

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

October 19, 2004

**MINUTES**

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

**A. OPENING PROCEDURES**

1. Call to Order and Welcome  
President El-Hajj called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.  
Members present:  
Dianne El-Hajj, President  
Cathy Abel, Vice President  
Dustin Burns, Clerk  
Allen Carlisle, Member  
Barbara Ryan, Member (Arrived at 7:15 p.m.)  
Staff present:  
Dr. Lisbeth Johnson, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board  
Dr. Patrick Shaw, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services  
John Tofflemire, Director, Human Resources  
Linda Vail, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary
2. President El-Hajj invited Alexandra "Alex" Vasquez, a kindergarten student from Pepper Drive, 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: Abel*

*Vote: 4- 0 (Ryan, absent)*

President El-Hajj introduced the two candidates for seat #4, Ken Fox and Dan Bartholomew.

**B. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

1. Superintendent's Report-
  - 1.1. Introduction of Assistant Superintendent of Business Services to be Approved this Evening  
Dr. Johnson introduced Bill Clark, the new Assistant Superintendent of Business Services. Mr. Clark shared information with the Board and audience about his background as a CPA and came to Santee school District from Hemet as the Director of Fiscal Services.
  - 1.2. Requests for Use of Facilities
  - 1.3. Enrollment Report
  - 1.4. Developer Fees Collection Report
  - 1.5. Schedule of Upcoming Events
2. Spotlight on Learning - Principal Presentations from Prospect Avenue and Carlton Oaks Schools on Student Achievement  
Dr. Johnson introduced principals Ann Bray from Prospect Avenue and Lis McColl from Carlton Oaks and shared the purpose for principals presenting student achievement data and future goals in these spotlight presentations. The principals presented background information, assessment data and their focus for improving learning, achievement target, and their instructional leadership plans to support the expertise of teachers in the classroom who make the difference.

**C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**

President El-Hajj invited members of the audience to address the Board about any item not on the agenda. Dr. Schissler, a citizen representing a group of concerned citizens about the RiverWalk development, shared concerns about the density of the project. He has requested to be placed on an upcoming agenda. This item will be placed on a future agenda. It was discussed that November 2<sup>nd</sup> was election night and his presentation might compete with the focus. He was asked to let administration know of his preference of a date to be placed on the Board agenda.

**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 with the exception of items pulled for separate consideration:

E.2.4. (Pulled by Member Carlisle)

E. 2.8. (Pulled by Member Burns)

E.4.1 (Pulled by Member Burns)

E.4.5. (Pulled by Member Carlisle)

**Superintendent**

1.1. Approval of Minutes

**Business Services**

2.1. Approval of Travel Requests

2.2. Approval/Ratification of Expenditure Warrants

2.3. Approval/Ratification of Purchase Orders

2.4. Approval of Financial Reports (*Pulled for separate consideration.*)

2.5. Approval/Ratification of Revolving Cash Reports

2.6. Acceptance of Donations

2.7. Approval of Contracts for Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School/Agency Services

2.8. Approval of Facility Use Agreement with YMCA of San Diego County for Use of Swimming Pools and Locker Rooms (*Pulled for separate consideration.*)

**Educational Services**

3.1. Adoption of Proclamation Endorsing Drug Awareness Week, October 23-31, 2004

3.2. Approval of 2005 Early Admittance to Kindergarten Program

3.3. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between Santee School District and Children & Families Ready 4 School Program and Grossmont Adult School Parent Education Program

3.4. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for California Partnership for Achieving Student Success

**Human Resources**

4.1. Personnel, Regular (To be included with minutes.) (*Pulled for separate consideration.*)

4.2. Adoption of Resolution to Reduce Hours of Identified Classified Employees

4.3. Approval to Decrease the Number of Child Assistant Positions and Increase Work Hours

4.4. Approval of Revised Job Description, Food Service Worker III

4.5. Approval of Appointment of Assistant Superintendent, Business Services (*Pulled for separate consideration.*)

**Motion: Ryan**

**Second: Burns**

**Vote: 5-0**

**Items pulled for separate consideration:**

E.2.4. Approval of Financial Reports

Member Carlisle asked if an additional column could be included routinely in these reports showing the percentage to cash. Carlos Estrella responded that this would be provided.

**Motion: Carlisle**

**Second: Abel**

**Vote: 5-0**

E. 2.8. Approval of Facility Use Agreement with YMCA of San Diego County for Use of Swimming Pools and Locker Rooms

Members Burns expressed concern that the District was being charged a fee to use the pool at the YMCA when the District allows their agency to use District property without a charge. Dr. Shaw explained that the fee was for lifeguard services. Member Burns believes that the \$40 per hour fee for lifeguard service is very high.

Member Carlisle asked if this service would be a cost to the general fund. Dr. Shaw responded that the fees are paid through an account established by donations and the program will also accept donations from parents toward the cost. Dr. Shaw believes that the account has a large enough balance to provide these activities for a great period of time and there will be no cost to the general fund.

**Motion: Burns**

**Second: Abel**

**Vote: 5-0**

E.4.1. Personnel

Member Burns does not believe that leave is appropriate to the employee listed in C.1. for the purpose requested.

