

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

February 5, 2008

**MINUTES**

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

**A. OPENING PROCEDURES**

1. Call to Order and Welcome  
President Bartholomew called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and read the District Mission Statement.  
Members present:  
    Dan Bartholomew, President  
    Dianne El-Hajj, Vice President  
    Dustin Burns, Clerk  
    Barbara Ryan, Member  
    Allen Carlisle, Member  
Administration present:  
    Dr. Lisbeth Johnson, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board  
    Emily Andrade, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services  
    John Tofflemire, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
    Linda Vail, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary
2. President Bartholomew invited Amanda Albertson, a 6<sup>th</sup> grade Alternative School student, 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 with revised Consent Item D.3.2.

***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. Enrollment Report
  - 1.4. Schedule of Upcoming Events
  - 1.5. Schedule of Spring Open Houses

Dr. Johnson reported that Bill Clark was not in attendance and was on a well earned vacation.
2. **Spotlight on Education: Alternative School Student Winners of the Papa John's Essay Contest**

Emily Andrade invited Kendra Kuper, Amanda Albertson, and Amarissa Marques, students from the Santee Alternative School, to come forward to be recognized for the awards they won in the Papa John's "My Hero" essay contest. Kendra Kuper won the top county award. President Bartholomew presented each girl with a certificate of recognition. The Alternative School teachers, Kurtis and Laura Smith, were also recognized for encouraging students to participate in countywide competitions.
3. **Spotlight on Education: Principals Presentations from Hill Creek and Sycamore Canyon Schools on Instructional Leadership**

Dr. Johnson introduced Jerelyn Lindsay and Ted Hooks, principal and vice principal respectively, from Hill Creek School, who presented a video diary of "A Day at Hill Creek" following two students through their school day. The video shared short excerpts from teachers Ben Saia and Cindy Whitbrodt in their classrooms teaching students. Mrs. Lindsay shared the outstanding progress Hill Creek has made to increase their API and provide award winning programs. The History Faire recently won a Golden Bell award.

Debbie Brenner, principal of Sycamore Canyon School, presented an allegory of their school's support systems and programs using the Sycamore Tree, with the roots representing the foundation, the trunk representing support systems, the branches representing enhancement programs, and the leaves representing student achievement. She provided a video clip of students involved in learning and



**4.1. Personnel, Regular-To become part of the minutes.** (*Pulled by Member Burns for separate consideration.*) Member Burns disclosed that the personnel approvals include a family member but does not represent a conflict of interest.

**Motion: Burns**

**Second: Ryan**

**Vote: 5-0**

**4.2. Approval to Increase the Work Hours of Identified Classified** (*Pulled by Member Burns for separate consideration.*) Member Burns disclosed that the increase in hours for this classified position is to support his nephew but does not represent a conflict of interest.

**Motion: Burns**

**Second: Ryan**

**Vote: 5-0**

## **E. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS**

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

### **1.1. Business Breakfast - April 23, 2008**

Dr. Johnson reported on the 5<sup>th</sup> business breakfast, an annual event to thank the business community for their partnerships and support. This year's event is scheduled for April 23, 2008 at the ERC. The theme will be "Leaving a Legacy" and attendees will discover the wonderful things occurring in Santee that will be a legacy for the community. Arts Attack curriculum will be on display and administration will provide detailed information about modernization. Member El-Hajj believes Arts Attack serves a purpose but we should take this opportunity to showcase the plans and drawings for modernization. The display boards could be exhibits and a rotating slide presentation could be shown on the projection screens. Administration requested \$1,000 for expenses. Member Burns moved to approve the Business Breakfast.

**Motion: Burns**

**Second: Carlisle**

**Vote: 5-0**

### **1.2. Update on CSBA Board Policy Development Workshop**

Dr. Johnson reported on the plans for the CSBA policy development workshop scheduled for the week of June 30-July 3, with the specific dates to be determined by CSBA. Board members are invited to attend as available, while administration will be reviewing the entire Board Policy book to update with current legislation. Board members believe this is much needed and a great value for the cost. Member Carlisle moved to approve the agreement with CSBA for a policy development workshop at a cost of \$5,143 plus travel and lodging expenses for the CSBA consultant, not to exceed \$1,500.

