

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

September 16, 2008

MINUTES

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

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order and Welcome
Vice President El-Hajj called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and read the District Mission Statement.
Members present:
 Dan Bartholomew, President (attended by teleconference)
 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
 Bill Clark, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
 Emily Andrade, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
 Minnie Malin, Director, Human Resources
 Linda Vail, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary
2. Vice President El-Hajj invited Jenna and Brandon McCurdy, Carlton Hills students, 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: Carlisle Vote: 4-0

B. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Superintendent's Report

- 1.1. Developer Fees Collection Report
- 1.2. Use of Facilities Report
- 1.3. Enrollment Report
- 1.4. Claims Against the District
- 1.5. Schedule of Back to School Nights
- 1.6. Schedule of Upcoming Events
- 1.7. Update on School Construction

Dr. Johnson provided an update on the status of Modernization and Construction at Phase 1 schools. More details will be reported at the September 30th Facilities Workshop. The 10 classroom building foundations are beginning at Rio Seco, Carlton Hills, and Carlton Oaks. Teachers, staff and parents have been wonderful throughout the process.

2. Spotlight: Don Parent of SDG&E

Dr. Johnson introduced Don Parent, a member of the Santee Chamber of Commerce and San Diego Gas & Electric's Consumer Affairs manager for East County. Mr. Parent was instrumental in getting power granted at one of our schools just in time for teachers and students to return to school. Mr. Parent said he worked with a number of agencies and was very pleased with how SDG & E responded for the District. He thanked SDG&E and requested that the District write a letter to thank all who assisted with resolving this problem.

Board members thanked Mr. Parent and Vice President El-Hajj presented him with a certificate of appreciation.

3. Spotlight on Learning: Rio Seco Bullying Posters from SDCOE

Dr. Johnson reported that last year at Rio Seco School, Principal Lisa McColl and vice Principal Dan Prouty, organized a student leadership group in response to reports of bullying occurring at their school. Wayne

Sakamoto, from the County's Safe Schools Department, met with the students every two weeks during lunch. As a culminating activity, Mr. Sakamoto arranged for the students to visit the County Office to film anti-bullying public service announcements. Two of the short public service announcements were shown. Mrs. McColl also recently received a supply of anti-bullying posters starring these Rio Seco students. Dr. Johnson thanked Mrs. McColl and Mr. Prouty for their commitment to making a difference toward caring schools. Vice President El-Hajj presented each with a certificate of appreciation.

4. Academic Performance Index (API) and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Scores for 2008

Kristin Baranski, Director of Curriculum and Assessment reported the official Santee School District API of 840, a 12 point growth this year. She reported all schools made their growth expectancies. Emily Andrade, Assistant Superintendent, reported on the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), the State measure of progress toward the Federal NCLB. In 2007 all schools met Federal AYP requirements. Each year the measure increases and this year the District did not meet the proficiency targets in the "students with disabilities" sub group. The requirements were met in 27 of the 29 sub groups. Administration would be working diligently to meet the requirements next year to not become a Program Improvement district.

Member Ryan is very pleased to see the great API scores and congratulated administration, the teachers, and everyone who was involved in educating students this past year. Member Ryan asked how the progress would be monitored toward meeting the requirements next year for special education students and requested Administration to return in February with a mid-year report. Mrs. Baranski said District developed assessments would provide the data.

Member Carlisle asked about Program Improvement and if a District would lose its Title I funds. Mrs. Andrade said no, the first year of Program Improvement a district is monitored, parents are notified their district is in Program Improvement offering parents some choices, and Title I funds are allocated for professional development. The second year, the State begins to closely monitor and possibly sanction, classroom instruction. Many districts are in or are approaching Program Improvement. Member Carlisle congratulated everyone and was pleased to see Santee at the top of all East County districts.

Member Burns asked, with many school districts having high achievement, if there will there be collaboration in closing the gap. Mrs. Baranski said the Reading Committee and District staff are looking at other districts and determining the best places to visit to see good programs. Member Burns said it is great that there is talk about how great Santee is doing.

5. Spotlight on Learning – Student Achievement Success

Dr. Johnson introduced teacher representatives from each school and shared the highlights of each staff's work toward the increased student achievement. Each school received a framed certificate of appreciation for their advancements in student achievement which Dr. Johnson requested to be placed in school offices.

