

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

August 6, 2013
MINUTES

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

A. OPENING PROCEDURE

1. Call to Order and Welcome
President El-Hajj called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and read the District Mission Statement.
Members present:
Dianne El-Hajj, President
Ken Fox, Vice President
Dustin Burns, Clerk
Barbara Ryan, Member
Elana Levens-Craig, Member
Administration present:
Dr. Cathy Pierce, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board
Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Ted Larson, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources/Pupil Services
Dr. Stephanie Pierce, Director, Educational Services
Linda Vail, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary
2. President El-Hajj invited the audience to recite the District Mission and then led 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: Ryan 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. Schedule of Upcoming Events
2. **Award from the American Heart Association**

Dr. Pierce shared that Santee School District is honored to have a partnership with the American Heart Association, an institution that helps us promote healthier children. In July, Santee School District was awarded their District of the Year Award. Dr. Pierce introduced Youth Marketing Director Jeanne Brane. Ms. Brane thanked Dr. Laura Spencer and the coordinators of Jump Rope for Heart for their tireless support. The District had 100% school participation in Jump rope for Heart last year. Santee School District has raised \$154,000 over the last 15 years for the American Heart Association.

The American Heart Association representatives have also championed to bring the NFL Play 60 Program to Santee School District. This program has not only increased the amount of physical fitness our students engage in daily but has also motivated some students to initiate new physical fitness programs at their schools. Jennie Brane is also currently working with Kathleen Grenfell to support our annual employee health fair, as well as work towards certifying the District as "heart-healthy," a nationwide honor for businesses that are taking steps to keep employees healthy.

President El-Hajj presented Jennie Brane and Eric Thompson with a certificate of appreciation and thanked the American Heart Association for their partnership in education.

3. Department of Defense Grant Award

Dr. Stephanie Pierce reported Santee School District has been awarded a three-year grant from the Department of Defense for providing academic and social support to our military connected families. Assistant Superintendent Tim Larson shared how pleased Santee School District is to be partnering with Naval Base San Diego and appreciates the support our students and families receive. He introduced Navy XO Commander Keck and Navy School Liaison Officer Chanin Massaglia. Santee School District has been working for several years with Ms. Massaglia to develop additional supports and services in Santee, including bringing national training for the Junior Student-to-Student program for five middle schools. They have recently located the Fleet and Family Support Center Santee branch, which will serve all of East County, at Chet F. Harritt School. We look forward to continuing to work with Naval Base San Diego and the School Liaison Office as we implement this new grant to support our students and families.

Chanin Massaglia shared it has been a tremendous joy working with everyone in Santee. She has felt very welcomed by the Board and the District community and the staff has been wonderful. This grant will be a great benefit to military families.

Mr. Larson said the support from Commander Keck and Naval Base San Diego is so important. The acceptance by the Board of this grant is an item on this Board Meeting agenda.

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

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

D. CONSENT ITEMS

Items listed under Consent are considered to be routine and are all acted on by the Board with one single motion.

President El-Hajj 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. **Acceptance of Donations**
- 2.5. **Approval of Consultants and General Service Providers**
- 2.6. **Approval/Ratification of Expenditure Transactions Charged to District Issued Purchasing Cards (P-Cards)**
- 2.7. **Approval of Agreement with Victory Baptist Church for Long-Term Use of Facilities at Chet F. Harritt School**
- 2.8. **Approval of Renewal of Agreement with InterSchola for Surplus Sales**
- 3.1. **Approval of Nonpublic Agency Master Contract with Advantage On-Call d/b/a PHS Therapy for Speech Therapy**
- 3.2. **Approval of Nonpublic Agency Master Contract with My Therapy Company for Speech Therapy**
- 3.3. **Approval of Nonpublic Agency Master Contract with Dependable Nursing, LLC for Nursing Services**
- 3.4. **Approval of Nonpublic Agency Master Contract with Bridges Educational Corporation for Behavioral Support**
- 3.5. **Approval of Nonpublic Agency Master Contracts with Vista Hill for Educationally Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS)**
- 4.1. **Personnel, Regular**
- 4.2. **Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with San Diego Youth Services, Inc. (SDYS) for the Early, Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program**
- 4.3. ***Pulled for separate consideration.***
- 4.4. **Acceptance of Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) Military- Connected Local Educational Agencies for Academic and Support Programs (MCASP) Grant**
- 4.5. **Approval of Interagency Agreement with San Diego Unified School District to Provide Access to the STEPS Program**
- 4.6. **Approval of Agreement with Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Rudd, & Romo**

4.7. Approval of Agreements with Northern California Medi-Cal Administrative Services Joint Powers Authority (“NMAS-JPA”) to Provide Claims Administration Services for Medicaid Administrative Activities (MAA) and Medi-Cal Billing Option

It was moved and seconded by Member Fox to approve Consent Items, with the exception of Item D. 4.3.