**Motion: Carlisle**

**Second: Burns**

**Vote: 5-0**

### **1.3. Revised Technology Plan for Classrooms of the Future for 2007-2008 Supporting Modernization**

Dr. Johnson introduced a revised technology plan which supports modernization and includes installing technology stations in grades 6 & 7 at Chet F. Harritt School and providing laptops to the RSP teachers at a total cost of \$63,000 this fiscal year. This revised plan would allow the District to continue with the technology vision during modernization and through the Governor's budget reductions. Chet F. Harritt was selected because of the schools not included in phase 1 of modernization. Hill Creek has many infrastructure issues and Prospect Avenue and Pepper Drive have QZAB grant funds to install technology in classrooms. Chet F. Harritt is the only school that could be recommended this year. The \$63,000 would also provide laptops for RSP teachers. Dr. Johnson shared that this revised plan is a very scaled down version of the initially presented plan. She explained the funding was set aside for this in the original plan and comes from the funds that were set aside for office furniture but were not spent. Next year, we will be requesting \$100,000 to return classrooms in phase 1 of modernization to their current status.

President Bartholomew and Member Burns would like more firm information about the status of the State budget and the impact on District funding before allocating funds for this plan. Member Burns believes that there may be more flexibility in other funds later and these funds may be needed for other expenses.

Member Ryan asked if this project could wait until summer. Dr. Johnson said administration did not wish to squelch the momentum and was hoping the installation could occur during the spring. Member Ryan suggested holding action until the State approves the budget because it has been declared an emergency and must be signed within a 45 day period. Board members support the technology vision and asked Dr. Johnson to return this item to the March 4, 2008 Board meeting, when we would have firm information about the State budget for Board discussion and or action.

#### 1.4. Board Self-Evaluation

President Bartholomew asked Board members their preferences to best assess how the Board has worked toward achieving their goals. Board members reviewed the Governance calendar and affirmed that they covered items appropriately. Board members also reviewed the Santee School District Board Governance Standards which were adopted on April 17, 2007. All Board members agreed that they had abided by these standards throughout the year. Member Carlisle said the Board worked very hard to develop the Santee School District Governance Standards and it was the start in a new direction for the Board.

Member Ryan believes outside feedback is important and would like to consider a survey to see if they are perceived by others as they perceive themselves. Board members agreed to provide a survey to Executive Council, principals, and others who regularly attend Board meetings to evaluate their adherence to the eight governance standards. Board members also wished to re-adopt the governance standards and have them sign an adopted copy for 2008. Member Carlisle moved to adopt the standards for 2008.

**Motion: Carlisle**

**Second: Ryan**

**Vote: 5-0**

#### F. BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS

##### 1. First Reading

1.1. **First Reading: Revised BP 4333, Management/Confidential Mileage and Travel Expense Reimbursement**

1.2. **First Reading: New BP 4333.1 Executive Council Mileage and Travel Expense Reimbursement**

Revised BP 4333 and new BP 4333.1 were presented for a first reading. There were no questions or comments from the Board. These items will return for a second reading and approval.

##### 2. Second Reading

2.1. **Second Reading: New BP 3516, Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan**

2.2. **Second Reading: New BP 3516.5, Emergency Closure of School or Facility**

Member Burns moved to approve new BP 3516 and BP 3516.5 for emergency closure procedures of schools or facility.

**Motion: Burns**

**Second: Ryan**

**Vote: 5-0**

#### G. BOARD COMMUNICATION

Member Ryan reported she attended a statewide nurses meeting and one of the nurses who participated in the health screening of our students complimented the good behavior and courtesy of students in Santee. The nurse said she believed it was because we have a small family community.

Member Carlisle provided information about a proposed power plant in Sycamore Canyon. He wanted to make sure Board members were informed. Member Carlisle would like feedback from administration and to get recommendations on any action.

Member El-Hajj complimented President Bartholomew on a great job of facilitating Saturday's workshop. She also commended administration for providing a concise and thorough presentation.

Member Burns shared there is information about MERSA now on the County Office of Education website, due to an increase in cases at schools across the county. Last week Member Burns worked in a Kindergarten class at Rio Seco. He said it was a great experience and the kindergarten teachers work very hard. Member Burns complimented the transportation and maintenance departments for their efforts to get kids from Chet F. Harritt and Carlton Oaks to 6<sup>th</sup> grade camp in the snow. He is very impressed how these employees assume a role in the camp experience for kids.

President Bartholomew shared how he encountered an acquaintance who is buying a home in the community and shared they were very impressed by the District's professional Strategic Plan brochure. He said that the District's professionalism swayed him to buy a home in our school district.

President Bartholomew said administration did a great job at the Board modernization workshop on February 2, 2008. The logistics of the meeting and binder information were well planned.

Dr. Jonson shared a letter that went home with students about the commodity beef investigation and the hold on its distribution and use. She also shared a draft press release on the actions taken by the Board for modernization. Members El-Hajj and Ryan will review and provide edits.

Dr. Johnson presented a draft of the new school signs and said the check marks for all items that have been completed will be big, bold, and red. Member Carlisle and Dr. Johnson suggested rearranging the items into priority 1 and priority 2 items. Member El-Hajj suggested adding the statement "Partially funded by the taxpayers through local Prop R bond, State funds, and other sources. Direction from the Board included placing the items in order by the schedule so items can be checked off in order to show progress and to place the District website at the bottom of the signs to provide a place for the community to seek additional information and contacts.