6. Superintendent's State of the District Address for 2008

Dr. Johnson presented the "State of the District Address" for 2008. The script of the address is included as an attachment to these minutes. Dr. Johnson is so proud and congratulated all teachers and classified employees for their work in increasing student achievement. She also congratulated District administration for their outstanding achievements in Modernization/Capital Improvement and departmental advancements and budgetary improvements. At the end of the address, Dr. Johnson announced that she would be retiring at the end of the 2008-09 school year.

Vice-President El-Hajj announced that there would be a short break. The Board reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

Vice 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. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Compliance of Education Code Section 60119: K-12 Textbook and Instructional Materials Funding Realignment Program (IMFRP)

Vice President El-Hajj announced the opening of a public hearing for the compliance of Education Code Section 60119: K-12 Textbook and Instructional Materials Funding Realignment Program (IMFRP). There were no comments from the public and the public 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. Vice 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. Approval/Ratification of Revolving Cash Report

2.5. Acceptance of Donations

2.6. Approval of Transportation Services Agreement Between the District and the Boys & Girls Club of East County

2.7. Approval of Issuance of New Warrant

4.1. Certification and Adoption of Resolution of Sufficiency of Instructional Materials 2008-09

5.1. Personnel, Regular

5.2. Pulled for separate consideration.

It was moved and seconded to approve Consent Items, with the exception of item E.5.2. which was pulled for separate consideration.

Motion: Burns **Second** Ryan **Vote:** 5-0
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5.2. Approval of Probationary Teachers (Pulled for separate consideration by Member Burns.)

Member Burns asked Mrs. Malin to introduce the temporary teachers recommended to become probationary. Mrs. Malin introduced those in attendance. Member Carlisle moved approval.

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

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

1.1. Solar Project Update

Dr. Johnson reported that since it was not possible as part of modernization to place solar energy panels on the roofs of the buildings, Administration has investigated how to best provide solar energy resources. Administration presented a plan to provide both energy savings and benefits to the District and pay for a portion through the incentive rebates.

Bill Clark shared that solar is the most challenging part of the modernization program. The roof installation option was lost because the current building would not support the weight of the solar panel and the new individual classroom air conditioners were placed there. The plan Administration is presenting would be as non intrusive as possible and provide shade on our campuses.

Mr. Clark brought Solar forward in August and the Board requested an energy audit be performed and to return with a recommendation. The Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE) conducted an audit. With two schools completed, they found that Borrego's calculations of annual savings were correct. The District could save approximately \$600,000 per year in energy costs, which in turn pays for the program. To construct these solar structures, debt would need to be issued for \$20,000,000 and paid back over a 30 year period.

Member Carlisle asked if the CSE was told our goal was to offset energy use at about 78%. Bill said yes. By decreasing the total solar project from 87% to between 70-80% it lowers the capital cost without diminishing the energy savings and becomes more cost effective. Energy incentive credits secured would benefit the District at approximately \$6.7 M. Having six schools completed with solar resources by April 2009 will trigger

these incentives. The benefits include a \$600,00 annual energy savings, incentive rebates and REC credits. Although it is reasonable that the REC credits may increase, they are not calculated into the funding.

With value engineering by Administration, the District has received a total guaranteed maximum price of \$20,0226,793, which also includes the cost to replace the roof, HVAC , and asphalt at the District Office.

Cathy Dominico from Capitol Public shared a financing plan over the 30-year life of the project, including the projected energy savings, PBI credits and rebates. The annual savings have been calculated at a 5% per year rate increase. She said the District must provide a debt service reserve fund, which accrues interest and is used for the last payment. The risk is receiving the projected level of energy savings. The current market conditions are very volatile but rates are very low at this time. Moving forward would be contingent on financing because we must maintain the 5.15% rate. October 23rd would be the day of pricing and at that time we will know if we can get the 5.15% rate.

Member Carlisle asked if the market conditions stay the same or Borrego brings their price down, and SDG&E rates increase 5%, if the energy cost avoidance would cover the debt repayment. Ms. Dominico said yes, that is the repayment plan.

