

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

October 2, 2007
MINUTES

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

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order and Welcome
President Carlisle called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
Members present:
Allen Carlisle, President
Dan Bartholomew, Vice President
Dianne El-Hajj, Clerk
Dustin Burns, Member
Barbara Ryan, 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 Carlisle invited Matt Thompson, vice principal at Pepper Drive School, 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: 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. Golden Bell Finalist
 - 1.6. Pepper Drive's Proclamation from the County Board of Supervisors for the Governor's Challenge

Dr. Johnson shared the Peacebuilders web site that spotlights three Carlton Oaks students as "Peacebuilders of the Month" for October.

John Tofflemire provided an enrollment report to the Board.

Dr. Johnson said she was pleased to inform the Board that the Hill Creek History Faire is a finalist for a Golden Bell award. A validation visit will be made to Hill Creek by October 22nd. Santee School District has not won a Golden Bell award since 1994. Dr. Johnson said everyone is very proud of the Hill Creek history/social science teachers who put the History Faire program together.

Dr. Johnson reported the County Board of Supervisors presented a proclamation to Pepper Drive School on September 25th, in recognition of winning the San Diego and Imperial County regional award in the Governor's Fitness Challenge. The presentation is available online at www.ctn.org. President Carlisle shared the framed certificate proclaiming September 25, 2007 as Pepper Drive School Day in the County of San Diego. Dr. Johnson will issue a press release.

2. Spotlight on Learning - Start Smart Program Sponsored by the Phil and Amy Mickelson Foundation, San Diego County Office of Education and

Emily Andrade shared her extreme pleasure to recognize the Start Smart program sponsored by the Phil and Amy Mickelson Foundation and Wal Mart. On August 18th, 2007, approximately 180 Santee students were able to go to the Murphy Canyon Road Wal Mart to shop for back-to-school clothes, shoes, and school supplies because of the Start Smart program. She introduced Gary McBride, representative from

the Phil and Amy Mickelson Foundation, Cullen Gantt, co-manager of the Murphy Canyon Wal Mart, and Jim Esterbrooks from the County Office of Education who coordinated the program for schools.

Mr. Esterbrooks said on behalf of the County Superintendent and the San Diego County Office of Education, it was a pleasure to work with Santee School District. This is the third year of the program and each year they alternate with different sections of the County. The challenge is to find enough space in the store to accommodate the kids. Mr. McBride said without the help of Mr. Esterbrooks and his office, this project could not be done. On behalf of Phil and Amy Mickelson, he thanked the District for providing bus transportation for the students to Wal Mart and back safety with their goodies. Start Smart has outfitted well over 3500 children over the last 3 years. The Foundation wishes to use this vehicle to excite kids about school and help them recognize how important school is.

Matt Thompson, vice principal at Pepper Drive School, read a moving letter from a parent whose children participated in Start Smart, sharing what a difference participating in Start Smart made in her son's attitude about going to school. She was very thankful for receiving the wonderful gift.

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

President Carlisle invited members of the audience to address the Board about any item not on the agenda.

Mary Sodano, an Instructional Assistant, said she received a reassignment of position in lieu of a lay-off notice and was given 5 days to make a decision on reassignment. She believes that it is not right and a lay-off notice should be issued for the three Instructional Assistant positions being eliminated instead of trying to place these employees in current vacant positions. She said that the law had been broken and California Education Code was not followed. She believes the Board needs to approve publicly the elimination of the positions.

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 Carlisle invited comments from the public on any item listed under Consent.