Member Abel moved to approve Consent Item D.4.1. with the exception of item C.1., which will be considered separately.

**Motion: Abel**

**Second: Ryan**

**Vote: 5-0**

Member Ryan moved to approve Consent Item E.4.1. (C.1.)

**Motion: Ryan**

**Second: Abel**

**Vote: 3-2**  
**(Burns, El-Hajj no)**

E.4.5. Approval of Appointment of Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

Member Carlisle does not have a level of comfort in voting to approve a new Assistant Superintendent at this time because he is a new Board member and does not know if other options have been investigated in lieu of filling this position to save the District money and he would like to request more information. Member Ryan suggested that other Board members would be glad to share with him the history of the decision to fill this position.

Member Abel moved to approve the appointment of Bill Clark to the position of Assistant Superintendent of Business Services.

**Motion: Abel**

**Second: Burns**

**Vote: 4-0**  
**(Carlisle, abstain)**

**F. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS**

**Superintendent**

1.1. Appointment of Members to Board Advisory Committees

President El-Hajj presented the list of applicants for vacant positions on the Board Advisory Committees. After reviewing the applications, Board members voted to appoint members to the Board advisory committees as follows:

Budget Advisory Committee

Tom Modica  
Craig McKassen  
Gina Jackson  
Thomas Carr  
Karla Abbott  
Brad Odenkirk  
Jeffrey Sallay  
Jan Neuhaus

District Safety Committee

Beth Selbe  
Hilary Gaughen  
Paul Niswonger  
Mark Sage  
Michael Morris

Advisory Committee on Instruction

Suzanne Dale  
Krisite Sheen  
Shannon Edison  
Deanna Davis

District Technology Committee

Bill Thome  
Larry Barbary

Applicants that expressed interest in more than one committee will be contacted to see if they are interested in serving on another committee and may be considered as an applicant during the next appointment process. Because there were more vacancies than applicants for ACI and BAC the Board requested that applications for committee vacancies be redistributed to seek additional interested applicants.

***Motion: Abel***

***Second: Burns***

***Vote: 5-0***

1.2. Discussion on Upcoming Safety Training

Superintendent Johnson shared information about the upcoming emergency communications training for management team members and planned districtwide drills to test the communication systems. Dr. Johnson asked if the Board would like to have the training made available to Board members. President El-Hajj asked Dr. Johnson to bring a report back to the Board at the second meeting in January with a summary of the outcome of the emergency communication drills. Member Carlisle will contact a district parent, who is from the Sheriff's department, that trains on lockdowns to provide any information of assistance that may be needed. Member Burns shared his concern about sharing any lockdown vulnerabilities and said that he requested that the Sheriff's department audit our fence safety.

1.3. Hardship Structure of Parcel Tax Assessments for Businesses

Dr. Johnson reported that administration investigated hardship exemptions for businesses, at direction from the Board. She requested that Bill Clark research the legalities. Mr. Clark shared the information that he gathered, including legal council, about exemptions for businesses if the parcel tax created a hardship. The senior exemption (65+ years) is a standard exemption, and as well there are legal exemptions for business owners owning contiguous parcels. Member Ryan asked for clarification on contiguous parcels and how the payment would be determined. Member Ryan asked how the contiguous parcel exemption would affect Fanita Ranch. Mr. Clark shared that "Economic Unit" is the key phrase and he will continue to investigate further on the definition of contiguous parcels/property.

The legal information presented was summarized as follows. An exemption for businesses for hardship, as discussed at the last meeting as a standard exemption, may not be applicable. Mr. Clark explained that there is a uniformity law and there would be a need to be very cautious in allowing any hardship exemptions that did not follow the 65 and over or contiguous parcel/property rule. The Board determined that they would take no action at this time but make a decision as needed after the election. No action taken.

1.4. Community Connection Circles

Superintendent Johnson shared information on the reports received from the Sheriff's department about the growing number of hate symbols appearing in a variety of places that are symbolic of "hate groups." Students can sometimes wear these symbols on their T-shirts. Mr. Don Hamer, chair of the City's Human Relations Commission as an outgrowth of the City-Board meeting, shared with the superintendent curriculum that is available and has been used in conjunction with Community Connection Circles to support positive human relationships. Superintendent Johnson indicated that the idea of Community Connection Circles had emanated from a discussion on the agenda from the Santee Board-City Council meetings last year in which the Superintendent and City Manager are present. Janee Litrell, a counselor from Santana High School, hosted some of these groups "community classes" and also met with the superintendent to share the curriculum and the success of the community circles. Dr. Johnson explained that the staff would like to assess the need for this opportunity and initiate a pilot Communication Circle for one school.

Member Burns asked if students who wear clothing with any of the "hate symbols" are being talked to by the vice principal or social workers. Administration said that when the clothing is inappropriate there is action taken at the school, but many of the symbols have become brand name trademarks or fads. Site leaders are aware of the symbols and were provided with training by the Sheriff's department last year. Social workers and site leaders would talk to students who may be involved in questionable peer groups or activities, and who are wearing these types of symbols.