Vice President El-Hajj asked if the District's demand for electricity will be lower now that there is more energy efficient equipment at the schools. Bill Clark said we should see a decrease in energy usage but Ms. Dominico said the biggest risk in not knowing for certain what the SDG & E increases will be over time.

Member Burns asked how having this long term debt would affect making other decisions with costs. Mr. Clark said the repayment plan is separate from other District funds. Mr. Dominico said if the SDG&E budgeted savings was not realized, there is risk that the District would need to find alternate dollars.

Member Carlisle said Mr. Clark is on target. It is best to offset as much of your energy use as possible. He asked if administration's solar proposal of 73% was proposed by CSE. Mr. Clark said yes, because of the rate system of SDG&E, there would be less savings with a greater proportion of energy being converted to solar.

Member Carlisle asked about the length of the life of the panels and the inverters. Bill Clark said the panels are warranted for 25 years and the inverters have a 10 year warranty. Member Carlisle asked who would do the maintenance. Mr. Clark said Borrego will cover maintenance for 5 years. Also, included in the guaranteed maximum price are extra panels as replacements in case of breakage, a boom lift for cleaning and maintenance, and extended warranties.

Member Carlisle said if the Board decides to approve the solar project, he would like the Board to be able to determine where the REC credits could be used, since they are not included in the payment schedules.

The Superintendent shared that the parent comments from the meetings at the schools show parents want shade. Cajon Park parents asked about panel placement and shared some good alternative ideas about placement. The Superintendent also provided a number of pictures of solar structures similar to what is being recommended, including some examples from other schools and some conceptual designs.

The designs are placed to capture sunlight and will provide needed or desired shade. Member Burns asked about safety around children. Mr. Clark said the cloth shade structures do not block all of the sun's rays. The full metal structures would block all sun rays and are designed to be as childproof as possible. The lowest point is 10 feet off the ground. The columns are designed to not allow a hand hold or grip for climbing and can be designed to have the pole inaccessible by fencing and the shade overhanging.

Board members asked if the schools would need to be completely solar. Mr. Clark said the system would be combined where SDG&E would provide power when solar was not providing some or all of the school's power.

Member Carlisle believes the solar project is the right thing to do for the environment and economy, and would provide shade for kids. It is to the District's benefit to guarantee our power source. Providing solar will also demonstrate to students that we are concerned about environmental issues and are forward thinkers.

He believes we need a caveat that pencils out at the 5.15 percent rate. Member Carlisle moved to approve the solar project. President Bartholomew seconded the motion.

Member Ryan stated she would be voting no, not because she does not support solar, but she is nervous about the unknowns, having not seen the design, making sure that all the information has been received, and doing it all at once. She would prefer to see solar placement on one school site before moving forward on all schools and is nervous about issuing 30 years of debt. Member Burns stated he also supports solar but is concerned because no other school district is doing something of this size. He has concerns about Borrego, and he would like to do a prototype school.

Vice President El-Hajj asked if a yes vote locks in the design or just moving forward with the projects. Bill Clark said Borrego has redesigned the structures to blend in with colors but also said we could continue to refine the design.

President Bartholomew said he agrees and believes it is a pivotal piece of our modernization project and parents believe that we need to do it. He appreciates Administration putting together a complete detailed review and the thinks the new design is much better and less obtrusive.

Motion: Carlisle Second: Bartholomew Vote: 3-2 Burns, Ryan, no

Member Burns, said although he voted against implementing the solar project, he will support moving forward with the project because the majority of Board has voted to move forward.

2.1. Authorization to Issue Modernization Project Certificates of Participation (COPS)

Cathy Dominico shared she was able to add an additional \$2 M to the overall funding sources for the District's modernization project. Part of the Board's approved revenue source for Modernization is \$20 M in COPS. These COPS are repaid over a 40 year window based on the revenue stream.

Member Carlisle moved to authorize administration to proceed with the issuance of the modernization capital project Certificates of Participation (COPS).

Motion: Carlisle Second: Bartholomew Vote: 4-1 Burns, no

2.2. Approval of 2007-08 Unaudited Actuals Report

Bill Clark reported the District has completed the financial year as planned. Member Carlisle asked if there was deficit spending. Mr. Clark said no, and explained how expenditure carry over may appear as deficit spending, but we are not.

