

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS
September 21, 2011**

Convene Open Session

Board President Hawthorne called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 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		

Student Representatives: Holly Borg, Santa Cruz High School Michelle Goodwin, Harbor High School

Absent: John Collins

Gary Bloom, Superintendent
Alvaro Meza, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Karen Hendricks, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
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

SCCCE President Chacanaca encouraged the Trustees to consider restoring some of the positions that were eliminated last school year – specifically groundskeepers and food service workers. Dr. Logsdon really enjoyed the letter from Superintendent Bloom that was printed in the Sentinel newspaper on Monday September 19th.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Bloom welcomed Student Representatives Holly Borg and Michelle Goodwin to the Board of Education this evening. The Superintendent reported a Harbor High School sophomore student collapsed and went into cardiac arrest while jogging in a physical education class today. Teacher Bassel Faltas administered CPR until the EMT’s arrived. The student remains in critical condition after being flown to Stanford University Medical Center. Kudos to Harbor High School staff and students for the competency with which this situation was handled – and Superintendent Bloom hopes this incident serves as a reminder for folks to stay current in emergency preparedness training. Cabinet members are visiting faculty meetings at each school to touch base with the staff members and remind them that district office employees are available to support them in their important work. The Back-to-School nights were well attended at all sites with lots of positive feedback received. SCCS is promoting a “Generosity of Spirit” in our service to the community and to our team. Forms

are available at each school site and in the district office for either staff or community members to recognize an employee who has provided excellent service.

BOARD REPORTS and REFERRALS

Board President's Report

Board President Hawthorne attended the very important and successful "Food What?!" benefit fundraiser on Saturday September 17th. Ms. Hawthorne attended the Santa Cruz High School Back-to-School event. The Board President would like to share some feedback from SCCS families with Superintendent Bloom and Ms. Munro regarding the use of the internet and the "Digital Divide". Ms. Hawthorne concluded her remarks with the observation that the State continues to allow new charter schools to open when the State cannot fund the schools that currently exist.

Board Members' Reports and Referrals

Board Member Trujillo attended the Harbor High School and Soquel High School Back-to-School events and was impressed by the friendly and welcoming atmospheres, as well as by how beautiful and clean the campuses appeared. Mr. Trujillo offered congratulations to administrators, certificated and classified staff members.

Board Member Vestal attended: the Santa Cruz County School Boards Association meeting; the Branciforte Middle School Back-to-School event; visited Soquel High School to observe the lunch break; attended the Wellness Committee meeting; was present at the Agenda Committee meeting.

Board Member Wagman attended: "Food What?!" benefit fundraiser; Santa Cruz High School PTA; Santa Cruz High School Back-to-School event. The Green Schools Student Committee will meet next week, and Mr. Wagman will keep the Board updated on these activities.

Board Member Tracy-Proulx attended: "Food What?!" benefit fundraiser; United Way "Go For Health" Meeting; Gault Elementary School Back-to-School event. Ms. Tracy-Proulx will attend a conference this weekend regarding physical activity and wellness for children.

Student Representatives' Reports

Student Goodwin is a Grade 12 student at Harbor High School. Ms. Goodwin reported that the student incident today at Harbor High School was handled extremely well by counselors, teachers, and administrators. Students are still transitioning into the new school year and finding their places in the scheme of school activities and classes.

Student Borg is a Grade 12 student at Santa Cruz High School. Ms. Borg reported a large incoming freshman class this year at the school, as well as a significant number of transfer students. The Link Crew did a great job of welcoming all newcomers to Santa Cruz High School, and the ASB officers provided great school spirit. The end result is a very welcoming atmosphere.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Mr. Bloom read a communication from Mr. Collins that included a correction to his Board Member Report on September 7, 2011. Ms. Dewey Thorsett moved approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 7, 2011 including the corrected statement from Mr. Collins, and Mr. Tracy-Proulx seconded the motion. The motion was passed 6-0 by the Trustees. Students Goodwin and Borg abstained from this vote.

GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

Ms. Vestal moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Personnel – *Certificated Actions*; Personnel – *Classified Actions*; Purchase Orders; Warrant Register; Budget Transfers; Gifts; Resolution 07-11-12 Tosta Family Scholarship Fund; CSA-Hearing Testing; CSA-Special Education; CSA-Youth Services; Disposition of Surplus Property. The Board of Education acknowledged, with gratitude, the following gifts donated to Santa Cruz City Schools: *District Office* – Palace Art & Office distributed 200 classroom supply boxes to employees at our annual “Welcome Back” staff breakfast on August 29th, and has made an in-store supply box program available to SCCS teachers as well; Keenan & Associates donated \$250.00 to help fund the annual “Welcome Back” staff breakfast on August 29th; Employees Benefits Services donated \$300.00 to help fund the annual “Welcome Back” staff breakfast on August 29th. Following clarifying questions from Mr. Trujillo and Mr. Wagman, Ms. Dewey Thorsett seconded the motion for approval. The 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

Student Borg – Yes Student Goodwin – Yes

Closed Session Actions Report

1. The Board of Education accepted the retirement of Mr. Bramlett, Director of Maintenance and Operations, with a vote of 6-0.
2. The Board of Education did not receive an update from Superintendent Bloom regarding negotiations with the GSCFT K-12 Unit for 2011-12.
3. The Board of Education did not receive an update from Superintendent Bloom regarding negotiations with the SCCCE bargaining unit for 2010-11.