Motion: Fox Second: Levens-Craig Vote: 5-0

D.4.3. Approval of Agreement for Mandated Student Health Screenings (Vision, Hearing, and Scoliosis) with Rady Children’s Hospital, San Diego *Pulled by Member Ryan for separate consideration.*

Member Ryan said she would abstain from voting on this item because she is employed by Rady Children’s Hospital and works with this program. Member Burns moved to approved Item D.4.3

Motion: Burns Second: Fox Vote: 4-0

Member Burns asked about the Purchase Card report and the descriptions provided for the expenditures. Mr. Christensen said the auditor recommended that it be provided to the Board for ratification as other expenses through warrants are. Board Members shared they would like the descriptions to be not only transparent but completely descriptive of the expenditures, referencing the connection to the educational program.

G. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

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

1.1. Ratification of Tentative Agreement between Santee School District and Santee Teachers Association (STA)

Tim Larson shared that he is excited to bring a Tentative Agreement from the Santee Teachers Association (STA) to the Board for ratification. He expressed the District’s appreciation for the time and effort on the part of the Santee Teacher’s Association to work collaboratively with the District to equalize the learning time throughout our schools. This will help build a stronger continuity throughout the District’s instructional program. He also thanked the teachers for all they have done over the past few years to support the District in difficult financial times and said the District is pleased that this Tentative Agreement is able to support a well-deserved salary increase.

President El-Hajj said, on behalf of the Board, she greatly appreciates that the teachers have worked collaboratively with the District for this agreement, bringing uniformity to the District’s instructional times and a well-deserved pay raise. President El-Hajj said the Board appreciates all of the efforts and patience from both sides of the table.

Member Ryan moved to approve the tentative agreement between Santee School District and Santee Teachers Association (STA).

Motion: Ryan Second: Fox Vote: 5-0

2.1. School Time Changes Communication Plan

Dr. Cathy Pierce shared, with the ratification of the Tentative Agreement with STA, on August 29th teachers will vote whether the District will implement a modified day or regular school day schedule beginning October 7, 2013. Administration presented a draft of a communication plan notifying parents of the time changes for schools. The plan includes providing information about the changes through letters to parents, School Messenger messages to parents, website posting, school marques, and the Santee Patch.

Member Levens-Craig was pleased we will be providing information through the *Santee Patch*. She said it is amazing how, in these days of electronic communication, we can communicate information like this to all families for several hundred dollars.

Dr. Pierce said two letters will be sent home to parents through students that will include a calendar and school times. Member Burns suggested looking into magnets that families can put on their refrigerators so the information will be handy. He asked Administration to help families, wherever possible, to adjust to time changes and assisting with placement for after school care.

Member Ryan asked if the early starting schools will remain early starting schools. Dr. Pierce said yes, the starts times will be as near the current start times as possible. A schedule of the projected times will be sent to Board Members.

Dr. Cathy Piece encouraged Board Members to convey to her any additional ideas they may have to communicate the changes to parents and the community.

3.1. 2013-14 45-Day Budget Revisions for General Fund

Karl Christensen reported on June 27th, the Governor signed the State's 2013-14 budget into law. This budget contained some significant changes from the May Revise upon which the District's Adopted Budget was based. The District is required to report and consider any budget revisions related to the State's Adopted Budget within 45 days of the State adopting its budget. He reviewed the budget revisions based on the State's adopted budget. This budget included the salary increase for teachers that was ratified earlier in the agenda. Member Ryan moved to approve the revisions to the 2013-14 General Fund operating budget.

Motion: Ryan Second: Levens-Craig Vote: 5-0

3.2. Authorization to Disseminate a Request for Proposals/Qualifications (RFP/Q) for Deep Irrigation Water Well System Engineering, Design & Construction at Hill Creek School

Karl Christensen reported on July 3rd, the District filed a Categorical Exemption with the County Clerk pertaining to CEQA for the proposed water well at Hill Creek School. The 30-day waiting period ended August 1st and no challenges were filed. The District can now move forward with the RFP/Q process to contract with a vendor for engineering, design, drilling, and completion of the water well. Once responses to the RFP are received, Administration will return to the Board at the September 3 meeting for consideration of executing a contract.

It is important to note again, that there is a risk. We could potentially incur \$50,000 to \$60,000 in costs and not find sufficient water to operate a well. However, staff believes the risk is low to moderate and therefore recommends moving forward with the process. It is expected that the entire project would cost approximately \$120,000 and would save approximately \$30,000 per year in irrigation costs. Therefore, the payback period for this project is estimated to be 4 years.

Member Burns moved to authorize use of Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act informal bid procedures for disseminating an RFP/Q for deep irrigation water well system engineering, design and construction at Hill Creek School.

