

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS
October 26, 2011**

Convene Open Session

Board President Hawthorne called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

Attendance at Meeting

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

Student Representatives: Holly Borg, Santa Cruz High School *Michelle Goodwin, Harbor High School
(Michelle arrived @ 7:10 p.m.)

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

Welcome and Format

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

Agenda Changes

None

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Community Member Marilyn Garrett asked the Board of Education to direct the district administration to remove wireless computers and devices from the schools in the interest of the safety and health of students and staff. Representatives from Branciforte Middle School delivered flyers for the November 4th Tamalada. The event runs from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. and features folkloric dance. This is a fundraiser for Arts Academy Classes at Branciforte Middle School.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

The Superintendent reported that the secondary school principals have been visiting secondary school classrooms in a systematic way to observe student engagement with instruction and best practices by teachers. It is a way to observe first-hand what is working in the district for teachers and students, and to discover avenues for growth. A professional development workshop was presented by staff members on the subject of Science content literacy. This workshop focused on the secondary sites and is the first in a series of subject area professional development workshops that will be presented by staff members throughout the school year. On Monday, October 24, Jr. Rayas began work as Director of Information Technology, and tomorrow Ed Victorine will start work as Director of Maintenance and Operations. We welcome them and look forward to working with them.

BOARD REPORTS and REFERRALS

Board President's Report

Board President Hawthorne acknowledged Ms. Munro for her quote in the Santa Cruz Sentinel explaining the elementary Life Lab science program supported by the parcel tax measures, and the increase in fifth grade science scores that have accompanied this program. Ms. Hawthorne has long been an advocate for Life Lab and wished to acknowledge their work and the effects on student success. Board President Hawthorne continued by stating that Life Lab, The Water Shed program from Green Schools, and Outdoor Science School are 3 programs championed by trustees and community volunteers such as the Santa Cruz Education Foundation that have helped SCCS buck the trend and improve science education for our K-6 students. Ms. Hawthorne also attended the Schools Coalition Meeting on October 19th.

Board Members' Reports and Referrals

Board Member Collins also thanked Ms. Munro for her comments in the Sentinel this morning and mentioned an article he had read in the New York Times regarding testing and English Language Learners. Mr. Collins also heard an interview with SCCS Food Senior Manager Smith on KSCO radio and it was great to hear Mr. Smith discuss healthy school food for students.

Board Member Dewey Thorsett reported attending the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting on October 25.

Board Member Tracy-Proulx attended the Schools Coalition Meeting on October 19 and extended her thanks to Superintendent Bloom and Mr. Meza for providing a secure environment for this discussion. Ms. Tracy-Proulx attended a Wellness Committee Meeting. The Gault Elementary School Halloween Carnival and Parade is Saturday, October 29.

Board Member Wagman attended an event at the McPherson Art Center last night. The authors of the *Positive Discipline* series presented an explanation of the foundations of the Positive Discipline model, applicable to any parent, teacher, or administrator interested in raising resilient and respectful kids. Mr. Wagman also attended the Santa Cruz High School PTA Meeting and the Green Schools Committee Meeting.

Board Member Vestal visited the Teaching Tolerance Workshop and felt a great support for students at this gathering. Ms. Vestal also attended the first Wellness Committee Meeting of the 2011-12 school year.

Board Member Trujillo attended the Green Schools Committee Meeting and hopes to work in the new Branciforte Middle School garden later this fall. Mr. Trujillo will attend the Tamalada on November 4th.

Student Representative Report

Student Representative Borg reported that Santa Cruz High School will have first term finals next week. There is a Garden Club Meeting tomorrow for students hoping to establish a garden at Santa Cruz High School and provide the cafeteria with some home-grown produce in the future. Ms. Borg is working with the Second Harvest Food Bank to establish a student farmer's market. Ms. Borg attended an excellent student service workshop in San Francisco.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MSP (Collins/Dewey Thorsett) 7-0 the Board of Education approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 12, 2011. Student Borg voted yes.

GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

Mr. Collins moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Personnel Actions – Classified; Purchase Orders; Warrant Register; Budget Transfers; Gifts; Change Order(s); Notice(s) of Completion. The Board of Education acknowledged, with gratitude, the following gifts donated to the Santa Cruz City Schools: Westlake Elementary School – Mike and Jenny Anderson donated 37 reams of colored paper for this school; Santa Cruz High School – John and Peggy Albrecht donated \$1,200 for classroom supplies; Roy Trowbridge, President and Co-Owner of Palace Art & Office Supply donated \$325 in gift cards and certificates for classroom supplies; \$3,000 for general operating expenses was received from the Robert N. and Florence Slinger Fund through the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County. District Office – David Soares and Suz Howells donated one 48 inch plasma television to the District Office. Ms. Dewey Thorsett seconded the motion, and this motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows:

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

Student Borg – Yes

Closed Session Actions Report

1. The Board of Education approved the Certificated/Classified Management Leaves, Retirements, Resignations & Appointments as submitted with a vote of 7-0.
2. The Board of Education received an update from and gave direction to Superintendent Bloom regarding negotiations with the GSCFT K-12 Unit for 2011-12.
3. The Board of Education received an update from and gave direction to Superintendent Bloom regarding negotiations with the SCCCE for 2010-11.
4. The Board of Education approved stipulated expulsions 01-11-12 and 02-11-12 with a vote of 7-0.

ITEMS of BUSINESS to be TRANSACTED and/or DISCUSSED

Staff Report: Articulation and Outreach

Ms. Munro reported to the Board regarding established practices and new ideas to increase articulation and collaboration among SCCS and its partner districts and local college programs. SCCS now extends invitations to partner districts in the Counseling Professional Learning Communities, Math Networks and English Learner Study Groups. A Partner District Articulation Meeting is scheduled in November, 2011, and the County Office of Education will facilitate among districts for transitional kindergartner planning and collaboration. SCCS High Schools hold articulation meetings for college level Math and English, there is a Career Technical Education Collaborative, and SCCS has joined the Santa Cruz County College Commitment. Partnerships with UCSC include “Gear Up” Grant Funding and UC College Prep On-Line Learning. The item was presented for information only, and no action was taken by the Trustees regarding this item.

New Business: Goals and Metrics – 2011-12 Targets

Ms. Munro presented an update on the District Goals and Metrics, outlining overall growth and areas of focus for 2011-12. Ms. Munro reported that many of the areas in which outcomes had been adjusted from the previous version of this document resulted directly from the inquiries and comments offered by the Board Members at the Special Board Meeting on September 25, 2011. Ms. Munro explained that as the district moves forward in a consistent manner to work towards our goals, we are developing a continuous improvement model, much like the California API growth models. The Trustees are pleased to have these data

driven accountability targets in place. MSP (Trujillo/Dewey Thorsett) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the District Goals and Metrics 2011-12. Student Borg voted yes. Student Goodwin abstained from this vote.

New Business: Resolution 10-11-12 Climate Action Compact 2.0

Mr. Meza invited the Board of Education to adopt Resolution 10-11-12 Climate Action Compact 2.0. The resolution would ensure that SCCS joins the Monterey Regional Climate Action Compact (MBRCAC) and commit to working collectively with other member organizations to address the causes and effects of climate change through local initiatives that focus on economic vitality and reduce environmental impacts for the region. The Working Group established in 2007 has developed, coordinated and participated in several successful initiatives and grant applications that have brought millions of dollars into Monterey Bay communities. The Working Group emphasizes voluntary initiatives with a focus on developing programs that will stimulate the region’s economy and lead to job creation. There is no fee for membership. Member organizations use existing staff and available resources, which will provide a cost-effective approach to goals Mr. Wagman moved approval and Ms. Tracy-Proulx seconded the motion. This motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

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

Student Borg – Yes Student Goodwin - Yes

Staff Report: Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) Report

Mr. Meza reported to the Board of Education regarding this item. Based on AB144, the State’s Department of Finance will be charged with determining if the budgetary triggers get applied. CASBO and School Services of California provide districts with information on how to estimate the potential impact of these budgetary triggers. Mr. Meza provided the results of a worksheet provided by the State Department of Finance to project how Santa Cruz City Schools would be affected should budget revenue shortfall be less than \$2 billion. If the budget shortfalls do not exceed \$2 billion, SCCS should be fine for the remainder of 2011-12. This item was presented for information only, and no action was taken by the Trustees regarding this item.

Information

1. The Regular Meeting on November 16, 2011, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the COE Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
2. The Regular Meeting on December 14, 2011, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the COE Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

Adjournment

There being no further items of business to come before the Trustees, Board President Hawthorne adjourned the Open Session of this Regular Meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Bloom, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools

Cynthia Hawthorne, President
Board of Education