- 1.1. **Approval of Minutes**
- 1.2. **Adoption of Board Resolution #0708-06 in support of The Superintendents' Achievement Gap Task Force-A Commitment to Accelerate Learning**
- 2.1. **Approval/Ratification of Travel Requests**
- 2.2. **Approval/Ratification of Revolving Cash Report**
- 2.3. **Acceptance of Donations**
- 2.4. **Adoption of Proclamation for National School Lunch Week**
- 2.5. **Approval of Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report Required by the Williams Settlement**
- 2.6. **Approval of Quarterly Financial Disclosure, SB 564**
- 2.7. **Authorization to Submit Application for Federal Assistance and Adoption of Resolution #0708-05 Designating Applicant's Agent Relating to October 2003 Firestorm Property Claims - OES/FEMA Settlements**
- 3.1. **Approval of CareerStaff Agreement for Occupational Therapy (OT) Assistant Services**
- 3.2. **Authorization to File Operations Application of Intent to Participate in the 2007-08 Class Size Reduction (CSR) Program**
- 4.1. **Personnel, Regular**
- 4.2. **Approval of New Probationary Teachers**

Motion: Burns

Second: El-Hajj

Vote: 5-0

E. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

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

- 1.1. **Approval of Appointment of Members to Board Advisory Committees and Convening a Policy Review Committee**

Dr. Johnson shared the process of seeking parents and community members to serve on Board Advisory Committees. Dr. Johnson assigned members based on their preferences and vacancies available. The appointments were presented for Board approval. Member Ryan moved approval.

Motion: Ryan Second: Burns Vote 5-0
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Dr. Johnson said administration recommends starting a committee to review District policies, administrative regulations, and processes that address student discipline. The committee would meet to review current policies, hear guest speakers, and have discussions about student empowerment to strengthen and enhance caring communities at schools. Each school is also being asked to have a caring school committee.

President Carlisle asked if this would be a temporary committee. Dr. Johnson said yes, the committee would meet just for this year. If there was a need, the committee could become an annual review committee.

Member Ryan would like administration to return with a charge for the Board to adopt for this committee. She believes recruitment could begin. Member Burns said the Board should discuss what they would like to see for membership on the committee. Some suggestions for members of the committee included parents, teachers, business community, ministerial community, and law enforcement or probation representatives. Administration will return to the Board with a charge and membership recommendations for the policy review committee.

1.1. CGI Video Production

Dr. Johnson reported that on October 16th, at about 1:00 p.m., CGI would be arriving to video tape at schools and they wish to video tape the Board in the evening. She presented the storyboard for suggested topics to cover in the video. The topics included: where we came from, key messages, business partnerships, diversity, technology, professional development, and future modernization. The video crew will not be able to travel from school to school, therefore, administration recommended filming at Carlton Oaks for classroom environments and the school exterior and at Prospect for technology.

Member Ryan expressed concerned about getting 6 messages across in 60 seconds. She suggested eliminating the past if something needs to be omitted. President Carlisle asked if the District will get an opportunity to preview and edit the video. Dr. Johnson said the District would get an opportunity to edit the preliminary video. Member Ryan said there needs to be a student achievement piece included. Member Burns said we need student achievement and strategic planning included. He believes including strategic planning is very important because that is the first time in a long time the community has come together to develop a plan for the District.

Member Ryan shared how one of her colleagues was impressed with the API scores and plans to buy a home in Santee because of our schools' achievement. This demonstrates how important it is to include student achievement information. Member Burns said the powerful point is the comparison that we are achieving higher than all other school districts in East County and shows that we are moving. Dr. Johnson said she would suggest linking science and technology with student achievement. Member El-Hajj would like to include students interacting in a classroom.

Member Bartholomew asked what we could put in that would demonstrate modernization. Dr. Johnson said drawings could be used to demonstrate our upcoming modernization and samples were provided to the Board for consideration. Dr. Johnson summarized the direction of the Board for the video key messages to include student achievement, interactive classrooms, and caring communities.

Member Ryan said diversity may not need to be included separately but can be woven into the video demonstrating the diverse student population at our schools. The Board said the recommended staging sites would be fine.

CGI wishes to film the Board in action and will be at the Principal meeting and Board meeting to video tape. Member Burns said it would be great if they would be meeting with the students on that night. This night however, Dr. Johnson said, is scheduled with the Principals.

