

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS  
September 25, 2013**

**Convene Closed Session**

Board President Deborah Tracy-Proulx called this Regular Meeting Closed Session to order at 5:30 p.m. in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

Ms. Hendricks reported that Education Code 54954.2 allows for items to be added to the Closed Session agenda with Board approval if the item is received after the agenda for the meeting was published. Ms. Hendricks requested adding Item 4 – Employee Complaint to the Closed Session agenda. The Board of Education approved this request.

**Public Comments for Closed Session Agenda Items**

Bay View Teacher Beth Landry addressed the Board Members on behalf of the GSCFT. Ms. Landry reported that SCCS teachers have not had a salary increase for more than 5 years and have helped to make the best of a difficult situation for the district by taking furlough days when necessary and working hard to ensure that Proposition 30 was passed by the voters in California. An agreement was reached to deliver a fair share of the increased revenues from Proposition 30 to teachers, but now the District reports that the money has been spent and is not available. We are hard-working and talented people with financial needs and goals. We hope to return to our normal routines as soon as possible. We can work together again when our Board of Education directs our Administration to give the teachers the fair share as promised.

**Convene Open Session**

Board President Tracy-Proulx called this Regular Meeting Open Session to order at 6:40 p.m. in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

**Attendance at Meeting**

Sheila Coonerty	Cynthia Hawthorne	Patricia Threet	Deborah Tracy-Proulx
Steve Trujillo	Claudia Vestal	Ken Wagman	

Student Representative Damaris Garcia Martinez – Harbor High School  
Student Representative Ryley Lawrence Devine – Santa Cruz High School

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

**Welcome and Format**

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

**Introduction of Student Board Representatives**

Superintendent Bloom welcomed 2013-14 Student Representatives Damaris Garcia Martinez and Ryley Lawrence Devine to the Board of Education.

### **Agenda Changes**

Ms. Hendricks reported that Education Code 54954.2 allows for items to be added to the agenda with Board approval if the item is received after the agenda for the meeting was published. Ms. Hendricks requested adding Item VII.3.9 – Action Regarding Employee Complaint to tonight’s agenda. Also, Ms. Hendricks reported that Safety Advisor Doug Evers will present part of the report on Employee Safety to the Trustees tonight, and he is running a bit late – so Ms. Hendricks may need flexibility on the timing of the presentation of Item VII.3.3 Update on Worker Safety. MSP (Wagman/Hawthorne) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the requested changes.

### **Superintendent’s Remarks Prior to Public Comments**

The Superintendent wanted GSCFT Unit Members in the audience to know that the Board had a detailed conversation in closed session and the District is optimistic regarding the negotiations scheduled for Friday, September 27. Thank you for your earlier comments and for keeping them brief.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Santa Cruz High School Parent Mike Duffy expressed his displeasure at the procedures of the meeting held at Santa Cruz High School to recruit a new Baseball Coach. Mr. Duffy asked the Board to review the decision not to rehire George Arnott at Santa Cruz High School. Mr. Duffy also informed the Trustees that the baseball field at Santa Cruz High School was being continuously vandalized. Mr. Ed Chun sought clarity regarding the September 11<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting statement that at-will positions are handled administratively by the district and are not reviewed by the Trustees. Mr. Chun contends that each month all Certificated and Classified personnel hires/leaves/dismissals, etc. are brought to the Board on the Consent Agenda for approval. Mr. Chun asked the Board Members to investigate the process used in the dismissal of Mr. Arnott. Small Schools Parent Becky Steinbruner wanted to speak to the Trustees regarding a complaint about an employee. Board President Tracy-Proulx asked Ms. Steinbruner to cease this discussion as privacy issues would be violated. President Tracy-Proulx assured Ms. Steinbruner that her complaint in writing had been received and an investigation into this matter would be conducted following established district procedures. Ms. Steinbruner would be informed when this matter would be put on the Closed Session Agenda for Board discussion, and she would be invited to speak to the Trustees at that time regarding this complaint. In the meantime, the District Administration would ensure that children are protected from any inappropriate conduct. A Santa Cruz High School PTA Parent Member brought photos for the Board and Cabinet Members to view showing safety issues on the campus. Students and Staff are being exposed to an unsafe environment on a repetitive basis. The PTA has proposed installing gates that will secure the campus in the evenings, on weekends and during the summer break. The PTA and other concerned parties invite the Board and District Administration to partner with them to provide a safe environment. Personnel Commissioner Dr. Jim Logsdon complemented the District for the superb services being received by SCCS students and families through Youth Services – this program provides great support for troubled youth.

