

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

August 5, 2003
MINUTES

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

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order and Welcome

President Ryan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present:

Barbara Ryan, President
Cathy Abel, Clerk
Dustin Burns, Member
Julie McIntosh, Member

Members absent:

Dianne El-Hajj, Vice President (absent)

Staff present:

Lisbeth Johnson, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board
Carolyn Harness, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Patrick Shaw, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Bill Stumbaugh, Director, Pupil Services
Sue Yakubik, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Arletta Schaffer, Recording Secretary

2. President Ryan invited Patrick Shaw, new Assistant Superintendent, 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: McIntosh
Second: Burns
Vote: 4 – 0

B. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Superintendent's Report
 - 1.1. Requests for Use of Facilities
 - 1.2. Enrollment Report
 - 1.3. Developer Fees Collection Report
 - 1.4. Schedule of Upcoming Events

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

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

D. PUBLIC HEARINGS (none)

E. CONSENT ITEMS

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

Motion: McIntosh
Second: Abel
Vote: 4 – 0

Superintendent

- 1.1. Approval of Minutes

Business Services

- 2.1. Approval of Travel Requests
- 2.2. Approval/Ratification of Revolving Cash Report
- 2.3. Acceptance of Donations
- 2.4. Adoption of Child Nutrition Services Resolution #0304-04
- 2.5. Adoption of Resolution #0304-05 for Change of Revolving Cash Funds Custodian
- 2.6. Approval to Continue Rental Agreements of Relocatables
- 2.7. Approval of Response to Request for Agency Recommendation
- 2.8. Approval of PowerSchool Agreement with Apple Computer, Inc.

Educational Services

- 3.1. Approval of Application to Renew Funding for 2003-2004 to Support Current English Language Acquisition Program (ELAP)
- 3.2. Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Harmonium, Inc. for School-Based Student Counseling

Human Resources

- 4.1. Personnel, Regular, with a copy to be made a part of the minutes. Consultants approved: Donald Janiuk, Mark Leukowitz
- 4.2. Approval of Credential Waivers

F. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

Superintendent

- 1.1. District Mission and Goal Statements Review

During a Board workshop in January 2003, Board members discussed the District mission and goal statements. Specifically, the discussion centered on should the statement "whatever it takes" remain in the mission statement, should the goals be prioritized and are Goals #3 and #4 being met. It was decided to revisit that discussion at this meeting.

Member Burns still believes that the statement "whatever it takes" is misleading and he would prefer that the wording be changed. A majority of Board members supported making no changes to the mission statement at this time.

Should goal #6 be posted as second priority? It was decided to leave the goals unranked but to review the need to prioritize the goals when they are revised.

Are goals #3 and #4 being met? Board members questioned a measurement for meeting the District goals? They asked administration to make recommendations for suggested measurements. No changes to Board policy are needed at this time.

- 1.2. Discussion of Multi-Year Fiscal Plan

It is administration's recommendation that the Board consider a proactive and strategic plan for long-term budget projections. Dr. Johnson stated that, while there are many contingencies in

public education, she believes that a three-year plan would be helpful. The County staff has offered to serve as a resource. The plan would come to the Board in four stages or phases beginning in September 2003. A study of projections would assist in developing goals for generating revenue while reducing expenditures to the extent possible. Carolyn Harness provided the Board with samples of budget information on enrollment and facilities capacity. Staff would welcome direction from the Board on resources and format.

Member McIntosh likes the idea of a proactive plan rather than reacting to state budget shortfalls. Other Board members supported the idea as well, knowing that changes in the plan will be necessary.

Business Services

2.1. Discussion of Parcel Tax Election

Board members have discussed the feasibility of conducting a parcel tax election at the March 2, 2004, primary. Staff asked for specific direction from the Board.

President Ryan reported on information from the Registrar's Office that election costs for a March primary would range from \$6,000-\$14,000. Carolyn Harness estimated that there are 15,341 parcels in the City. The County is working on an official count. Carolyn Harness and Lis Johnson will be meeting with a parcel tax consultant in the near future to define what services the Board may desire, such as determining the tax rate. All legal requirements are due to the County by December 5, 2003. President Ryan suggested that Marcia Johnson, in her role as chairperson, could conduct a community survey.

It was moved and seconded to authorize administration to research securing a consultant to assist with determining parcel tax rates, community input, and prioritizing uses of parcel tax funds.

Motion: McIntosh
Second: Abel
Vote: 4 – 0

It was moved and seconded to pursue a parcel tax at the March 2, 2004, in accordance with a regularly scheduled election.

Motion: Abel
Second: Burns
Vote: 3 – 1 (McIntosh – no)

Member McIntosh reminded the Board that an open campaign fund does exist as a result of the previous bond campaign. The fund can be reinitiated by changing the name on the committee. Marcia Johnson asked for clear direction from the Board about how to accomplish community input. It was decided that staff would meet to develop a campaign plan for Board consideration. A Board member may wish to participate.

2.2. Discussion of 2003-04 State Budget

Staff will be attending the School Services budget conference next week since the legislature has approved a state budget. Carolyn Harness reported that \$10 billion of the state's budget will be funded by a loan and the economy is not expected to improve next year. She provided informational materials to the Board members on the state budget and will have a full report after the conference.

G. BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS (none)

H. BOARD COMMUNICATION

Member McIntosh met with the steering committee on the new City library. A joint venture cooperative agreement is being drafted as part of the new application for a City library. It will call for coordination between the library system and the District on either a family literacy center or a homework center. The District wishes to be active participants but to keep costs to a minimum. One suggestion is to provide the library with a copy of each textbook used in the District as a reference document.

Member Burns, referencing the analysis on student attendance provided by the Superintendent, believes there is absence trend in kindergarten, first and eighth grades. He feels it is important to start intervening early. Dr. Johnson indicated that data has been gathered so as to identify the population that we need to work with. She included sample policies and absence rates from neighboring districts. District students were absent a total of 58,143 days in 2002-03. We lose \$800,000 per year on student absences. There were 359 at-risk students who were absent a total of 10 or more days.

Member Burns finds the statistics alarming and wants to move forward with putting together steps to remedy problem. President Ryan cautioned that some lengthy absences might be due to illness, so a case-by-case analysis would be needed. After studying the data, administration will want to make recommendations for goals to improve student attendance. Using a County Office of Education report, President Ryan shared that the average county rate is 94 percent attendance. She supports bringing excessive absenteeism to SARB unless there are extenuating circumstances. The Board will review policy and examine the attendance data in September.

Member Burns provided final samples of District stationery and business cards. With minor adjustments, Board members supported blue ink on business cards pending cost estimates.

President Ryan has spoken with several parents who wish to volunteer to assist with an instrumental music program for students. She supports working with parents as a planning committee and asked staff to coordinate the effort. She also read correspondence from student Taylor Bye, who suggested having a community festival to raise funds to help balance the budget.

I. CLOSED SESSION

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

1. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
2. Conference with Labor Negotiator
Agency Negotiator: Sue Yakubik, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Employee Organizations: Santee Teachers Association (STA)
California School Employees Association (CSEA)
3. Student Discipline Matters
4. Public Employee Performance Evaluation
Title: Superintendent
5. Conference with Real Property Negotiators
Location: Renzulli Site
Agency Negotiator: Carolyn Harness, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

The Board entered closed session at 8:20 p.m.

J. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION/ ADJOURNMENT

The Board reconvened to public session at 10:15 p.m. No action was reported. The August 5, 2003, regular meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.