2.1. Review/Discussion of Capacity Report and Approval of BP 7112, New Construction Availability of Facilities

John Tofflemire presented a current facility capacity report and new Board Policy 7112 to the Board. He explained the report utilizes the new State facilities program standards for facilities reporting and planning. Capacity determination is used by the State for grant funding and construction matching funds. The State standards are based upon the concept of a "complete school," which would maintain teaching facilities that include classrooms with a minimum of 700 sq. ft. to a maximum of 960 sq. ft. and a "teaching station" ratio of 1:25 in grades K-6 and 1:27 in grades 7-8.

Administration has developed AR 7112.1 that incorporated these standards, which supported the District's capacity as 5,336. Current enrollment exceeds this capacity and is accomplished by housing students in temporary and sub-sized classrooms. Administration also developed AR 7112.11, which has estimates in it to anticipate future growth and modernization projects. Modernization, while improving upon the "complete school" concept at our schools, will also result in the loss of many sub-standard teaching locations currently used to house students.

Mr. Tofflemire said adopting this policy is important based on the enrollment history of the District, having lost over 2,200 students since 1998-99 but now beginning to level off and anticipate a projected increase with new housing developments. Currently enrollment is beginning to decline at a slower rate and is leveling off. Anticipated new housing developments in Santee will generate new students, placing demands on our current facilities.

Administration is requesting approval of the capacity reports and new Board Policy 7112. Administration also presented two new administrative regulations for review, AR 7112.1 and AR 7112.11. The new Board Policy and Administrative Regulations are based upon the State School Facilities Program Standards.

President Carlisle summarized administration's request. He said there were two items for Board action, acceptance of the capacity report and approval of the Board Policy.

Member Bartholomew said he reviewed the Board Policy and believes it is quite wordy and addresses more of an immediate need rather than addressing the District's needs over the long term. He presented his suggested language for the Policy.

Member Ryan was also concerned with the Policy language because it seems to be targeting developers. Member Bartholomew said board policies should be long term, not developed for short term needs.

Dr. Johnson said the policy needs to be in place for the future and to position the District for the type of mitigation that is needed when new developments impact our facilities. Member Carlisle preferred the suggested new language for the policy.

Member El-Hajj asked about the policy addressing "double sessions" and said the District has never considered "double sessions" in the past. Mrs. Andrade said at one time, many years ago, Cajon Park was on double session so it cannot be absolutely ruled out. Dr. Johnson said respectfully that double sessions would have been a consideration when the Board considered Option II Kindergarten and although it did not vote for it, double sessions was one of the considerations.

President Carlisle said the administrative regulations speak in generalities about teaching stations for students. He asked if this would need to be modified each year because of changes. Mr. Tofflemire said normally administrative regulations are developed by administration to support the Board approved policy and recommendations from the Board are welcome.

President Carlisle said his understanding is that one "teaching station" is a 700 sq. ft. of space, not speaking about 1 teacher for each station. Dr. Johnson said yes, it is speaking only of the adequate space for a classroom of students to have an appropriate learning environment. Christina Becker said it is the formula the State uses when allocating funding to house students. You have to build all other facilities needed for students out of the funding based on "teacher stations." President Carlisle asked, if the Board adopted the policy, would there be a 700 sq. ft. "station" for every 25 K-8 students? Member Ryan said if this standard was only going to be used to apply for state funds, she would not have a problem, but that is not actually how many students are in the classrooms. She is concerned that the Board is communicating something that says that is what sets our staffing ratios.

President Carlisle asked if the Board could use the policy for the short term purpose. Member Bartholomew is more interested in developing a policy that would be effective long-term rather than for the immediate needs for modernization funding.

Eric Hall, consultant, turned the Board's attention to AR 7112.1 regarding student housing capacity which captures the Board's concerns regarding the state standards of eligibility and the standards for staffing ratios.