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Superintendent Bloom complemented SCCS schools sites for hosting successful Back-to-School Nights. The Superintendent also noticed many of the Trustees attending these events and thanked them for their support. Mr. Bloom has spent time visiting classrooms and has observed excellent teaching. Superintendent Bloom reported that DeLaveaga Principal Angela Meeker reports that she hopes to be back on the job the week of September 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Student Representatives' Reports

Student Representative Garcia Martinez introduced herself as a Grade 12 Harbor High School student. Ms. Garcia Martinez reported that Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup> Harbor High School would host the annual Club Rush. This event provides students the opportunity to get acquainted with the many campus clubs that are available for students. Ms. Garcia Martinez is not a fan of the new bell system in place this year at Harbor High School and feels the passing times/break times need to be adjusted.

Student Representative Ryley Lawrence Devine introduced himself as a Grade 11 Santa Cruz High School student. Mr. Lawrence Devine reported the following activities at Santa Cruz High School: Back-to-School Night; Club Rush Days; Theater performance auditions; October 1<sup>st</sup> Blood Drive; October 3<sup>rd</sup> College Night. Bill Dodge, who coached the Santa Cruz High baseball team for 30 years, will be honored Saturday, September 28, 2013 during the California Baseball Coaches' Association North-South Series in Santa Clara.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MSP (Hawthorne/Threet) 7-0 , the Board of Education approved the corrected Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 11, 2013.

### GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

#### Consent Agenda

Board Members Trujillo and Coonerty asked to pull Item 1.6 Board Policy Updates from the Consent Agenda for a separate discussion and vote. Ms. Hawthorne moved approval of the remaining items on the Consent Agenda, consisting of: 1.1 Personnel Actions – *Certificated*; 1.2 Personnel Actions – *Classified*; 1.3 Purchase Orders; 1.4 Warrant Register; 1.5 Budget Transfers; 1.7 NPA Contract – Special Education; 1.8 CSA – Davenport; 1.9 CSA – Student Services; 1.10 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Investment Report; 1.11 Resolution 02-13-14 JPA Reps; 1.12 Classified Salary Schedule; 1.13 Change Order(s); 1.14 Disposal of Surplus Item(s). Mr. Wagman seconded the motion. This motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:** Coonerty – Yes                      Hawthorne – Yes                      Threet – Yes  
Tracy-Proulx – Yes      Trujillo – Yes                      Vestal – Yes                      Wagman – Yes

Students Garcia Martinez and Lawrence Devine voted yes.

#### 1.6 Board Policy Updates

Mr. Trujillo and Ms. Coonerty expressed concerns about the proposed changes to Board Bylaw 9010. Mr. Trujillo made the motion for this Bylaw to be studied in detail and return to the Board of Education on October 23, 2013 for consideration of approval. Ms. Coonerty seconded the motion. This motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:** Coonerty – Yes                      Hawthorne – Yes                      Threet – Yes  
Tracy-Proulx – Yes      Trujillo – Yes                      Vestal – Yes                      Wagman – Yes

Students Garcia Martinez and Lawrence Devine voted yes.

GSCFT President Kirschen reported that proposed Administrative Regulation 4161.11 contains a paragraph that is in direct opposition with the bargaining unit contract. Mr. Wagman moved that this Administrative Regulation be remanded to District Staff for review and return to the Board of Education on October 23, 2013

for consideration of approval. Ms. Hawthorne seconded this motion. This motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:** Coonerty – Yes                      Hawthorne – Yes                      Threet – Yes  
Tracy-Proulx – Yes      Trujillo – Yes                      Vestal – Yes                      Wagman – Yes

Students Garcia Martinez and Lawrence Devine voted yes.

Mr. Wagman moved approval of the Board Policy Updates (minus BB 9010 and AR 4161.11) and Ms. Hawthorne seconded this motion. This motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:** Coonerty – Yes                      Hawthorne – Yes                      Threet – Yes  
Tracy-Proulx – Yes      Trujillo – Yes                      Vestal – Yes                      Wagman – Yes

Students Garcia Martinez and Lawrence Devine voted yes.