Dr. Johnson said teachers have suggested having visual displays depicting modernization at schools for parents to see. Teachers also would like to get a drawing of a modernized classroom, with dimensions and specs of the teaching wall to see more what the whole classroom would look like and to know what kind of storage will be available. Board members thought this was a great idea and asked administration to provide display board with site plans, elevations, carpet samples, and a depiction of a modernized classroom at the five phase 1 schools. These displays should be in a prominent place where parents will easily see. Dr. Johnson said Christina Becker has proposed providing a prototype classroom that teachers could visit to see what they will look like.

Dr. Johnson reported the need for State legislation for a waiver for Pepper Drive modernization funding. A scaled down modernization was provided at Pepper Drive in 1992-93 because the State did not have funding in 1990. Pepper Drive still needs a major modernization because of the age of the campus and the delay in modernization at 25 years of age. She believes we could be successful getting exclusion stating that that if a school is 50 years old, they are in need of modernization. There is an appeal process but Mrs. Becker said that an appeal would be denied and that legislation would need to be changed in order to get funding. Member Ryan said SAB would object if legislation was introduced and we did not apply for the waiver. She suggested applying concurrently. Member Ryan said legislation needs to be specific to Santee and would possibly expand to others as it moved through the process. The rationale for the legislation is that if a school that is 50 years old in a small school district undergoing modernization, the District would be able to take advantage of the current projects and prices, and it would be more cost effective for the District and for the State instead of waiting to complete it as a separate project. Member Ryan asked administration to get estimated costs from Barnhart for the modernization to be completed after District modernization has been completed. The next step is to put together legislative language for Member Ryan, as the legislative representative on the Board, to review and deliver to Assemblyman Anderson's office as soon as possible.

Dr. Johnson also reported the District must get Santee School off the books for capacity and developer fees. It is still considered by the State as a "school" for recognizing capacity for students. Administration will move forward and include as rationale; a map showing zoning and location in a non-residential area, the proposal to expand the jail, traffic data showing approximately 39,000 traffic trips per day, and zoning changes. Santee School could also be considered a high risk area because the proximity of the airport runway is within 1,800 feet. Member El-Hajj would like to use all of the other issues as rationale in requesting to be removed as a school.

Dr. Johnson asked the Board for items to provide to Assemblyman Anderson to bring for State legislation and to look at education reform. Dr. Johnson recommended the core textbook adoption cycle, categorical grant flexibility, penalties for unused district sites, RIS notice flexibility in timelines when there are mid-year budget cuts, class size reduction, mandated costs requirements, and flexibility over deferred maintenance contributions. She shared some of the time accounting forms that are required for mandated costs. County Superintendents will meet on February 12, and she would like to work in conjunction with the County coalition. Member Ryan believes we should move forward to provide our recommendation to Assemblyman Anderson. Member Carlisle said we should not address full funding but look at items providing flexibility, such as relaxing the penalties for class sized reduction and relaxing the requirements for mandated costs if they are not going to pay for them. Dr. Johnson will revise the text and Member Ryan will review.

President Bartholomew reported there is a City/Board meeting scheduled for February 12, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Board members provided agenda items to include: update on Modernization, taking some of the elevation drawings to the meeting, the ball field relocation, and zoning of the Santee Site. Member El-Hajj would also like to share the Board's new sense of cooperation with Captain Duke in the leadership role at the Sheriff's Department.

Linda will be scheduling a CIP/Modernization workshop for early March. Board members prefer a Saturday workshop scheduling with sensitivity around family commitments.

#### **H. CLOSED SESSION**

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

1. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (Govt. Code § 54957)
2. Conference with Labor Negotiator (Govt. Code § 54956.8)  
*Agency Negotiator: John Tofflemire, Assistant Superintendent*  
*Employee Organizations: Santee Teachers Association*  
*California School Employees Association*  
*Santee Administrators Association*  
*Purpose: Negotiations*
3. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Govt. Code §54956.8)  
*Location: Santee School Site. 10445 Mission Gorge Rd., Santee 92071*  
*Agency Negotiators: Dr. Lis Johnson, Superintendent*  
*Negotiating Party: City of Santee*  
*Purpose: Price and Terms*

The Board entered closed session at 9:45 p.m.

#### **I. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION**

The Board reconvened to public session at 10:15 p.m. No action was reported.

#### **J. ADJOURNMENT**

The February 5, 2008 regular meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

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Dustin Burns, Clerk

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Lisbeth A. Johnson, Ed.D., Secretary