Member Ryan is concerned that if this document will be used to mitigate with a developer, it does not appear to be honest because we do not staff at this level. Christina Becker said the calculations have been used to demonstrate to developers the need to build our classroom space so that a quality classroom environment is constructed. This would trigger Level II fees and if the State's standardized calculations were used, matching funds could not be retrieved unless classrooms were 700 or above in square footage.

President Carlisle asked why a capacity report and a board policy were being developed at this time. Christina Becker explained that in May 2007, the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) realized California schools are under built and determined to define what a "complete school" is. Through modernization there are 67 classrooms throughout the District being eliminated and we have to respond to developer impact on student population. President Carlisle said the community is saying, "You just demolished a school." Also one developer was not charged at this standard, and one very large developer is now being asked to "foot the bill." Member El-Hajj said it is not just a matter of capacity, but now we are trying to refine standards and goals and the timing is not the best. There were a lot of issues, besides declining enrollment that led to the closing of Santee School such as a major safety and liability issues.

Member Bartholomew does not have a problem using the standards but does not want to focus on the current development but a long-term standard and goal.

Member El-Hajj said although using the standards is the ideal, the District cannot afford to load at this time at the standard but it is a goal for the future.

Member Bartholomew said District facilities must accommodate students when the time comes that we may need them, such as if the State lowers additional class size ratios. For that use, a policy is appropriate, but to use one just for a developer is not appropriate.

Member Burns asked about the K-6 ratio because with Class Size Reduction, the District average is lower. Members Burns asked if this standard is normal operating procedure throughout the State. Eric Hall responded that developers across the State use the State Standards for ground rules. Member Bartholomew said the District needs to be cautious about how the policy is used right now.

President Carlisle said the State Standard is what he ultimately wants for Santee's schools. The Board also needs to think about the current situation with a large developer.

Member El-Hajj said they are separate issues. Member Bartholomew said the recommended board policy was clearly directed toward the developers and at another time the board policy may be appropriate.

Member Burns said if the State Standards are the normal operating procedure, and every other school district uses these numbers, then the integrity of the Board is in tact. If the Board is doing something different they need to know.

President Carlisle asked if school districts develop board policies on capacity when they are modernizing or doing new construction. Mrs. Becker said that districts began to develop policies when the State developed the new standards in May 2007. When the State comes to validate eligibility, they will use the May Department of Education report and administration has placed these standards in the administrative regulation. Mr. Hall said many districts in the growth mode develop these kinds of policies because Districts receive funding based on these standards, not on how many students you place in a classroom. Based on the State Standards, a computer lab or resource room over 700 Sq ft. would count as a classroom. The only difference the policy brought forward is that computer rooms are taken out of the classroom count for capacity, but the Board may establish its own standard. This is where the "complete classroom" ratio differs from staffing ratios. With modernization there will not be as many small classrooms as are used now.

Member Ryan asked if we will be going to the State for new construction funds. Mrs. Becker said State matching funds will be pursued if we become eligible. The Airport Authority's review of Gillespie Field's impact zone may take the Santee School site off the State capacity calculation, which will bring us closer to new construction grant eligibility.

President Carlisle asked if an entitlement has not been given to a development in a city, and having this policy in place, would we be mandated to respond to the CEQA process. Mrs. Becker said if a project had more than 16 homes, she would respond, although we are not required to respond. Regardless of the CEQA process, we may meet the criteria, and would be eligible for Level II developer fees.

Member Ryan asked how new construction funds could be used. Mrs. Becker said all the classroom additions and the new library/technology building additions could be eligible for new construction grants. President Carlisle asked if the policy was adopted, would the District be eligible for new construction money. Christina Becker said the State is currently counting Santee School as existing facilities. They want approved development track maps for projections and will not take projected developments. There is a high potential that the District may qualify for new construction State grants in the near future.