**Closed Session Actions Report**

1. The Board of Education had a discussion regarding Certificated/Classified/Management Leaves, Retirements, Resignations and Appointments.
2. The Board of Education received an update from, and gave direction to Superintendent Bloom regarding negotiations with the GSCFT K-12 Unit for 2012-13 and 2013-14.
3. The Board of Education cancelled the discussion regarding: Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Govt. Code 54957) Title: Superintendent - Annual Goals and Objectives.
4. The Board of Education heard the information regarding the newly agendized item: Employee Complaint.

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

**3.1 New Business: Approve Agreement between SCCS & the Commission for the Prevention of Violence Against Women (CPVAW):**

Student Services Director Brown introduced Kathy Agnone from the Commission for the Prevention of Violence Against Women to report to the Trustees. Ms. Agnone and Instructor Matt Edwards reported on the Safety Skills Program that has been in place in Santa Cruz City Schools since 2007, and has served almost 8,000 students to date. Students are offered 4 classes during the year, 2 gender combined classes and 2 classes that are split by gender. MSP (Trujillo/Coonerty) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the 2013-14 Agreement between SCCS and the Commission for the Prevention of Violence Against Women. Students Garcia Martinez and Lawrence Devine voted yes.

**3.2 Staff Report: Branciforte Middle School MERIT Academy Report**

Branciforte Middle School Principal Pfothenauer and Teachers Sara Goldfarb and Wendy Thompson reported to the Trustees on the MERIT Academy. For more than a decade, the Krause Center for Innovation at Foothill College has hosted one of the premier educational technology-focused professional development programs in the U.S. MERIT (Making Education Relevant and Interactive through Technology) is a research-based, educator development program designed to help teachers bolster their curriculum with student-centered, technology-enhanced learning activities to motivate, challenge and inspire learners. Over the past two years, six Branciforte teachers have applied and been selected to participate in an intensive summer institute with follow-up training throughout the school year. Accomplishments include: fundraising more than \$100,000 for computers in the library and the first ever “innovation center” in the district; advocated for and helped Branciforte MS to

become the first Google School in the county; have taught both teachers and students through iMovie, iPad, Educreations, Polleverywhere, Photostory, Today's Meet, Windows Movie Maker, Screencastomatic, YouTube channel making, flip cameras, digital citizenship lessons, Google forms, Google sites, Google presentations and other digital resources. This report was informational in nature, and no action was taken by the Board of Education regarding this matter.

### **3.3 Staff Report: Update on Worker Safety**

Ms. Hendricks and JPA Safety Advisor Doug Evers reported to the Board of Education on Worker Safety in Santa Cruz City Schools. Information included: Safety Training Modules; Incident and Severity Rate Comparisons; Employee injuries year-to-date; Loss Prevention Goals 2013-14; Ergonomic Assessments. Mr. Evers reported that while there is some discontent regarding repetitive safety trainings each year, the State of California through CAL OSHA legally requires particular training subjects for certain occupations each year, and there is no process for relief or variance of this legal requirement. This report was informational in nature, and no action was taken by the Board of Education regarding this matter.

### **3.4 Staff Report: Elementary Common Core State Standards Power Standards & Assessments**

Ms. Munro introduced Curriculum Director Wildman and DeLaveaga Elementary Teacher Amy Spiers to report to the Trustees on the CCSS Power Standards and Assessments. Information included: the District implementation plan for 2012-2015; why SCCS has embraced the power standards model; the process that teachers are using to prioritize standards; the ongoing process for review and assessment over time (living process). This report was informational in nature, and no action was taken by the Board of Education regarding this matter.

### **3.5 Staff Report: Facilities Summer Projects**

Mr. Shemwell reported on the major summer projects for preparing facilities for the 2013-14 school year. Information included: 1) classroom conversion into science labs at Harbor, Santa Cruz, Soquel and Costanoa High Schools; 2) three portable classroom additions at Harbor High School; 3) classroom conversion from metal shop to two math classrooms at Mission Hill Middle School; 4) upgrade of district Wide Area Network from T-1 connections to Gbps Fiber Network. These projects were funded by a combination of bonds, redevelopment and capital facility funds (developer fees). These funds are restricted to capital projects and cannot be used for operational purposes. As projects are finalized, staff will bring formal Notices of Completion to the Board for approval. This report was informational in nature, and no action was taken by the Board of Education regarding this matter.

