

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS  
June 20, 2012**

**Convene Open Session**

Board Vice President Tracy Proulx called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:44 p.m. in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

**Attendance at Meeting**

John Collins	Steve Trujillo	Cynthia Hawthorne
Claudia Vestal	Deborah Tracy-Proulx	Rachel Dewey Thorsett

Absent: Board President Ken Wagman

Gary Bloom, Superintendent  
Karen Hendricks, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Alvaro Meza, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services  
Kris Munro, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services  
Members of the Audience

**Welcome and Format**

Board Vice President Tracy Proulx welcomed those in attendance and explained the format used for this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education.

**Agenda Changes**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

SCCS LMT Joyce Smith asked the audience to give the Santa Cruz Education Foundation, the Board of Education, and the Cabinet a standing ovation for the collective great work on the parcel tax campaign that resulted in an 80% passage rate on June 5, 2012. Santa Cruz Education Foundation President Suz Howells reported the receipt of a \$2,500 grant for the Branciforte Middle School Life Lab; a donation of \$5,000 from the SCEF to the Harbor High School Summer Math Program; a successful pilot of an after school music program that will be considered for expansion in the future. SCCS Personnel Commissioner Dr. Jim Logsdon had the pleasure of attending the Black Student Union Graduation Ceremony, which included students from Santa Cruz High School, Delta Charter School, Pacific Collegiate and one student who came from San Jose to participate in the ceremony. Parcel Tax Oversight Committee Member Janet Swann thanked Ms. Dewey Thorsett for her years of service to the school community.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Bloom reported that 737 students graduated from Santa Cruz City Schools high schools in 2012 and will be prepared to move on to some of the finest colleges in the world. The Superintendent offered heartfelt thanks to Ms. Dewey Thorsett and recognized her as one of the top one or two board members he has worked with over the course of many years in education.

## **BOARD REPORTS and REFERRALS**

### **Board Vice President's Report**

Board Vice President Tracy Proulx noted that as this is the last board meeting for Trustee Dewey Thorsett, the Board Members may choose to devote their reports to comments about their colleague. Board Vice President Tracy thanked Trustee Dewey Thorsett for her very valuable service to this community as a member of the Board of Education. Ms. Dewey Thorsett made all the very tiny numbers in the budget relevant and understandable and has been the voice of reason, calmness and class during her tenure as a Trustee. Thank you.

### **Board Members' Reports and Referrals**

Board Member Dewey Thorsett reported that serving as a Trustee has been very interesting and she feels fortunate to have been part of an effort that has brought significant change to the district. One of the changes Trustee Dewey Thorsett is most proud of is how the Board and the Cabinet have come to realize the importance of community involvement. Ms. Dewey Thorsett thanked the Trustees for the ability to keep kids and classrooms the centerpiece of their work, and Superintendent Bloom for his recognition of the value of active community participation in district business and for advocating access and equity for all students. Board Member Dewey Thorsett thanked Ms. Hawthorne for her diligent support of students and former Trustees Strimling and Maxwell for stepping up at a difficult time in the district. Ms. Dewey Thorsett's time as a Trustee would have been very different without the partnership and support of Board President Wagman, and Suz Howells and George Martinez have served as great sounding boards for her. Thank you all for everything.

Board Member Collins attended all of the comprehensive high school graduations and one of the Small Schools celebrations. Mr. Collins noted that the district school photographer attends the comprehensive school graduations to take pictures, but does not come to the Small Schools promotions – perhaps the district should take a look at this practice. Mr. Collins is in communication with the Warriors Basketball Organization regarding getting their program up and running in Santa Cruz. Trustee Collins will run for reelection in November and would like to thank the bargaining units for their support of his candidacy. Board Member Collins acknowledged Trustee Dewey Thorsett as a great colleague and expressed his admiration for her analytical skills. Ms. Dewey Thorsett is not just a “numbers” person – she is a consensus seeker, passionate regarding the education of children, and she always comes from a place of reason. Thank you.

Board Member Hawthorne acknowledged Ms. Dewey Thorsett as a most amazing ally and colleague. Ms. Dewey Thorsett's grasp of the issues, leadership and ability to analyze the budget made her an invaluable asset to the Board of Education. Thank you for being a selfless public servant.