Board members agreed to act on each item separately. Member Burns moved to adopt Board Policy 7112, New Construction Availability of Facilities, using the language suggested by Member Bartholomew, as follows:

It is the goal of the Board of Education to provide the best learning environment for all of the students enrolled in the District. Historically, when faced with increased capacity requirements and an absence of financing to support those requirements, the District has employed alternative solutions such as portable classrooms and reconfigured facilities. These solutions, while not ideal, have been necessary to prevent consequences such as double sessions. The Board of Education must continue to explore solutions that will provide the effective and permanent space needed to maintain a quality education program.

It will be the policy of the Board of Education, within the legal limits of its discretion, to explore resources from all stakeholders who have a vested interest in the quality of our school facilities. Such stakeholders include but are not limited to businesses, other Public Agencies, and developers.

The superintendent is authorized to prepare administrative regulations that will (a) provide guidelines for determining the availability of school facilities that meet the needs of projected enrollment and (b) identify the level of support required to mitigate conditions of overcrowding in District schools. Among factors to be considered are:

- 1. The availability of school facilities to accommodate the projected enrollment.*
- 2. The anticipated impact of proposed development on school enrollment.*
- 3. The timing and certainty of new development building plans.*
- 4. The type of school facility needed when conditions of overcrowding exist.*
- 5. The provisions of local building ordinances with regard to residential development.*

Motion: Burns Second: El-Hajj Vote 5-0
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Member Bartholomew moved to approve new Administrative Regulation 7112.1, Student Housing Capacity.

Motion: Bartholomew Second: Burns Vote 4-1 (Ryan, no)
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Member Burns moved to approve new Administration Regulation 7112.11, Future Student Housing Capacity.

Motion: Burns Second: Bartholome Vote 4-1 (Ryan, no)
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Board members agreed that by adopting the new board policy and approving the new administrative regulations, the Board has accepted the Capacity Study, and therefore took no formal action on the capacity study analysis.

3.1. Fee-Based Preschool Pilot Proposal for 2008-09

Mrs. Andrade presented a proposal to provide a pilot fee-based preschool program for 3-5 year olds during the 2008-09 school year. Parent surveys indicate there is a strong interest in fee-based preschool. The planning committee has determined that Sycamore Canyon would be the most desirable location for the pilot program. The next steps include pursuing a license through Community Care Licensing, determining a fee schedule, staff needs and qualifications, curriculum, start up costs, and a student application process. The application fee of \$400 will license a classroom at Sycamore Canyon for up to 30 children. She asked the Board to consider approving the licensing application process and approval to continue developing a preschool pilot program and possibly housing it at Sycamore Canyon School.

Vice President Bartholomew asked what the criterion was to consider Sycamore Canyon as the location for the pilot. Mrs. Andrade said the location was selected on a space available basis and the feasibility of continuing throughout the modernization projects. Future plans would include having the preschool offered throughout the District. Member El-Hajj asked who sat on the committee. Mrs. Andrade said she chaired the committee. Kristin Baranski, Pam Brasher, and Hope Baker made up the committee, and Dr. Johnson attended as time allowed. Member Bartholomew moved to approve the licensing application process and the pilot program development, housing as Sycamore Canyon if it is determined to be the most desirable location.

Motion: Bartholomew Second: El-Hajj Vote 5-0
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G. BOARD COMMUNICATION

Member Ryan received a report from Foster Youth and will ask Linda to provide copies for Board members. The report included things foster children believe would have helped them during their school years. She believes it is good information and would like to see Santee implement some of the items. She reported Paula Ingram will be contacting the Superintendent's office and is seeking information on school attendance. She suggested Bill Clark be included in the meeting if possible.

Member Bartholomew discussed the threat by a parent that was made at one campus. He was there when the Sheriff arrived and saw the response and was very "underwhelmed." He said any threat or implied threat should be taken very seriously. Without prodding, he is not sure if the Sheriff would have even made a visit to the home. The Sherriff seemed sympathetic to the perpetrator. There may be a need to take it to a higher level. Dr. Johnson said she has a meeting scheduled with the new Captain and will address this with her.