Member Ryan moved approval of the 2007-08 Unaudited Actuals with all required State forms.

Motion: Ryan Second: Carlisle Vote: 4-0 (Bartholomew absent)

2.3. Monthly Financial Report

Bill Clark provided the monthly financial report. Enrollment is up from last year. There is a current ending reserve of \$51,152. Member Burns moved to approve the Monthly Financial Report, as presented.

Motion: Burns Second: Carlisle Vote: 4-0 (Bartholomew absent))

3.1. Carlton Hills and Carlton Oaks Gas Line Design

Bill Clark shared that Administration has worked with the contractor to fix the problem with the placement of the gas lines at Carlton Hills and believes there is no longer a concern.

3.2. Approval of 10 Classroom Site Plans and Cost Estimates for Chet F. Harritt and Hill Creek Schools

Bill Clark reported Administration will bring to the workshop on September 30th the recommendation for 10 classroom buildings at Hill Creek and Chet F. Harritt with a construction schedule. Member Burns likes pushing Hill Creek's planned 10 classroom building to the front of the school. He said there is a group of parents and community members in the Hill Creek area that are watching closely that it is not placed near their homes.

Member Ryan moved to approve the revised 10 classroom addition site plans and cost estimates for Chet F. Harritt and Hill Creek schools and additional soils borings testing at a cost of 8,000 per school.

Motion: Ryan Second: Carlisle Vote: 4-0 (Bartholomew absent)

3.3. Lease-Leaseback Amendment to Continue Phase II Cajon Park Construction

Bill Clark brought an amendment to the existing Lease-Leaseback contract, which contained only technical corrections. Member Burns moved to approve the Second Amendment Phase II (Cajon Park School) to the Construction Services Agreement.

Motion: Burns Second: Carlisle Vote: 4-0 (Bartholomew absent)

3.4. RFQ Architect Interview Panel

Administration presented a timeline in which to bring an architect recommendation to the Board on October 7th. Administration also provided a list of suggested members of the interview panel. Member Burns would like Administration to go through the regular process, then bring the committee's top selections to the Board to interview. Members Burns and Ryan would like to be part of the initial interview panel if the top selections would not come before the Board for an interview. Following Board discussion it was decided the Board will hold round 2 architect interviews on October 6th at 6:00 p.m. with the top two candidates recommended by the interview panel. Each candidate will have about 30 minutes for a presentation. There will be no Board member on the round 1 interview panel. Member Burns moved to approve the interview panel composition and the timeline.

Motion: Burns Second: Ryan Vote: 4-0 (Bartholomew absent)

4.1 Approval of Contract Agreement with enVision for School Accountability Report Card

Member Ryan moved to approve the contract agreement between Santee School District and enVision Consulting Group for School Accountability Report Cards.

Motion: Ryan Second: Burns Vote: 4-0 (Bartholomew absent)

G. BOARD COMMUNICATION

Member Ryan said that with Dr. Johnson's announcement of retiring, the Board would need to look at search firms. Dr. Johnson said Rich Thome, formerly of the County Office works as a consultant providing this service and CSBA may be another option. The Board asked Dr. Johnson to obtain three proposals to present to the Board.

Member Ryan is still concerned about kids being dropped off at school and not being allowed to go into the school campus. She heard from a parent that at some schools teachers walk students out to the sidewalk. There is nowhere to park, and parents are parking illegally in the construction zones. She will try to visit all the schools to see what it is like at other schools. Administration may want to look at ways to allow the students to go inside the school yard where they would be safer. If teachers would walk students out after school it would also be safer.

Member Burns visited the 20 classroom building at Cajon Park and learned Barnhart will be having a competition among the kids, rewarding a class with a visit inside the new building.

H. CLOSED SESSION

Vice President El-Hajj announced that the Board would meet in closed session for:

- 1.1. Conference with Legal Counsel: Significant exposure to litigation
(Govt. Code § 54956.9 subdivision (b)
(One potential case.)

Legal Representation: Tim Garfield, Attorney at Law

The Board entered closed session at 11:12 p.m.

I. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board reconvened to public session at 11:55 p.m. No action was reported.

J. ADJOURNMENT

The September 16, 2008 regular meeting adjourned at 11:55 p.m.