Motion: Burns Second: Fox Vote: 5-0

H. BOARD COMMUNICATION

Member Burns asked about school site budgets and how we are addressing their needs for Common Core. He knows schools are looking to purchase computers and wants to assure that the hardware being purchased is appropriate for Common Core and SBAC. He believes if the Board is supporting Common Core implementation, the Board should support their needs for appropriate technology. The Board would like to see school site budgets and expenses in the area of technology. He is interested to know what the needs are and also has an interest in equity across the District in this area.

Dr. Cathy Pierce said the conversation has already begun. Principals were told they need to include a line item in their budget just as the District does, for technology purchases and replacement. The District also has a responsibility to assist them. The goal is to purchase more technology and fewer textbooks and assuring the technology that is being purchased is appropriate for SBAC. Member Burns suggested Administration may want to consider providing restricted dollars to schools that can only be spent for technology.

Member Fox said as he visited schools last year, principals said professional development and technology were the highest priorities in their site budgets.

Member Burns expressed concerned that parents may not understand that the option of modified day or no modified day and how it is being determined. If the decision is for modified days, it may especially impact schools that have not had modified days before. There may be a need to have parent information meetings for several schools. Member Ryan said responses should be about gaining uniformity in instructional minutes and suggested talking points be provided.

Member Levens-Craig has been going on a school board tour, visiting other school board meetings. She has observed many interesting things. She reported the State Board of Education has an input session later this week and she is eager to attend Masters in Governance sessions.

Karl Christensen provided an update on Pepper Drive construction. The project is still on hold while waiting for the crane permit. They are continuing to work on the parking lot and are hopeful to be done to allow public access by August 14th. Administration is working with the contractor on a contingency plan if needed. The notice period ends August 18 and the FAA will expedite the process for us. The team is geared to get back to work right away but it is probable that students will not be able to move into the new building until January.

Karl Christensen commended Christina Becker as a tremendous asset to the District. She is putting pressure on the contractor to not incur costs during the waiting period as a matter of their convenience. She continues to manage the project to make sure we are not spending more money than necessary.

Tim Larson shared that he is currently working to see if the District can access sexual harassment prevention training online. This is the year for mandated training.

The Board Members reviewed the Grand Jury Report on CABs and the responses prepared by Administration. Board Members discussed some language changes and Administration will continue to work on the response.

Dr. Cathy Pierce reported Administration will be scheduling staff and department meeting visits to provide a discussion with employees about the changes in funding through LCFF and how we need to budget a little differently. The presentations will be about 15 minutes and about 15 minutes will be available for questions and answers. Board Members will attend as possible. Administration presented a review of the major objectives which includes vocabulary changes, concept changes, and the budget needs we have such as salaries, CCSS, technology, bus replacements, etc. and how they must be balanced with limited resources.

Dr. Cathy Pierce shared STAR results have been received. The API estimate is extremely disappointing. There are already many changes in place for the new school year. A more detailed analysis will be done and a comprehensive report will be provided at the next Board meeting. She said countywide data shows scores as leveling off.

Member Burns said there should be some celebration. Dr. Pierce said each school will have cause to celebrate as some schools did very well in particular grade levels even though their overall API declined. Dr. Pierce will work to plan a way to celebrate teachers for their work. Board members asked Dr. Pierce to check if the 8th grade students at Cajon Park took the algebra test. Dr. Pierce will check, although the rules changed this year.

Dr. Pierce shared a preview of the *Santee Magazine* center page ad. The Board liked it and it will be published in the fall issue.

Dr. Pierce shared the PLT welcome back letter. The first PLT meeting is Tuesday August 13th. Friday is a presentation from Apple about innovation and leadership. Monday begins with logistics meetings and Tuesday is the back-to-school retreat at the San Diego Air and Space Museum. The PLT members will be looking at disruptive innovations, blended learning, and a culture of innovation. A video conference with a NASA scientist is scheduled.

I. CLOSED SESSION

President El-Hajj 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, Business Services*
 - *Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources**Employee Organizations: Santee Teachers Association*
2. **Conference with Labor Negotiator** (*Govt. Code § 54956.8*)
Purpose: Negotiations
Agency Negotiators:
 - *Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services*
 - *Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources*

Employee Organization: Classified School Employees Association

3. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Govt. Code § 54956.8)

Property Addresses:

- *Parcels 383-112-05 and 383-112-28 located on the north side of Prospect Avenue east of Marrokal Lane (known as the Renzulli Site)*
- *10335 Mission Gorge Road, Santee 92071 (formerly known as Santee School Site)*

Agency Negotiator: Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent

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

Superintendent

J. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board reconvened to public session at 10:16 p.m. No action was reported.

K. ADJOURNMENT

The August 6, 2013 regular meeting adjourned at 10:16 p.m.