No. 1314-21 for Non-Reelection of Temporary Certificated Employees

It was moved and seconded to approve Consent Items.

*Motion:* Burns  
*Second* Ryan  
*Vote:* 5-0

*Fox* Aye  
*Burns* Aye  
*Ryan* Aye

*Levens-Craig* Aye  
*El-Hajj* Aye

## G. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

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

### 1.1. Leading the Learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Superintendent Pierce presented information to the Board of Education about the District's ongoing transition and implementation of Common Core State Standards and Smarter Balanced Assessment. Three presentations were provided:

- **Special Education**

Hope Michel showcased learning in the special education classrooms. She reported teachers have been working diligently to modify their curriculum to increase the rigor and meet the challenges of Common Core. Digital learning tools such as iPads and Smart Boards have help mitigate many needs of students with disabilities.

Special Day Class teacher Alexa Harper implemented BYOD in January. She was excited about the support and willingness of the parents to provide devices for their children. She shared how a student's writing ability was increased using technology tools. Ms. Harper thanked the Board for the professional development opportunities and said that is where she got many ideas on ways to get her students to the next level.

Special Day Class teacher Stephen Whittaker shared how he uses a Smart Board in his classroom to help students read for comprehensive and to help students better respond to prompts. Mr. Whittaker said there is a great significant that technology has in bridging the gap and these tools help students to socialize on an academic level and get their thoughts out.

Special Day Class teacher Carrie Chadwick thanked the Board for the innovation grant money for their classroom Smart Board. She was selected as NBC's Inspirational Teacher of the Month in San Diego County for January 2014. A NBC taped video was presented demonstrating how hard the students work to learn and the need to challenge her students to think differently.

All three teachers asked the Board to remember the Special Day Class students as they allocate money for digital learning and technology classroom tools to help teachers bridge the gap.

Mrs. Beaver, parent of a Special Day Class student, said the things the teachers are doing in classrooms are amazing. She said the money spent on technology for special education students and for the professional developments needed for teachers is having amazing results.

Hope Michel thanked the Board for the opportunity to highlight their special education program. The Board thought the presentation was great and enjoyed having the two students, Corey Beaver and Carson Warrent at the meeting.

- **Chet F. Harritt – STEAM School**

Principal Andy Johnston, Vice Principal Dan Prouty, and many Chet F. Harritt teachers, provided a presentation sharing the direction that the students and staff at Chet F. Harritt are interesting in moving as an opportunity to refresh and reinvent the programs at Chet. F. Harritt School. Their intent is to provide a world class STEAM education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math). They believe it will provide an outstanding 21<sup>st</sup> Century educational opportunity for their students as well as attract other students to Chet F. Harritt.

They are developing a partnership with UC Berkley and hoping to bring an agreement soon to the Board that outlines a partnership with the Navy for volunteer opportunities. A Parent Information Night was held with over 180 parents in attendance. A survey on the school website indicated a great deal of support and positive feedback for the program.

The school faculty has dedicated their time and commitment, taking steps to move forward as a STEAM School: 12 have committed to a 3-year training under a grant that has been secured; 8 faculty members this year have engaged in a yearlong study of Science Note; Mr. Johnston and Mr. Prouty have been involved in the San Diego County's work group to establish a STEAM Quality Criteria Instrument; Faculty members have attended SDCOE trainings on the Next Generation Science Standards; Faculty members are volunteering the time to provide many afterschool enrichment activities free of charge to students; the k-1 faculty has been providing "STEAM Rotations" that provide amazing learning experiences; middle school faculty have implemented and piloted Science Curricula for iPads; and the 7<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade faculty members continue to provide collaboration with their Science Buddy Program. All faculty members currently serve on one of the STEAM committees that are guiding the path, which includes Core Curriculum, Enrichment, Technology, Marketing, and Grant Writing.

Mr. Johnston presented the vision developed by the staff and a proposed time line for implementation. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to share their STEAM dream.

Member El-Hajj said the approach is impressive and comprehensive and will develop into a quality program. She is pleased to see the parent community is excited as well and that so many people are involved in the program.

Member Levens-Craig congratulated Mr. Johnston on being nominated for a San Diego Science Alliance Partnership Award. She is excited to see our District working in conjunction with the County Office and as a big advocate of STEAM, she supports their direction.

Member Burns said he appreciates Mr. Johnston and the staff bringing the community and parents into the development of the program. It is a very important piece of the vision and will strengthen the process.

- **Digital Learning**

Laura Spencer shared with Common Core, technology is embedded everywhere. She reported on the process developed for teachers toward implementing digital learning for students. Administration implemented an advisory committee consisting of three teachers per school who are eager to embrace technology, looking for ways to make learning relevant, and respected by their peers. After each advisory committee meeting, these teachers went back to their schools and shared. The teachers looked at the standards for technology in learning and developed a vision for the committee.

Teachers on the advisory committee participated in exploring a variety of devices including an iPad, a Windows tablet, an android tablet, and a Chromebook. Teachers used the devices to complete a task and do a presentation.

Dr. Spencer reported professional development is extremely important on how to use the device and how to use it in learning. They focused on both the tool and the learning, technology embedded in Common Core, professional development, online and face-to-face opportunities, and personalization to meet grade level and teacher readiness needs. K-5 teachers preferred the iPad for students and grade 6-8 teachers preferred the Windows tablet, but the iPad followed very closely in preference.