Board Member Vestal acknowledged Trustee Dewey Thorsett for her ability to see both sides of a situation and discover a way to compromise – she is the Queen of the “Friendly Amendment”!

Board Member Trujillo attended the Santa Cruz, Harbor, Costanoa and ARK high school graduations and really enjoyed the experience. Board President Wagman and Trustee Hawthorne joined Board Member Trujillo to march in the Santa Cruz Gay Pride Parade on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Trujillo acknowledged Ms. Dewey Thorsett for her inclusiveness and her thoughtful way to find a compromise.

### **Refreshments and Celebrations**

**Break:** Board Vice President Tracy Proulx called for a short recess at 7:10 p.m. and everyone to share in cake and celebration to acknowledge Trustee Dewey Thorsett and the passage of Measures I & J.

Superintendent Bloom invited anyone who participated in the campaigns for Measures I & J to come forward and sign the yard poster that will be displayed in the district office.

**Reconvene:** Board Vice President Tracy Proulx reconvened this Regular Meeting at 7:22 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. MSP (Trujillo/Collins) 5-0-1, the Board of Education approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 9, 2012. Ms. Vestal abstained from this vote as she was not present at the meeting.

### **GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS**

#### **Consent Agenda**

Ms. Hawthorne moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Personnel Actions – *Certificated*; Personnel Actions – *Classified*; Purchase Orders; Warrant Register; Gifts; 2012-13 Agreement for Legal Services for Dannis/Woliver/Kelley; Board Meeting Schedule for July through December 2012; Board Policy Updates – First and Final Reading; Adult Education – Behind the Wheel Program; Resolution 41-11-12 Authorizing Summer Personnel Actions; Resolution 39-11-12 Authorized District Signatures; Consolidated Application; CSA(s) – Special Education; CSA – Hearing Testing; NPA/NPS Contracts – Special Education; District Service Contract (DSA) – Migrant Services; 2012-13 Agriculture Incentive Grant; Resolution 42-11-12 Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent to Accept Bids. The Board acknowledged, with gratitude, the following gifts donated to Santa Cruz City Schools: *Harbor High School* – Sheila and Amanda Gamban donated books to the campus library; Scott Borek of Aqua Venture donated a fish tank and tank management/care to the Harbor Library fish tank; Students Hannah Golden, Liz Starkey and Michelle Goodwin each donated “The Practice of Statistics” to the campus library. *Soquel High School* – Teacher Margaret Kline donated her \$2,065.64 stipend to the Drama Program at Soquel High School. Mr. Collins seconded the motion. This motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:** Collins – Yes                      Hawthorne – Yes                      Dewey Thorsett – Yes  
Tracy-Proulx – Yes                      Trujillo – Yes                      Vestal – Yes

#### **Closed Session Actions Report**

1. The Board of Education approved Certificated/Classified/Management leaves, retirements, resignations and appointments as submitted with a vote of 6-0.
2. The Board of Education heard information regarding a Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal (Govt. Code 54957) but did not take action on this matter.
3. The Board of Education approved a Public Employee Appointment/Employment (Govt. Code 54957) with a 6-0 vote. Title: Assistant Principal, Santa Cruz High School: Robert Hatcher
4. The Board of Education approved Expulsion 28-11-12 with a vote of 6-0.
5. The Board of Education received an update from and gave direction to designated representative Gary Bloom regarding negotiations with the SCCCE for 2011-12.
6. The Board of Education heard information and gave direction to Superintendent Bloom regarding the Meet and Confer agreements for AMA and Confidential.

### **ITEMS of BUSINESS to be TRANSACTED and/or DISCUSSED**

#### **Staff Report: Biliteracy Recognition 2012**

Director of Curriculum and Assessment James reported that on April 27, 2011 the Board approved Resolution 28-10-11 establishing a Seal of Biliteracy to recognize graduating seniors who demonstrate advanced skills in English and a target language. This year, Santa Cruz City Schools is very proud to announce that 35 students



**New Business: Revised Graduation Requirements**

Ms. James reported that during the fall and winter of 2011-12, a Graduation Requirements Ad Hoc Committee was established to give the district input on potential revisions to student graduation expectations, identify supports needed, and develop a possible timeline by which revisions may take place. Ms. Munro recommended approval of preliminary planning for revision of Santa Cruz City Schools graduation requirements. Final Board approval will be sought prior to implementation. Ms. Dewey Thorsett moved authorization for an inclusive discussion for the planning of revisions to high school graduation requirements in settings that include middle and high school teachers, students, parents and community members, particularly those with expertise in the areas involved, and with frequent updates on these discussions to the Board of Education. Mr. Collins seconded the motion. This motion was approved with a vote of 6-0.