Member El-Hajj congratulated President Carlisle for Santee Lakes winning San Diego Campground of the Year.

Member Burns shared his concern that following the lockdown at Cajon Park, there was not a de-briefing with students. Students went home and there was not conversation to lift their fears. There was not a consistent message by teachers; some were more serious and some used lighter tactics. He is not certain of the follow-up at other schools. He believes there should be a protocol for de-briefing with students that is consistent across the District. He will discuss this with the Superintendent. He shared that some parents did not take the lockdown seriously and stood outside the gates. Parents were invited into the media center, but someone asked if we knew all the parents who went in to the media center.

Member Burns shared his visit to El Camino Creek School where he saw on display a chart showing their scores in comparison to other schools. He said it was very powerful. He reported he visited Chet F. Harritt last week and discussed modernization with the Principal. He would like to meet Board members at Chet F. Harritt to see some of their concerns about modernization. He was not happy with the way the school looked, seeing toilets thrown over a fence and obsolete equipment stacked outside. He believed it was a safety concern and Maintenance took care of it right away upon being notified.

President Carlisle reminded Board members of the Superintendents' Task Force news conference on October 12th. President Carlisle and Member Burns will plan to attend. He shared the County's Award Program brochure and pointed out students from Hill Creek featured for History Day.

Dr. Johnson said the Riverwalk developer has requested placing a sign on the corner of District property. In return they will provide some landscaping of the corner lot. The request will go to the attorney.

President Carlisle reported on his attendance at the ISCS and said it was very interesting. They have areas set aside just for closing deals. He visited the City booth and spoke with Pam White. He said there were multiple inquiries about the Santee property.

President Carlisle reported on the joint meeting with the City. The City representatives expressed concern about the fields and discussed moving hardscape access to the park or using playgrounds on the other side. They did not express concern regarding the zoning. They wanted information on the cost of moving fields. He suggested administration meet together and cost out the project and talk about other related issues. Council members suggested they meet again before Thanksgiving and return with the recommendations. Board representatives mentioned that the School District would like the City to help fund the move.

Smoke shops were brought up and they were told by the City Manager that current ordinances would exclude any new smoke shops unless they went into industrial areas. A certain percentage of their floor space must be dedicated to non-tobacco paraphernalia. Member Ryan said El Cajon has an excellent ordinance. She would like to ask the City what they are doing with the smoke shop in the Albertson's shopping center on Magnolia and their expectations on how near they are to schools. She would like to ask the status on renewing their business licenses at the existing locations. Member Ryan would like administration to ask the city what smoke shops are currently in existence. At the next City/Board meeting, the Board would like to share the District's rationale for adopting the new Board Policy, that the goal is raising the standard for classroom facilities.

H. CLOSED SESSION

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

1. 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
Location: Fanita Ranch Property (Undeveloped property located north of Cuyamaca St. and between Fanita Parkway and Magnolia Ave..)
Agency Negotiators: Dr. Lis Johnson, Superintendent
Christina Becker, Director of Modernization
Eric Hall, Consultant
Negotiating Party: Barratt American
Purpose: Price and Terms
2. Conference with Legal Counsel-Anticipated Litigation (Gov't Code §54956.9)

One potential case.

3. Conference with Labor Negotiators (Govt. Code § 54956.8)
Employee Organization: Santee Teachers Association
Agency Negotiator: John Tofflemire, Assistant Superintendent
Employee Organization: Santee Administrators Association
Agency Negotiator: Lis Johnson, Superintendent
Purpose: Negotiations

The Board entered closed session at 9:20 p.m.

I. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION/ ADJOURNMENT

The Board reconvened to public session at 11:25 p.m. No action was reported. The October 2, 2007 regular meeting adjourned at 11:25 p.m.

Dianne El-Hajj, Clerk

Lisbeth A. Johnson, Ed.D., Secretary