

SANTEE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
August 24, 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
Barbara Ryan, Member

Members absent:

Julie McIntosh, Member (Excused)

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 Beth Selby, a district parent, 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: Abel

Vote: 4-0

B. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

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

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

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. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

1.1. Board Discussion Regarding Upcoming Vacancy of Board Member Seat #5

Member Burns moved that the Board appoint to fill the upcoming vacant Seat #5 on the Board of Education rather than spend funds to pay the cost of a special election. The appointee would complete the term of Seat #5 which will be filled by an elected successor in the November 2006 general election.

Motion: Burns

Second: Abel

Vote: 4-0

The Board reviewed the sample timeline that establishes dates for applications, presentations, and appointment.

It was moved and seconded to approve the timeline as follows:

- August 30, 2004 Advertising for vacancy begins and applications are available.
- September 10, 2004 (4:00 p.m.) Deadline for applications to be received in the Superintendent's office.
- September 17, 2004 Applicant's names placed in Board packet for public information.
- September 21, 2004 Public input received, applicant presentations, and possible appointment.

Motion: Ryan

Second: Abel

Vote: 4-0

The Board reviewed sample applications from other districts and the County Office of Education for appointment to vacant governing board positions. Members discussed what information they would like included in Santee's application. Direction was given on the compilation of the application information and the Executive Assistant will create an application with the desired information. It was moved to accept the application as determined by member discussion.

Motion: Ryan

Second: Abel

Vote: 4-0

Member Burns asked if Board members felt that County Counsel should attend the meeting when an appointment will be made, as Grossmont did. The majority of members did not feel a need to have counsel available when an appointment is made.

Board members discussed the process that would be followed, and determined by consensus the following provisions:

- Each applicant would be provided three to five minutes to give an oral presentation.
- Board members would be able to ask additional questions following the oral presentation.
- Questions would not be developed or provided to the applicants prior to the interview meeting.
- Applicants will be informed that Board members may ask questions of them following their oral presentations.
- A maximum of four questions will be asked of a candidate.
- Applicants will give their oral presentations in the order determined by drawing numbers.
- The oral presentations will be presented in public session with no one being asked to leave during other applicant's presentations.

The Board asked the Superintendent to prepare a workshop for candidates prior to the Sept. 21 Board meeting. This workshop would include applicants to Seat #5 and candidates for Seat #4 in the November election. The Board asked the Superintendent to be certain to share with all candidates the great number of hours that are committed upon becoming a Board member. Notebooks will be prepared for the presentation and distributed to applicants and candidates.

E. BOARD COMMUNICATION

Member Burns shared that the evening news stated that there have been three explosions in the Cajon Park and Hill Creek areas in the past several days. The Board asked the Superintendent to communicate with the Sheriff's department and to discuss with staff and students about being sure that the school campuses and surrounding areas are safe, what to watch for and what to do if suspicious items are seen. The Superintendent will direct staff to be aware and vigilant about suspicious materials, and inspect sites prior to school opening.

Member Burns shared about the Welcome Back event for all employees held on August 24, 2004. Over 300 employees attended and there was excitement and a positive attitude about the new school year. Member Burns, on behalf of the Board, welcomed staff back to the new school year. The Board would like to formally recognize the community businesses who participated in the Welcome Back event: Vestar, Einstein's Bagels, Starbuck's Coffee, and California Coast Credit Union. Thank you notes will be prepared.

F. 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: Lis Johnson, Superintendent
The Board entered closed session at 8:20 p.m.

G. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION/ ADJOURNMENT

The Board reconvened to public session at 10:30 p.m. No action was reported. The August 24, 2004, special meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

Dustin Burns, Clerk

Lisbeth A. Johnson, Ed.D., Secretary