**Recess:** Board Vice President Tracy Proulx called for a short recess at 9:03 p.m.

**Reconvene:** Board Vice President reconvened this Regular Meeting at 9:08 p.m.

**New Business: Revised Strategic Metrics**

On December 8, 2010, the Board of Education adopted district Strategic Goals and Metrics that form the foundation for monitoring student progress and district initiatives. The metrics have been revised periodically, with input from leadership, for ease of analysis or to accommodate new assessments or initiatives. The current proposed metrics revisions were made in order to collect data that will better inform district initiatives and/or simplify data collection to accommodate our information system. Ms. Dewey Thorsett suggested that although item 6.8 (Parent participation in site and district level committees) presents challenges in defining and quantifying results, it should not be removed until a better metric can be substituted. Ms. Dewey Thorsett moved approval of the revised metrics, with the exception of the removal of item 6.8. Ms. Hawthorne seconded this motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0.

**Staff Report: Wellness Committee Annual Report**

Student Services Director Brown presented this information to the Board of Education. The Wellness Committee has three subcommittees that focus on separate issues – Food and Nutrition, Parent Education, and Physical Activity. *Food and Nutrition:* the Universal Breakfast pilot program at Gault has resulted in far fewer visits to the Health Office before the lunch break at Gault Elementary. Dinner at Bay View is a federally funded program that serves 90 students healthy foods and presents leadership opportunities for students. In order to address the high level of soda consumption among students, the “Rethink Your Drink” program includes a one month “Soda Tracker” and encourages alternative drinks (water, fruit juice, or plain milk). *Parent Education:* the “Passion for Produce” program is a partnership with the Second Harvest Food Bank and provides participating parents with fresh fruit and produce, cooking demonstrations, and exercise classes. Parent volunteers serve as Nutrition Ambassadors in their neighborhoods. *Physical Activity:* Programs in 2011-12 included “Movement with Purpose” (1 hour per week with an instructor at the elementary level); PE Professional Development for elementary teachers (provided by Middle School PE teachers); “Playworks” at Bay View Elementary. Board Member Vestal reported a great year for the Wellness programs – watching the children in action makes it clear how well these programs are working. This report was informational only and no action was taken by the Board of Education regarding this matter.



**Close:** Board Vice President Tracy Proulx closed this Public Hearing at 10:43 p.m.

**New Business: Transitional Kindergarten Waiver**

Ms. Munro recommended approval of the Transitional Kindergarten Waiver. MSP (Hawthorne/Collins) 6-0, the Governing Board approved the Transitional Kindergarten Waiver.

**New Business: Tentative Agreement with the SCCCE**

Ms. Hendricks recommended approval of the Tentative Agreement between the Santa Cruz Council of Classified Employees and Santa Cruz City Schools for 2012-13 as attached for Article VI Hours and Overtime/Work Calendar and Article IX Wages. This agreement was reached on June 6, 2012 and stands separate of other articles on the table. Bargaining can continue on other measures on the table. MSP (Hawthorne/Dewey Thorsett) 6-0, the Board of Education approved the Tentative Agreement with the SCCCE.

**Information**

1. The Regular Meeting on August 22, 2012, 6:30 p.m. will be held in the District Office, Room 312, 405 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA 95073.
2. The Regular Meeting on September 5, 2012, 6:30 p.m. will be held in the District Office, Room 312, 405 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA 95073.
3. The Regular Meeting on September 19, 2012, 6:30 p.m. will be held in the COE Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

**Adjournment**

There being no further items of business to come before the Trustees, Board Vice President Tracy Proulx adjourned this Regular Meeting at 10:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Bloom, Superintendent  
Santa Cruz City Schools

Ken Wagman, President  
Board of Education