

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS
September 7, 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

John Collins Rachel Dewey Thorsett Deborah Tracy-Proulx

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

Ted Donnelly, former Soquel High School parent and current Soquel Elementary Union School District Trustee, offered his highest praise for the great education his daughter received at Soquel High School. The teachers, administrators, Humanities Academy and different AP classes kept her engaged and enthusiastic about her educational career and opportunities – and as a result, she has received several lovely scholarships that will help her begin her freshman year at UCLA. Thanks to all. Dr. Logsdon reported that former SCCS Trustee Thad Nodine will be at the Capitola Book Café on September 28, 2011 to read from and sign copies of his new novel. Isaac Medrano of Engage 360 would like to speak to any interested employees or Trustees regarding a program that promotes energy reductions and savings.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Bloom reported the start of the 2011-12 school year has been remarkably smooth, and acknowledged the classified and certificated employees who have worked so diligently to have the schools and classrooms ready for the arrival of students. The Superintendent acknowledged staff and community who have worked hard to bring Universal Breakfast to Gault Elementary School. Mr. Bloom was joined by Trustee Dewey Thorsett and Assistant Superintendent Munro at the Cabrillo College press conference this afternoon to announce the Santa Cruz County College Commitment program. This positive initiative was preceded by the SCCS Board of Education’s adoption of a resolution supporting the “college going culture”. Students at Branciforte Middle School are patiently waiting for the completion of construction projects at the site. The Superintendent thanked Dr. Logsdon for applying for the vacant Personnel Commission board position – the results of the interview process are not yet available. October 12 and October 13 will bring 100 student leaders from SCCS secondary schools together at the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium to participate in a 2-day training/workshop focused on “Teaching Tolerance”.

BOARD REPORTS and REFERRALS

Board President's Report

Board President Hawthorne invited all interested parties to the "Food What" benefit dinner on Saturday, September 10, 2011. Ms. Hawthorne will attend a Santa Cruz County School Boards Association (SCZCSBA) meeting on Thursday, September 8, 2011 and will keep our district updated on the Board's agendas and actions.

Board Members' Reports and Referrals

Board Member Collins visited the New Teacher Orientation at the District Office, the Soquel High School Freshman Orientation, Harbor High School, Branciforte Middle School and met with the Superintendent. Mr. Collins would like to have ID's made for the Trustees. Recently released information from the McKenzie Company states that during this recession 5% of people with Bachelor's Degrees or higher were unemployed – and did not stay unemployed for long. High school drop-outs have been unemployed at rates between 25-50% and have stayed unemployed for longer periods of time. Trustee Collins will not be available for the Board Meeting on September 21.

Board Member Dewey Thorsett attended the New Teacher Orientation at the District Office and the press conference today at Cabrillo announcing the Santa Cruz County College Commitment program. It was great to see that the school districts in our county are becoming more connected in order to better serve students.

Board Member Tracy-Proulx is very pleased to see Universal Breakfast in operation at Gault Elementary School. Ms. Tracy-Proulx thanked the past and present members of the Wellness Committee for their concerted efforts over time to bring this program to students. The staff at Gault Elementary is working hard to streamline the process for more efficiency.

Board Member Wagman attended the New Teacher Orientation and the Labor Picnic at DeLaveaga Park. Mr. Wagman noticed that most teachers at the Labor Picnic were about his age and he would like to see some younger teachers involved with union activities. The reported smooth start of the new school year speaks volumes about the dedicated certificated and classified employees at SCCS, and Trustee Wagman is very proud to be part of this district.

Board Member Vestal attended the recent meeting of the Delta Charter School Board and the Kindergarten Back-to-School night at Gault Elementary School. Ms. Vestal is very pleased to know that the Universal Breakfast program is up and running at Gault Elementary School.

Board Member Trujillo will attend a number of the district Back-to-School nights this month. Trustee Trujillo encouraged everyone to tune in for the Presidential Address on Thursday afternoon. Mr. Trujillo had the great pleasure of meeting filmmaker and children's book writer Marcus St. Marcus. Mr. St. Marcus has published two books on the subject of "bullying" and would be interested in visiting our district to discuss this subject.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MSP (Dewey Thorsett/Wagman) 4-0-3, the Board of Education approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 17, 2011. Trustees Collins, Dewey Thorsett and Tracy-Proulx abstained from this vote as they were absent from the meeting on August 17th.

GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

Mr. Wagman asked that Item 1.12 CSA for Youth Services @ SCCCC be pulled for a separate discussion.

Ms. Dewey Thorsett moved approval of the Consent Agenda (minus Item 1.12), consisting of: Personnel Actions – *Certificated*; Personnel Actions – *Classified*; Purchase Orders; Warrant Register; Gifts; Board Policy Updates – BP 4033 and BP 5145.11; NPA/NPS Contracts – Special Education; CSA(s) Special Education; CSA(s) Nutrition Grant; Board of Education Meeting Schedule January through June 2012; Change Order(s). The board acknowledged, with gratitude, the following gifts donated to Santa Cruz City Schools – *Gault Elementary School* – Ms. Pamela Rocco donated \$1,057.00 to be used in the classroom of Susana Brown. Mr. Collins seconded this motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

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

Item 1.12 – CSA-Youth Services @ SCCCC

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda for a separate discussion and vote. Following questions to and information provided by Student Services Director Brown about this item, 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 Dewey Thorsett – Yes Hawthorne – Yes
Tracy-Proulx – Yes Trujillo – Yes Vestal – Yes Wagman – Yes

Closed Session Actions Report

1. The Board of Education approved the recommended Certificated Leaves, Retirements, Resignations, and Appointments as submitted with a vote of 6-0-1.
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 and gave direction to Superintendent Bloom regarding negotiations with the SCCCE bargaining unit for 2010-11.
4. The Board of Education discussed the evaluation and the 2011-12 Goals of the Superintendent.

ITEMS of BUSINESS to be TRANSACTED and/or DISCUSSED

Staff Report: Opening of the 2011-12 School Year

Ms. Hendricks reported 30 new certificated employees encompassing 24.72 FTE this year for the district, and 27 classified positions hired since the end of the 2010-11 school year. The New Teacher Orientation was exciting, and a special acknowledgement is given to Palace Arts for their continued support and generosity for Santa Cruz City Schools. Ms. Hendricks also thanked the Personnel Commission for their hard work over the summer break. Mr. Meza reported on the opening enrollment numbers for the new school year – the numbers are very similar to last year at this time (almost flat) and the upcoming count on October 5th (CBEDS day) will give a more accurate reflection.

Staff Report: CST Results

Ms. Munro introduced Curriculum Director James to report to the Trustees on this matter. Ms. James provided a 2011 Results Summary, 4 Year Trend Data for student test results, and specifics regarding growth in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Science. Ms. James also discussed cohort trend analysis and next steps for 2011-12. Questions and comments from both the Board Members and the public followed the presentation.

Staff Report: New Programs/Initiatives

Ms. Munro reported to the Board of Education on several new instructional programs and initiatives that have been introduced in Santa Cruz City Schools. Speakers included Categorical Programs Director Gross,

Curriculum Director James, Student Services Director Brown, and Program Specialist Ruth. Topics included: Newcomer Program at Harbor High School; Professional Development Training of SCIL Teams in Accountable Student Engagement (Standard #1 of the California Standards for the Teaching Profession); the Online Blended Learning Program; Content Area Literacy Training; College Going Culture; Playworks; Sequoia Academy; Enhancing Our Culture of Service; embracing Rigor, Relevance and Relationships. Comments and questions from the Board Members and the public followed this presentation.

Information

1. The Regular Meeting on September 21, 2011, 6:30 p.m., will be held in the COE Board Room, 400 Encinal, Santa Cruz, CA.
2. The Board Retreat scheduled for September 25, 2011, 1:00 p.m., will be held in the SCCS District Office, Room 312, 405 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA.
3. 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.
4. 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.

Adjournment

There being no further Open Session business to come before the Trustees, Board President Hawthorne adjourned the Open Session of this Regular Meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Bloom, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools

Cynthia Hawthorne, President
Board of Education