Member Carlisle moved to approve the participation of a pilot school in Community Connection Circles. The Board asked administration to provide a report on the program after participation. President El-Hajj would also like this to be a topic of discussion at the student discussion meeting on November 2nd.

**Motion: Carlisle**

**Second: Ryan**

**Vote: 5-0**

- 1.5. Adoption of Resolution No. 0405-16 Authorizing the San Diego County Office of Education to Execute Agreement with the County of San Diego on its Behalf

Dr. Johnson reported that the County has provided a resolution for districts to authorize the San Diego County Office of Education to execute an agreement with the County of San Diego for mental health services on its behalf. Dr. Johnson shared that the costs for mental health services for our students provided to the Office of Education by the County of San Diego is not correct, therefore the actual cost is still unknown.

Member Ryan shared a concern about item #2 on the resolution being unrestricted and that the Board needs to be on record that Santee will pay the only the costs incurred by our students. Board members expressed concern that the resolution from the County Office of Education did not have exact costs that our district would need to pay. Member Burns does not feel that the County Office is being clear about how much the District is going to have to pay. Dr. Johnson explained that it will probably take months to assess the current costs in student mental health services, which make the exact costs unknown.

Board members would like to include into the resolution that "Santee will reimburse only for services incurred by our students."

Member Burns asked what the consequences would be if the Board postponed adopting the resolution. Dr. Johnson explained that the agreement has already been initiated because the County of San Diego had to know before October 15 what districts would do in order not to lay off employees who provide these services. She shared that each district has been adamant in saying that they only want to pay for their students.

Member Carlisle asked if students participating in the program will be tracked so the District can determine the cost. Dr. Johnson reported that the District will track these students now since we will be responsible for paying for their services. Member Carlisle is also concerned about voting

on something that does not give us an exact cost and is also concerned about the erroneous records being provided. Dr. Johnson said that the erroneous records are being provided by the County of San Diego Mental Health Department and not the County Office of Education. Member Ryan moved to adopt the resolution with the sentence "Santee School District will reimburse the County for costs incurred by Santee School District students only" added to item #2.

**Motion: Ryan**

**Second: Abel**

**Vote: 5-0**

#### **Business Services**

- 2.1. Approval of 2004-05 Budget Revisions for July, August, and September

**Motion: Ryan**

**Second: Burns**

**Vote: 5-0**

#### **Educational Services**

- 3.1. Approval of Extended Day Kindergarten Proposal for Pepper Drive School  
Dr. Shaw introduced Pepper Drive Principal, Ernie Nevares, who expressed on behalf of his staff and parents the desire to begin extended day kindergarten at Pepper Drive School. He shared that both parents and staff have come to him requesting this program. All kindergarten parents have been notified of this extended day proposal and are supportive. Pepper Drive is willing to pay any costs that would be incurred for transportation. Member Burns would like to look at a multi year plan if this goes forward again next year.

**Motion: Ryan**

**Second: Abel**

**Vote: 5-0**

#### **Human Resources (None)**

#### **G. BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS (none)**

1. First Readings (None)
2. Second Readings
- 2.1. Revised BB 9120 Officers and Auxiliary Personnel and BB 9223 Filling Vacancies  
Member Burns asked if there were any concerns about an appointed Board member being president and stated that the policy does not address that. He believes that an appointed member should not be in the position of Board president. Board members discussed the policy and determined that it did not allow for an appointed member to rotate into the presidency before an election would need to be held. Member Ryan moved to approve the revised Board By-laws as presented.

**Motion: Ryan**

**Second: Abel**

**Vote: 5-0**

#### **H. BOARD COMMUNICATION**

Member Burns shared information about his trip to Sacramento in support of the School District's commitment for a new library in Santee, for which the city is seeking matching funds from the State. He believes that the meeting went well. He also shared that during Masters in Governance he learned that a middle school in California was having junior high students make up absences on Saturdays in order to collect the ADA.

Member Burns acknowledged that Pepper Drive students have gone through a difficult time with a delicate situation regarding a student who is very ill at their school. He would like the Board to acknowledge the staff and students for all they have done for the family in need. President El-Hajj said we would need to think of something special to do and send a letter also.

President El-Hajj shared the *Health News* about handwashing and said that she had received an email in response to the information being distributed that attendance would increase if there was soap in the bathrooms. She was assured by administration that soap is supplied for handwashing in the restrooms.

**I. CLOSED SESSION**

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

1. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
2. Conference with Labor Negotiator  
*Agency Negotiator: John Tofflemire, Director, Human Resources*  
*Employee Organizations: Santee Teachers Association (STA)*  
*California School Employees Association (CSEA)*
3. Student Discipline Matters
4. Conference with Real Property Negotiators  
*Location: Renzulli Site and Santee School*  
*Agency Negotiator: Lisbeth Johnson, Superintendent*

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

**J. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION/ ADJOURNMENT**

The Board reconvened to public session at 12:05 a.m. No action was reported. The October 19, 2004, regular meeting adjourned at 12:05 a.m.

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Dustin Burns, Clerk

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Lisbeth A. Johnson, Ed.D., Secretary