ITEMS of BUSINESS to be TRANSACTED and/or DISCUSSED

Information Item: Special Education Local Planning Area Update (SELPA)

Superintendent Bloom introduced Ms. Harriet Maglin from the SELPA to present an update on this program to the Board of Education. Ms. Maglin reviewed some of the history of SELPA and noted that currently the State of California has 120 SELPA’s that are administered by their local County Office of Education. The North Santa Cruz County SELPA has 11 participating districts, and Ms. Maglin reports directly to the Superintendents. The Board thanked Ms. Maglin for her information.

Staff Report: Response to Intervention

Ms. Munro reported to the Board of Education regarding the district Response to Intervention/Instruction (RtI). The RtI pyramid is a means by which a school organizes its instructional and school climate and intervention programs to ensure early intervention and student support. This report was informational only, and no action was taken by the Board of Education regarding this matter.

New Business: Certify 2010-11 Unaudited Actuals and Approve Revised 2011-12 Budget

Ms. Lacey and Mr. Meza presented this report to the Trustees. Information included General Fund History, Unrestricted Reserve Analysis, Factors that Affect a Change in Fund Balance, Projected vs. Actual Funding per ADA, and the Multi-Year Projection Highlight of Revenue and Expenditure Assumptions. MSP (Dewey Thorsett/Wagman 6-0) the Board of Education certified the 2010-11 Unaudited Actuals and approved the 2011-12 Revised Budget. Students Borg and Goodwin abstained from this vote.

New Business: Resolution 08-11-12 GANN Limit

In November 1979, the California electorate passed Proposition 4, commonly referred to as the “Gann Amendment” to the California Constitution. This is a routine resolution presented to the Board annually since the passage of Proposition 4. The worksheet recalculates the prior year (2010-11) Gann Limit based on actual ADA and revenues, and calculates the current year (2011-12) Gann Limit based on projected ADA and budgeted revenues. Ms. Dewey Thorsett moved approval, and Mr. Trujillo seconded the motion. 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

Student Borg – Abstain Student Goodwin – Abstain

New Business: Job Description: Director, Maintenance & Operations

Ms. Hendricks reported that the job description has been amended to reflect the current staffing and department configuration as they seek applicants for the position. This job description was approved by the Personnel Commission on September 19, 2011. MSP (Dewey Thorsett/Tracy-Proulx) 6-0, the Board of Education approved this job description for first and final reading. Students Borg and Goodwin voted yes.

Recess: Board President Hawthorne called for a short recess at 8:12 p.m.

Reconvene: Board President Hawthorne reconvened this meeting at 8:17 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING: Academic Performance Index (API)/Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) Report

Curriculum Director James presented general trend data, areas of improvement, areas to address, and next steps for 2011-12 regarding API and AYP for Santa Cruz City Schools. Questions and comments from the Board Members were addressed and then Board President Hawthorne opened the Public Hearing.

Open: Board President Hawthorne opened this Public Hearing at 8:24.

Public Comment: None

Close: Board President Hawthorne closed this Public Hearing at 8:25 pm.

New Business: Resolution 09-11-12 The Big Read

Santa Cruz City Schools is one of many partners that collaborated on a grant to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in order to bring a “Big Read” event to the city designed to restore reading to the center of American culture and to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment. During the month of October, students, staff and families from Santa Cruz Schools are encouraged to participate in “Santa Cruz Reads Edgar Allen Poe” events at many locations within the city. District Teacher Librarians are key players in the coordination of activities within the district, such as: Analysis of Poe’s short stories and poems in English Classes; Critique of movies of Poe’s literary works in school libraries; Writing and art contest within the schools on related themes; Possible scientific experiments relating to pendulums; visits from local authors and Poe enthusiasts to elementary sites. Santa Cruz High School librarian Veronica Zaleha presented information and was available for questions from the Board and/or the public. Mr. Trujillo moved this resolution for approval, and Ms. Vestal seconded the motion. 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

Student Borg – Yes Student Goodwin – Yes

PUBLIC HEARING: Sufficiency of Textbooks/Materials

Curriculum Director James reported that both the elementary and the secondary schools have sufficient textbooks/materials that are aligned to the academic content standards. This information includes books that are currently on order for this school year.

Open: Board President Hawthorne opened this Public Hearing at 8:33 p.m

Public Comment: None

Close: Board President Hawthorne closed this Public Hearing at 8:35 p.m.

New Business: Resolution 05-11-12 Sufficiency of Textbooks/Materials for the Elementary District and Resolution 06-11-12 Sufficiency of Textbooks/Materials for the High School District

Mr. Trujillo moved approval of Resolutions 05-11-12 and 06-11-12, and Ms. Vestal seconded this motion. This motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

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

Student Borg – Abstain

Student Goodwin – Abstain

Information

1. The Special Board Meeting on September 25, 2011, 1:00 p.m., will be held in the Soquel High School Library, 100 Bldg., 401 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA.
2. The Regular Meeting on October 12, 2011, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the COE Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
3. The Regular Meeting on October 26, 2011, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the COE Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
4. 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.
5. 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 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Bloom, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools

Cynthia Hawthorne, President
Board of Education