### **3.6 New Business: Resolution 03-13-14 Gann Limit Recalculations 2012-13 & 2013-14 Calculations**

Mr. Shemwell reported to the Board of Education that in November, 1979, the California electorate passed Proposition 4, commonly referred to as the "Gann Amendment" to the California Constitution. The Gann Amendment requires each government agency and school district in California to adopt an expenditure limit based upon its appropriations in 1978-79, adjusted annually by the changes in the consumer price index and annual changes in population. The submitted worksheet recalculates the prior year (2012-13) Gann Limit based on actual ADA and revenues, and calculates the current year (2013-14) Gann Limit based on projected ADA and budgeted revenues. Ms. Hawthorne moved approval of Resolution 03-13-14 Gann Limit Recalculations/Calculations and Mr. Trujillo seconded the motion. This motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:** Coonerty – Yes                      Hawthorne – Yes                      Threet – Yes  
Tracy-Proulx – Yes      Trujillo – Yes                      Vestal – Yes                      Wagman – Yes

Students Garcia Martinez and Lawrence Devine voted yes.

**3.7 New Business: PUBLIC HEARING: Sufficiency of Textbooks and Materials**

**Open:** Board President Tracy-Proulx opened this Public Hearing at 8:51 p.m.

The purpose of the hearing is to provide a public forum for community input regarding the sufficiency of textbooks and instructional materials for students in the 2013-14 school year.

**Public Comments:** None

**Close:** Board President Tracy-Proulx closed this Public Hearing at 8:51 p.m.

**3.8 New Business: Resolution 04-131-4 Textbooks & Materials – Elementary; Resolution 05-13-14 Textbooks & Materials - Secondary**

Ms. Munro reported that SCCS has met the requirements for both the Elementary and Secondary Districts. Curriculum Director Wildman reported that there are some books currently in transit for math classes, and these items are expected at any time. In the meantime, copied materials and alternative books are being used to ensure that students are receiving all instruction. Ms. Hawthorne moved approval of Resolution 04-13-14 for the Elementary District and Resolution 05-13-14 for the Secondary District, and Ms. Vestal seconded this motion. This motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:** Coonerty – Yes                      Hawthorne – Yes                      Threet – Yes  
Tracy-Proulx – Yes      Trujillo – Yes                      Vestal – Yes                      Wagman – Yes

tudents Garcia Martinez and Lawrence Devine voted yes.

**3.9 New Business: Employee Complaint**

Ms. Hendricks reported that a complaint has been filed against Superintendent Bloom and it was received by the district after the Board Agenda had been posted. Ms. Hendricks recommended that the Board of Education approve the recommendation to have a Special Meeting on Thursday, October 3, 2013, in order to screen candidates and potentially hire an impartial out-of-the-area independent investigator to examine the complaint issues. Ms. Hawthorne stated that it is her understanding that there are professionals who conduct these investigations regularly, and Santa Cruz City Schools will get referrals from State-level agencies like ACSA, CSBA, and State-level law firms. The details of the process will be determined by the individual who is hired. MSP (Hawthorne/Trujillo) 7-0, the Board of Education approved a Special Meeting on Thursday, October 3, 2013 to screen candidates and hire a professional examiner to investigate the complaint filed against the Superintendent.

**BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS**

**Board President's Report**

Board President Tracy-Proulx attended Back-to-School Nights for both Gault Elementary and Branciforte Middle School and participated in the annual Coastal Cleanup Day sponsored by the Save Our Shores organization. Ms. Tracy-Proulx invited everyone to the Branciforte Middle School "Tamalada" on September 27<sup>th</sup> from 4-8pm, and recommended reading the Santa Cruz Education Foundation "News from the Eddy" for a great story on former SCCS AVID student Erica Davis.

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

Board Member Vestal visited the Food Services Department and was very impressed by her observations there – new Food Services Director Amy Hedrick-Farr is doing a superb job. Ms. Vestal also attended the Back-to-School Nights for DeLaveaga Elementary, Branciforte Middle, and Harbor High Schools and the Go-for-Health meeting. Trustee Vestal is pleased to announce that students from Delta Charter School are now receiving meals from the Santa Cruz City Schools kitchen. Delta Charter School will have Back-to-School Night on Thursday, September 26. Ms. Vestal welcomed the Student Representatives to the Board of Education.