Parents are an important part of the process. Plans are being made to provide a parent digital learning institute and a student learning showcase for parents and students to get excited and get information about the digital learning. Yesterday, a Digital Learning Town Hall was held, sharing the vision to purchase devices for all teachers if the initiative is approved. Dr. Spencer shared a proposed

implementation cycle. She said additional updates and items for digital learning will come for Board consideration at future meetings.

Member El-Hajj asked if there were any concerns that the Board should know about. Dr. Spencer said the only concerns were about financial constraints to move forward and assuring special education teachers and students are included. Member El-Hajj said she is most nervous about the infrastructure being adequate to accommodate the needs.

### 2.1. Update on Transportation and Emergency Radio System

Karl Christensen shared that several months ago he presented to the Board about the need to make a decision about buying into the infrastructure of the new emergency radio system. Since then a couple of items have changed. He presented a document that included information about current radio inventory. He said that he has become aware of a third option, which is to do nothing at this time. He has been informed that we can remain as partner on the current agreement until March of 2016. However, there may be a need to increase their monthly operating cost. Cajon Valley and Grossmont are preparing to put a bid out seeking an alternative.

Mr. Christensen said his recommendation at this time is to stay on as a partner under the current agreement and in the fall of 2015 other options can be explored. Member El-Hajj asked about the reliability of our current radios. Mr. Christensen said they are old but they are repairable and with the few extra we have, we should be able to use the current radios and system through the fall of 2015. The Board did not take action but agreed with Mr. Christensen's recommendation to keep the District on as a partner under the current agreement.

### 2.2. Approval of Second Period Interim Report

Karl Christensen highlighted several portions of the second interim report through a snapshot of all funds. There was a \$3,098 contribution from the general fund to the child Development Fund that was needed to offset the employee raises in compensation for 2013-14. Plans continue to be developed for spending down the fund balance in Cafeteria Fund. Fund 40, the solar project, continues to accumulate energy savings. Fund 63, Yale and Project Safe, continues to make good progress in keeping expenses down and projects a small surplus after they return borrowed funds. Member Burns asked how the Project SAFE budget will look when the 4% salary increase goes into effect in July. Mr. Christensen will continue to monitor the budget closely and said the new alternative social security program will also help save money. Mr. Christensen said the Governor's proposal shows about a 9% increase in revenue which will continue to offset some of the deficit spending.

Member Burns moved to approve a positive certification for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Interim Report regarding the District's ability to meet its financial obligations for the 2013-14 fiscal year and two subsequent fiscal years

<i>Motion:</i>	<b>Burns</b>	<b>Fox</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>	<b>Levens-Craig</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>
<i>Second</i>	<b>Ryan</b>	<b>Burns</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>	<b>El-Hajj</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<b>5-0</b>	<b>Ryan</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>		

### 2.3. Approval of Monthly Financial Report

Member Burns moved to approve the Monthly Financial Report.

<i>Motion:</i>	<b>Burns</b>	<b>Fox</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>	<b>Levens-Craig</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>
<i>Second</i>	<b>Ryan</b>	<b>Burns</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>	<b>El-Hajj</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<b>5-0</b>	<b>Ryan</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>		

### 2.4. Common Core One-Time Funding Expenditure Plan

This information was provided to the Board at the last meeting for review. Mr. Christensen requested Board approval. Member Ryan moved to approve the Common Core One-Time Funds Expenditure Plan.

<i>Motion:</i>	<b>Ryan</b>	<b>Fox</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>	<b>Levens-Craig</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>
<i>Second</i>	<b>Burns</b>	<b>Burns</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>	<b>El-Hajj</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<b>5-0</b>	<b>Ryan</b>	<u><b>Aye</b></u>		

## H. BOARD COMMUNICATION

The Board provided discussion topics for the Principals meeting with the Board on March 18<sup>th</sup>: Common Core implementation, Digital Learning (One-to-one), and SBAC. The Board would like to hear about the challenges and successes during the transition.

Superintendent Pierce led a discussion about content for the next issue of the Santee Magazine. The content should focus on 21<sup>st</sup> century learning and include information about, Innovation Grants, Arts Attack and the Art Show, and STEAM schools.

Superintendent Pierce reported a Digital Learning visit to San Marcos has been scheduled for Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 a.m.

Member Burns mentioned he had seen a great iPad case being used at Terra Bonita. It has been so effective they are considering doing away with the insurance. He also mentioned the County has reported seeing an increase in lice because of the trend of "selfies."

Member Ryan reported on the scheduled visit with Joel Anderson. Sen. Anderson was late so Member Levens-Craig and Dr. Pierce presented the legislative goals. Member Ryan visited Cajon Park last week and was impressed with Mr. Hook's personal knowledge and relationship with the special education children. He knew every child by name. She said it was a good opportunity to see one-to-one digital learning in Kristen Eveland's class. They were doing a lesson on the new planets and each student was doing research on their device. All of the students were totally engage and interacting through the technology. It was very impressive. She also visited Hill Creek during the network stress test.

Member Levens-Craig reported she is planning to attend several seminars and conferences in the next few weeks.

Member El-Hajj said La Mesa-Spring Valley held a testing coordinators workshop. There is a lot to the SBAC. There will be some exciting things happening and some interesting issues arise.

**I. RECONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION**

President Fox announced that the Board would reconvene to closed session for matters that had not been completed prior to the convening of the open session meeting. The Board entered closed session at 9:03 p.m.

**J. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION**

The Board reconvened to public session at 9:50 p.m. No action was reported.

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

The March 4, 2014 regular meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m. The meeting was adjourned in memory of Santee Community Member and former Santee School District employee, Jackie Billings.

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Barbara Ryan, Clerk

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Cathy A. Pierce, Ed.D., Secretary