Board Member Threet welcomed the Student Representatives to the Board of Education and Mr. Shemwell to Santa Cruz City Schools. Trustee Threet continues to receive and read emails from her constituents, but has not visited campuses yet this year. Ms. Threet hopes for a quick resolution to the SCCS/GSCFT negotiations.

Board Member Hawthorne reported that the California School Boards Association (CSBA) is joining with the Santa Cruz County Schools Boards Association (SCZCSBA) to provide training for all county school board members or other interested staff members on the new Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) as it pertains to Board Member roles and responsibilities. This session will take place at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education Technology Center on November 14, 2013. Trustee Hawthorne attended the District Technology Committee Steering Committee Meeting and reported that SCCS staff members have done an amazing job of preparing for the new fiber optics. Ms. Hawthorne was a table captain at the “Food What” fundraising dinner and is pleased to report the event hosted over 200 attendees. “Food What” services now reach more than 1,200 students per year.

Board Member Wagman also attended the “Food What” dinner. Mr. Wagman welcomed the Student Representatives to the Board of Education and Mr. Shemwell to Santa Cruz City Schools. Mr. Wagman visited Harbor High School and sat in on several classes – it was easy to see why the students were so engaged. The Green Apple Day of Service is Saturday, September 28, 2013. Green Apple is a global movement that gives parents, teachers, students, companies and organizations the opportunity to transform schools into healthy, safe and productive learning environments through local service projects. This year the Green Schools Committee will pursue the goal of having Mission Hill Middle School become the first “green” middle school.

Board Member Coonerty reported that she truly appreciates the efforts of the many people who contact her to let her know how they feel about school and community issues. Dr. Coonerty’s daughter became an official student of the UCSC program this week, and was also accepted as an intern in a prestigious program due, in part, to her participation in an excellent Cabrillo program. Dr. Coonerty is very proud of her daughter’s affiliation with the California Community College.

Board Member Trujillo requested moving the Board Member Reports to an earlier time in the meeting. Mr. Trujillo welcomed the Student Representatives to the Board of Education and encouraged them to participate fully in this process of government-in-action. Board Member Trujillo welcomed Mr. Shemwell to Santa Cruz City Schools and expressed a desire to discuss facilities with him. Mr. Trujillo enjoyed Back-to-School Nights at DeLaveaga, Mission Hill Middle, Harbor High and Santa Cruz High Schools. Board Member Trujillo thanked SCCS Teachers for continuing to do such a great job for students in spite of not having a salary increase for a long period of time. Mr. Trujillo encouraged staff members and members of the public to contact him at any time.

### **Board Meeting Schedule Information**

1. The Regular Meeting on October 9, 2013, 6:30 p.m., will be held at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
2. The Regular Meeting on October 23, 2013, 6:30 p.m., will be held in Room 312 of the District Office, 405 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA.
3. The Regular Meeting on November 13, 2013, 6:30 p.m., will be held at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
4. The Regular Meeting on December 11, 2013, 6:30 p.m., will be held at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
5. The Regular Meeting on January 15, 2014, 6:30 p.m., will be held at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
6. The Regular Meeting on February 12, 2014, 6:30 p.m., will be held in Room 312 of the District Office, 405 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA.
7. The Regular Meeting on February 26, 2014, 6:30 p.m., will be held at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
8. The Regular Meeting on March 12, 2014, 6:30 p.m., will be held at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
9. The Regular Meeting on March 26, 2014, 6:30 p.m., will be held in Room 312 of the District Office, 405 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA.
10. The Regular Meeting on April 16, 2014, 6:30 p.m., will be held at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
11. The Regular Meeting on May 7, 2014, 6:30 p.m., will be held at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
12. The Regular Meeting on May 21, 2014, 6:30 p.m., will be held at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.
13. The Regular Meeting on June 18, 2014, 6:30 p.m., will be held at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further items of business to come before the Trustees, Board President Tracy-Proulx adjourned this Regular Meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Bloom, Superintendent  
Santa Cruz City Schools

Deborah Tracy-Proulx, President  
Board of Education